

## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sept. 6, 1996 To arrange an interview with Harry Browne, call George Getz at (202) 333-0008 Ext. 222



## Nationwide survey: 68% of likely voters support four-way presidential debate

Super-majority says: Include all candidates who earn 50-state ballot status

WASHINGTON, DC — There's no debate about it: More than two-thirds of Americans want to see a presidential debate that includes all four candidates who are on the ballot in all 50 states, according to a new nationwide public opinion poll.

A September 3 survey revealed that 68% of likely voters say Democrat Bill Clinton, Republican Bob Dole, Reform Party candidate Ross Perot, and Libertarian Harry Browne should be allowed to participate in the upcoming series of televised presidential debates.

An additional 2% say just Clinton, Dole, and Browne should participate. Only 19% say the debate should be limited to Clinton and Dole.

"The message is clear: By a super-majority of 70%, voters want to see Libertarian Harry Browne included in the debates," said Sharon Ayres, national director of the Harry Browne for President campaign. "Americans don't want to be cheated out of seeing a candidate who has proved his viability by getting on the ballot in all 50 states."

Expressing concern that the Commission on Presidential Debates — a "bipartisan" organization headed up by the former chairmen of the Republican and Democratic National Committees — might exclude Browne, Ayres urged them to "listen carefully" to what the American public wants.

"It only takes two-thirds of Congress to override a presidential veto," noted Ayres. "Well, 70% of the American public wants to override the potential veto of the Commission on Presidential Debates, and will reject any attempt to restrict the debate to the usual Republicans and Democrats. Americans want a serious, credible candidate like Harry Browne to take his rightful place on the stage."

The poll was conducted by Grassroots Research, an independent public opinion polling firm in Charlotte, North Carolina. The scientific survey selected 1,000 likely voters — registered voters who said they vote in "all or almost all" presidential elections — around the USA through random digit dialing. The respondents represented a racially, politically, and gender balanced cross-sample of voters.

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