

is pictured above.) Jindal received 54 percent of the vote in the primary election. Under Louisiana's system, by winning a majority of the vote, Jindal automatically became governor. A general election for governor was not needed. Yet no other Republican candidates ran that year, while five Democratic candidates, one Libertarian, and four other candidates did. Democratic fracturing in the wake of embattled incumbent Democrat Kathleen Blanco's decision not to run for reelection handed the Republicans control of the governorship at the primary. Of course, with 54 percent of the vote, Jindal legitimately represented the majority of Louisiana voters at the time.

THINKING *Critically*

- ★ What are the advantages to Louisiana's nonpartisan blanket primary?

- ★ Why do you think people in California or Texas might be attracted to this system?
- ★ What are the advantages to Texas's current semi-open system? (See text for details on Texas's system.)
- ★ Which system do you prefer?

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- i. John Howard, "Voters Approve Prop. 14, 'Open Primary,'" *Sacramento Capitol Weekly*, June 8, 2010, <http://capitolweekly.net/voters-approve-prop-14-open-primary/> (accessed September 27, 2014).
 - ii. Louisiana Secretary of State, "Election Results," <http://electionresults.sos.louisiana.gov/graphical#> (accessed August 10, 2010).
 - iii. Ibid.