

AMERICAN COALITION FOR ELECTION REFORM

Electoral reform is well worth thinking about, because a faulty electoral system makes a mess of all our politics, and hence a great deal of all our lives.

**Sir Michael Dummett, Eminent
British philosopher and voting
theorist (1925-2011)**

STATEMENT

To avoid the “lesser of two evils” dilemma, America needs more and better choices, not just two.

If we want to improve governance in this country, a necessary, though not sufficient, condition is to open up our political processes to responsible third parties to get away from the political duopoly enjoyed by the two major parties which have become so dysfunctional. This cannot be done without voting reform which moves away from our system of plurality voting that is largely responsible for the political duopoly that has existed throughout most of American history.

The most effective way of doing this is to institute approval voting in federal elections and to ensure greater ballot access in them. Under approval voting in multi-candidate elections, elections with more than two candidates, voters are allowed to give one vote each to that candidate or candidates they support with the candidate having the most votes winning.

Approval voting eliminates the wasted vote and spoiler role and gives fairer outcomes in multi-candidate elections. As such, it would give voters the tools to open up our political processes to third parties and allow us to move away from the bipartisan gridlock that makes sensible policies impossible.

REQUEST

We ask for your ideas and help to educate the American people on this vital issue and to petition Congress on it. Information on this can be found in Appendix 7 and Chapter 1 of the electronic book “Third Parties and Voting Reform: The American Dilemma” on the website www.nationalrenewal.org. Those interested in helping can contact John Howard Wilhelm, 4 West Eden Court, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, Tel. 734/477- 9942.