

Does My Vote Make Any Difference?

Do you ever feel your vote really doesn't matter? A lot of our citizens appear to be skipping voting. Only about 60% of registered voters in California voted in the last election. Below are some examples of elections where a single voter made a difference.

Below are some examples of decisions that changed history and were determined by just one vote:

- 1800: 1 VOTE made Thomas Jefferson president instead of Aaron Burr
- 1850: 1 VOTE admitted California and Oregon into the United States
- 1868: 1 VOTE saved President Andrew Johnson from Impeachment
- 1876: 1 VOTE made Rutherford B. Hayes a United States President and 1 VOTE elected the Indiana Electoral College member who voted for Hayes
- 1910: 1 VOTE decided the Congressional election in New York.
- 1920: 1 VOTE in the Tennessee legislature ratified the 19th amendment and gave women the right to vote.
- 1941: 1 VOTE kept the military draft operational just weeks before Pearl Harbor

Do you want your Leaders selected by the People or by Chance?

Below are four examples of where chance was used to settle a tied vote:

2017 State House election in Virginia: After the recount was completed, the 2017 Virginia State House Election was a tied vote. As required by state law, the election was then decided by a drawing. So instead of the will of the citizens deciding who their representative will be, it was decided by chance.

The **1994 Wyoming's House of Representatives race** is another example of a drawing settling an election. Republican Randall Luthi and Independent Larry Call each finished with 1,941 votes. Following a recount that produced the same results, Governor Mike Sullivan settled the election in a most unconventional (although state-appropriate) fashion: drawing a ping pong ball out of his cowboy hat to determine a winner.

2002 Nevada: In Nevada they settle ties by drawing playing cards, with the high card taking home the election spoils. In 2002, Republican Dee Honeycutt came up short, drawing a jack of diamonds to Democrat R.J. Gillum's jack of spades for a seat on the Esmeralda County Commission.

2011 Nevada: Card justice was again deployed, when Tanya Flanagan and Linda Meisenheimer tied in a North Las Vegas city council primary, and neither candidate wanted to pony up \$600 for the cost of a recount. Meisenheimer ended up drawing a king to Flanagan's five.

In each of the above examples if just one more person had voted in the election, the will of the people would have decided the outcome. Don't leave your representation to chance. Be the votes that breaks the tie!

Elections can be amazingly close, and sometimes one vote determines the results.

Have you ever thought you knew in advance how an election would turn out? If we learned anything from the 2016 election, it is we can't always predict the outcome. Elections can be amazingly close, and sometimes one vote determines the results.

Below are several examples of where ONE vote made a big difference in State elections:

- 1968 1 Vote decided the state House election in Wisconsin
- 1970 1 Vote decided the state House election in Rhode Island
- 1970 1 Vote decided the state House election in Missouri
- 1978 1 Vote decided the state Senate election in North Dakota
- 1978 1 Vote decided the state Senate election in Rhode Island
- 1980 1 Vote decided the state House election in New Mexico
- 1980 1 Vote decided the state House election in Utah
- 1982 1 Vote decided the state House election in Maine
- 1982 1 Vote decided the state Senate election in Massachusetts

Here are a couple of examples of where one vote impacted a Local Election:

- 1992: 1 vote selected a member of the Town Council of Trinity, Alabama
- 1992: 1 vote decided the final member of the Selma, Alabama city council

Our Democracy depends on us voting in every election.

Your Vote is Your Voice – Be Heard!