

# NEWS RELEASE



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FOR RELEASE:  
Immediately  
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Frederick M. Herrmann, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission, announced that at its meeting today the Commission selected sponsors for the series of four 1989 gubernatorial primary election debates. A gubernatorial primary election candidate's receipt of public matching funds is conditioned upon participation in two primary election debates.

On the basis of applications which were required to be submitted by March 15, Herrmann explained that the Commission has selected the League of Women Voters of New Jersey to sponsor two primary election debates and WPVI/TV6 with WABC-TV to sponsor two primary election debates. Each will sponsor one debate for Republican candidates and one debate for Democratic candidates.

Private organizations which are not affiliated with any political party or with any holder of or candidate for public office, which have not endorsed any candidate in the pending primary election for Governor of the State of New Jersey, and which have previously sponsored one or more televised debates for State-wide office in New Jersey since 1976 were eligible to be considered to sponsor one or more of the 1989 interactive gubernatorial primary election debates. The first debate for each party's election candidates is to occur not earlier than April 19, 1989 and the second debate is to be held not later than May 26, 1989.

Participation in two debates will also be required of general election gubernatorial candidates who seek public funding. Sponsors will therefore also be sought for the two fall 1989 general election debates which must occur between September

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19, 1989 and October 27, 1989. Rules for conducting the debates and details concerning the dates, times, and locations of the debates are the responsibility of the sponsors selected.

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