

PRESS RELEASE

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Real Women Run Offers a Closer Look at SB54

Utah's Election Laws Changed: A Free Training about New 'Two Ways to the Ballot'

SALT LAKE CITY, UT – Real Women Run will present a free training on Senate Bill 54 (SB54) on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at 7:00 to 8:30 PM at the Nancy Tessman Auditorium, The City Library, 210 East 400 South, Salt Lake City.

This presentation on the 'Two Ways to the Ballot' will feature Taylor Morgan, Executive Director of Count My Vote and Justin Lee, Deputy Director of Elections at the Utah Lieutenant Governor's Office. They will educate attendees on the ins and outs of Utah's new petition process to get on the ballot, which allows candidates to utilize the petition process to force a primary election. This process is in addition to the traditional party caucus system used to secure a party nomination. Lindsay Zizumbo, Associate Director for Policy Innovation Lab at the Sorenson Global Impact Investing Center, will be the moderator.

SB54 is also known as the 'Count My Vote compromise' and became law in 2014, after the County My Vote initiative made a concerted effort to do away with political parties' nominating process through the caucus system in favor of direct primaries. SB54 is being challenged in federal court by the Utah Republican Party and the Utah Constitution Party, who favor the caucus system alone.

Registration for this training and all Real Women Run events can be made at online at realwomenrun.org or ywca.com.

The SB54 training kicks off Real Women Run's year of events and trainings and will be followed by a fall social on November 11, where women are invited to meet and mingle with women who have run, are interested in running, or want to learn more about public service at all levels.

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About Real Women Run

Real Women Run is a collaborative nonpartisan initiative to empower women to participate fully in public life and civic leadership through elected political office at all levels, appointments to boards and commissions, participation in campaigns, and engagement in the political system.

Founded in 2011, Real Women Run partners include the YWCA Utah, Hinckley Institute of Politics at the University of Utah, Vision 2020, Salt Lake Community College, AAUW, League of Women Voters of Utah, Women Lawyers (Utah Bar Association), Utah Women and Leadership Project at Utah Valley University, Olene Walker Institute of Politics at Weber State University, Women in Law (BYU), Utah State University, current and former elected officials from major political parties, and community members.