



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Former Congressman Bob Barr to Run for Libertarian Presidential Nomination**

Former Congressman, Bob Barr, announced today in Kansas City that he will seek the Libertarian Party nomination for President.

Bob Barr currently serves on the Libertarian National Committee. He served in Congress from 1995 to 2003 and is currently on the board of directors of the NRA. He has been a vocal opponent of the Patriot Act, viewing it as an infringement on the civil liberties of Americans.

Barr is expected to attract conservatives who are unhappy with John McCain as the Republican nominee. Barr disagrees with McCain's views on prolonging the occupation of Iraq.

Barr has said there is a "great deal of dissatisfaction with the current candidates and the current two-party system." He said he views his candidacy as an extension of the campaign of Republican Ron Paul.

The Libertarian presidential nominee will be chosen at the Party's National Convention in Denver, which begins on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

If on the ballot in Oklahoma, Bob Barr would have to run as an Independent, as only the two major parties are currently recognized in Oklahoma. Mr. Barr would need to collect nearly 44,000 valid signatures by July 15<sup>th</sup> to run as an Independent in Oklahoma.

"We are happy to have Bob Barr join the race. If he is our party's nominee, we hope we can support him as an Independent candidate in Oklahoma," said Angelia O'Dell, Chair of the Libertarian Party of Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Coalition of Independents Chair, Clark Duffe, said, "It would be great for Oklahoma voters to have three choices for president. Oklahoma was the only state limited to just two choices for president in 2004 and the last time we had an Independent presidential candidate was Ross Perot in 1992."

Mr. Barr visited Oklahoma last October for a fundraiser for Oklahomans for Ballot Access Reform (OBAR). Rather than seeking ballot access, which requires 46,324 signatures this year, the Libertarian Party of Oklahoma supported OBAR's unsuccessful initiative petition to return the requirement to form a party to 5,000 signatures.

Mr. Barr commented on ballot access, saying, "Liberty includes the freedom to choose a candidate of your choice without that freedom being arbitrarily limited by the status quo parties. All candidates' names should appear on voters' ballots regardless of that candidate's political party. Today's political parties are changing, 10-20 percent of Americans hold libertarian ideas, and those voters deserve every right to vote for a Libertarian candidate just like Republicans and Democrats do."

For more information on the Libertarian Party visit [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org) or [www.OKLP.org](http://www.OKLP.org) and for more information on Bob Barr, visit [www.BobBarr.org](http://www.BobBarr.org)

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