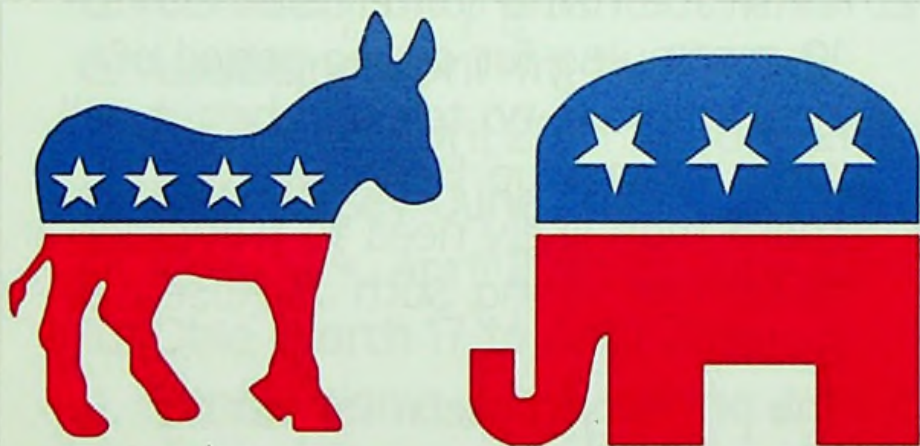


Voting With COVID-19

Cassie Layton ~ SOC 344



Trends Between States

Democratic States: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island.

Republican States: Indiana, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

Some states have even postpone voting multiple times.

Many states are trying to implement Absentee Ballots as concerns for the Public Health of the country are still on the rise.



By Mail Ballots

By Mail Ballots are primarily a form of voting through mail by when people are unable to make it to in-person polls due to certain circumstances, such as COVID-19. Normally it is required to file for a request, and you will be permitted to vote by mail so long as you are a registered voter.

It can be argued that this would be an effective way of voting as it would be in the best interest of the public health since it doesn't require people to vote in person. However, one main concern is being able to implement it all across the country if it is conducted on a state to state basis rather than from an organized group on the federal level that can ensure it is done consistently everywhere in the United States.

Concerns of a Delayed Election

1. It is uncertain how delays will affect the election, but it seems as if regulations and changes are up to individual states rather than the federal government. This can pose problems if we are unable to maintain an organized method of dealing with the issue of voting.
2. If we do move to by-mail voting, the government will need to educate some people on how to vote by that method since it is uncommon and not everyone understands how it is run.
3. There is no telling how COVID-19 will affect the outcome of the election, for reasons such as certain demographics not voting as they would if circumstances were normal, which could have a severe impact to the results.

Could the President's Term be Extended?

In short terms, no in relations to the 12th Amendment. As the presidential term ends on January 20th at Noon, the term can not be extended as there are no laws which permit for it to be. Following that, if no proper election has been conducted with no new president elected, then the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be the one to take over temporarily as president until a new one can be properly elected. Currently, it would be Nancy Pelosi who would take over the office if the election is postponed past January 20th.

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