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### **(S.D.)-State Recognizes Two New Political Parties**

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 04/19/2012 03:09 PM

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) - South Dakota has officially recognized two new political parties.

Secretary of State Jason Gant says he has approved petition signatures submitted by the Americans Elect Party and the Constitution Party. That means candidates for federal, state, legislative and county offices can run as recognized members of those parties.

The Americans Elect Party is new to South Dakota and has no registered voters. The Constitution Party has 309 registered voters and was recognized by South Dakota in the past, but lost its recognized status when it did not run a candidate for governor in 2010.

Gant says that to retain their recognized status, the two parties' candidates for governor will have to get at least 2.5 percent of the total votes cast for that race in 2014.

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