

Did you know that in the 1994 election Randall Luthi (R) and Larry Call (D) ran for the House of Representatives in Wyoming and tied? They each got 1941 votes, so they did a recount and it was the same. So Gov. Mike Sullivan put a ping pong ball in his cowboy hat and drew one out. He drew out Randall Luthi and Luthi served until 2007 and became the Speaker of the House.

This story shows why it is important to vote. It was

important to vote because if someone hadn't voted or if someone else did vote then there would clearly have been a winner. |
vote makes a difference.

Voting also is important because you show your ideas about how the government should work. Oklahoma is one of 15 states where people can directly vote about important questions. In Oklahoma the state legislative branch must put proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot. There are also state initiatives and referendums

that people vote on.

Since Oklahoma became a state there have been over 400 state questions, but sometimes people do not even vote on the questions! In 2018 2,129,843 people were registered to vote.

1,186,385 people voted for governor, but only 892,758 people voted on

one of the state questions. The

referendum was for state question

788 which was legalizing medical

marijuana. The referendum passed

and has led to harmful effects.

In 2021 marijuana was the biggest drug-related reason kids under 18

went to the emergency room.

Since over half of the registered voters did not vote, less than half of the registered voters changed the law. Your vote can change the law.

Voting has other impacts too. Because elected officials know that we have the power to take them out of office, our government officials feel pressure to do what they promised us to do.

Voting can change our government and the law. As Oklahomans, we are one of the

only states that have three
kinds of state questions. We
can directly vote on some laws.
We should vote to make our
government better.

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