

## **“Trump Insurance”, MTZ 3rd Party Insurance Policy: Romney, McCain**

If Mr. Trump does not cooperate with the Republican Party he can be stopped in the Electoral College.

Whether it is “good” or “bad” for the Country to elect Donald Trump as President is not an issue, here. Rather, the point, here, is to explore *whether* it remains a realistic possibility to “stop Trump”. The writer takes no position whether this would be “good” or “bad”, but, rather, presents the realistic (and probably only) scenario whereby a Third Party candidate *could* as a collateral impact be elected President of the United States.

**A Mountain Time Zone Strategy:** Under the strategy, here, Mitt Romney would run for President in certain key Mountain Time Zone (MTZ) states where Mrs. Clinton has no chance in any event to win. John McCain would run in Arizona; and perhaps another favorite son could run in a different but very “red” state.

If the cumulative vote total of Third Party candidates is sufficient to deny any person an Electoral College majority, then the President would be elected by the House of Representatives. The House (with one vote per state delegation) would choose between Trump, Mrs. Clinton and the Third Party candidate with the highest Electoral College vote total (if there are plural Third Party candidates).

### **Mrs. Clinton May (in any Event) Win an Electoral College Majority:**

Some pundits are predicting that Mrs. Clinton will win in a landslide, so that the “insurance policy”, here, is unnecessary. The problem with this view is that they echo the views of a year ago that Mr. Trump could not possibly win his party’ s nomination. If the pundits are correct, then this “insurance policy” is never cashed in – Mrs. Clinton wins the presidency in the normal two-party race.

But, what happens if the pundits are wrong and on the eve of the Election it is apparent that the debating skills of Mr. Trump show that he may win a two party race? Then, it is too late to start a Third Party Candidacy.

## “Trump Insurance”, MTZ 3rd Party Insurance Policy

**A (Very) “Red State” Third Party Strategy:** The goal of “Trump Insurance” is to run a Third Party candidate in states where Mrs. Clinton could not win a state even with a third party candidate.

**Trump, Pinned Down in the Rocky Mountain States:** Without an MTZ third party candidate, these very “red” states would require essentially no campaign efforts by Mr. Trump, whether that effort is measured in the Candidates time, money or presentation of issues consistent with very conservative “red” state values.

With a Third Party conservative candidate, Mr. Trump would need to devote time and money to these states and, perhaps more importantly, be forced to take the same extreme positions as in the primary elections, perhaps a contradiction from positions needed in other states.

**The “Insurance Policy”:** To the extent that Trump would have won a two party race but a successful third party candidate deprived him of a majority in the Electoral College, then the “insurance policy” kicks into place: The House of Representatives would then elect the President from the limited group of the Republican and Democratic party candidates and the Third Party candidate with the highest Electoral College vote total.

**A True Conservative Third Party Candidate:** Since the House of Representatives votes in a Presidential election on one vote per state delegation, and a clear majority of the state delegations are Republican, a third party candidacy to stop Trump would work best if the alternate choice to Trump is a respected conservative member or former member of the Congress or former Governor.

**A Third Party Candidacy in All 50 States is Not Realistic:** The idea that a third party candidate has to run in all (or nearly all) of the 50 States represents a misunderstanding of the political realities.

The only way running in all 50 states would make sense is if the third party candidate received an Electoral College majority vote, something that no realistic person would predict. If a third party candidate *did* do so, this would give Mrs. Clinton all “purple” states, where the otherwise pure Trump vote would be split between Trump and the third party candidate, easily giving such states to Mrs. Clinton.)

Regards,

Hal

May 9, 2016