

Ms. Fraser,

Please note my disapproval of SF 1827 for the record. As a resident of Minneapolis, I find myself unrepresented by any of the major party candidates on my ballot, election after election. I've voted third party since my first election in 2004, and I plan to continue to do so. I don't do this because I think a third party candidate will win, but because I care more about my principles than about electoral victory. Third parties pose no threat to the D's and R's, and making our job harder serves no one. Whether we need 5% or 10% to appear on ballots, we're still facing a massive uphill climb just to appear. Getting elected is even less likely.

On the other hand, third parties historically have carried the baton for all the major social movements. Yes, the Dems eventually pick up criminal justice reform, marijuana legalization, and gay marriage. But if it weren't for Libertarians and Greens and others advocating for these things long before the big parties pick them up, the big parties would never pick them up. Libertarians and Greens were advocating for marriage equality for decades before Vice President Biden endorsed it on TV, making it suddenly ok to discuss. If it weren't for third parties, I wouldn't be allowed to marry my partner today.

I appreciate the consideration, and I ask every senator to vote no on SF 1827

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