

This excellent advice comes to us from Dean Santoro of Miami.

## Registration Drive

One technical obstacle facing Ron Paul is circumventing the political machine, which is lined up to secure Giuliani, Romney, or McCain (or Fred Thompson, now) a sure victory. The Republican "Get out the Vote" apparatus is geared to get the establishment candidates the votes of faithful primary voters, **not** a Ron Paul alternative. But, because only a fraction of GOP enrollees vote in the primaries, there's a chance to pad the electorate with freshly minted Paul voters via a **registration drive**. A small, dedicated army is needed to do this in each state (the larger the better), but the below explains how to realistically do so with 100 state volunteers working on this.

The Ron Paul voter registration drive should be done during the late summer and early fall, since by fall our focus should fully shift to working on the state ballot drive. A clear goal per state should be to get **50,000** people enrolled Republican in the 'closed states' (where you must be a GOP member in order to vote in its primary/caucus—this is the case in Florida) **OR** 50,000 formally unregistered folks registered in the 'open states' (where you can vote in the primary regardless of party affiliation). I would like to assemble a Special Committee called the Registration Drive Committee to accomplish this. Ideally, I'd like to see 100-200 volunteers willing to get state registration forms ('normal' ones from the Board of Elections or else printed online forms) and to recruit people to **'enroll to vote for Ron Paul.'** This would make each person involved responsible for finding 500 people each. A tall order, I know, but doable over 3 or 4 months' time. The specific populations to pursue:

- 1) Disaffected youth (18-24, unregistered) based on the war, draft, and/or Internet;
- 2) Disaffected Democrats (willing to switch Republican temporarily) based on the war and civil-liberties issues;
- 3) Non-aligned unregistered people (based on pushing Ron Paul as one of the few politicians truly worth voting FOR, versus the I'm-voting-against-X syndrome).

Keep in mind that fewer people vote in primaries than in the general election, as in far fewer. The object behind getting 50,000 is to create a 'secret cavalry' of voters who can make a difference in a close primary race. John Kerry won NH in '04 with 32% of the vote or 80,000 votes (versus Howard Dean at 26% with about 50,000 votes); Howard Dean would have surely liked to have another 30,000 votes to tip the balance. If Ron Paul can be competitive against the opponents in their home states, he needs to have this edge. A local army of 100 volunteers would have to recruit their 500 enrollees for Paul at the rate of 25-40 people a week to beat the deadline for changing party registration (depending on the state—in Florida, the deadline for switching enrollment is 29 days prior to the primary election date). Please think about assisting in this effort. Consistently working on such a drive is what will make this effort a success.