

**TO:** Interested Parties

FROM: MoveOn Political Action Executive Director Rahna Epting

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RE: Questions No Labels Must Answer on Reckless Third-Party Efforts

## MEMO: Questions No Labels Must Answer on Reckless Third-Party Efforts

Following NPR's "Open to Debate" with MoveOn Political Action Executive Director Rahna Epting and No Labels Chief Strategist Ryan Clancy, MoveOn outlines commonsense questions that No Labels refuses to answer and continues to hide about its campaign. During the debate, Clancy rebuffed a slew of questions on releasing the party's dark-money donors, No Labels' stance on abortion, and its lack of a path to 270 electoral votes – all questions that voters deserve to know the answers to.

No Labels is desperate to be taken seriously as a legitimate third-party bid, yet they cannot manage to answer basic questions on their efforts and come up with the math to win. Their only path is to reelect Donald Trump – the most extremist president in our lifetimes.

## 1. What exactly is No Labels' path to earning 270 electoral votes?

When faced with factual criticism that its campaign will cut into President Biden's vote share and reelect Donald Trump, No Labels' go-to <u>response</u> is that they will pull the plug when they see the math showing they cannot win. But the math already shows exactly that: A No Labels third-party presidential ticket <u>has no path</u> to winning. Droves of independent analysts <u>agree</u> their only role is to siphon votes away from President Biden. As the WSJ <u>found</u>, "The most likely role No Labels would play ... is that of spoiler."

<u>Public polling data – along with No Labels' own polling – shows</u> that they would peel away votes from Biden and help Trump in a number of battleground states like Arizona, Georgia, and Michigan. They have yet to present any theory to win, and they do not have the <u>infrastructure or a plausible case to get to 270 electoral votes</u>. So, what magical data point is No Labels waiting for before ending this scheme?

## 2. Why won't No Labels follow the rules of every major political party and disclose their donors?

No Labels claims every excuse under the sun to avoid releasing their dark-money donors. Clancy claims they want to shield and protect their donors from scrutiny, but their secrecy and

lack of transparency only reinforce reasonable suspicions that they have a lot to hide. Americans have a right to know who is fueling this irresponsible and dangerous effort that will only lead to Donald Trump back in the White House.

The New Republic reported that conservative super donor Harlan Crow – the same billionaire who lavished improper gifts and benefits on Clarence Thomas – donated \$130,000 to the group between 2019 and 2021 and connected the group with several other donors in his network. More reporting has shown strong financial connections to Jared Kushner and organizing ties for No Labels to conservative interest groups that are close to Ron DeSantis. If No Labels isn't funded by right-wing dark-money efforts, then all they have to do is disclose who IS funding them and put these concerns to rest.

## 3. Will No Labels nominate a candidate who supports a national abortion ban?

There is a significant amount of information the public still needs to know about where No Labels stands on abortion access – one of the most animating and critical issues for the majority of people across the country. But what we do know is concerning. To start, the No Labels Party's "commonsense" agenda is virtually silent on abortion. Any political group running in 2024 that does not have clarity on its position on this issue is not a credible operation.

To make matters worse, *The New York Times* reported that No Labels' leaders are saying that their candidate will be a Republican. Their top strategist discussed "a ticket led by a Republican." Jon Huntsman, whom No Labels chose to roll out their agenda, supports a total abortion ban. They can't claim to be "unifiers" with an abortion extremist leading their ticket. The overturning of *Roe v. Wade* makes clear that the GOP has no agenda of protecting reproductive rights.