



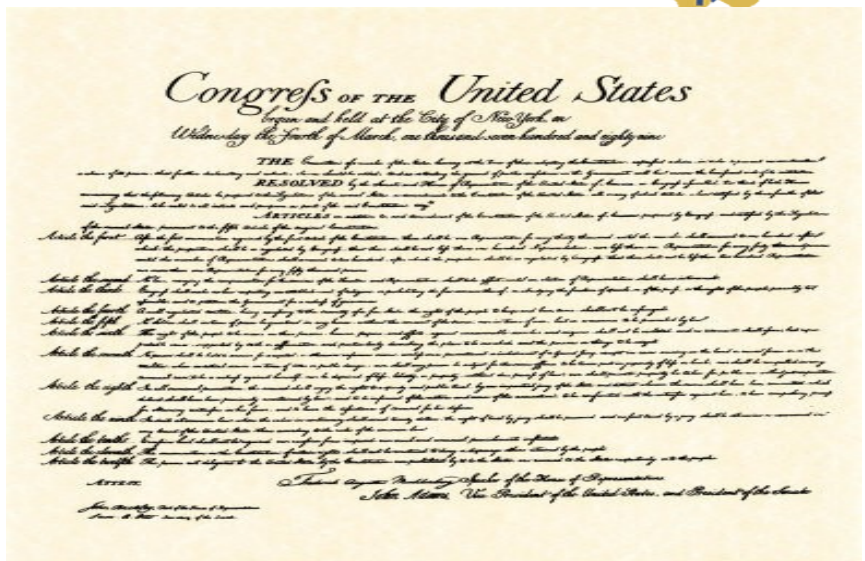
The Libertarian

Thursday, January 7, 2010



Election Opportunities

We now have 6 strong candidates running for state-wide election in 2010: Lex Green for Governor, Ed Rutledge for Lt. Governor, Julie Fox for Comptroller, Josh Hanson for Secretary of State, James Pauly for Treasurer, and Mike Labno for US Senate. We are also in the process of filling the final position, Attorney General, to complete our state slate.



Our campaign teams are forming and assistance can be provided by those who would like to serve as a campaign manager, treasurer, volunteer coordinator, fundraiser, webmaster, spokesperson, writer, researcher, event planner, graphic designer, photographer, videographer, etc.

If you enjoy social networking, there is a new project underway to track Facebook, Twitter, and related activity as well as use these resources to draw supporters to our campaigns.

We are also looking for people to be Campaign Coordinators in their area and act as a focal point for collecting and distributing petitions, campaign literature, and yard signs; scouting possible event locations; and identifying local media.

If you have a skill or area of interest that you would like to offer to our campaigns or would like to volunteer as a Campaign Coordinator for your area, please contact Crystal Jurczynski, LP Illinois Campaign Director, at 630-876-1935 or campaign@lpillinois.org.

If you are interested in running for election there are many offices from which to choose. Visit our [How To Run](#) web page to learn more about getting started. Many races have challenging signature requirements for candidates to get on the ballot, so it is advantageous to review our [Elective Offices](#) page for further information.

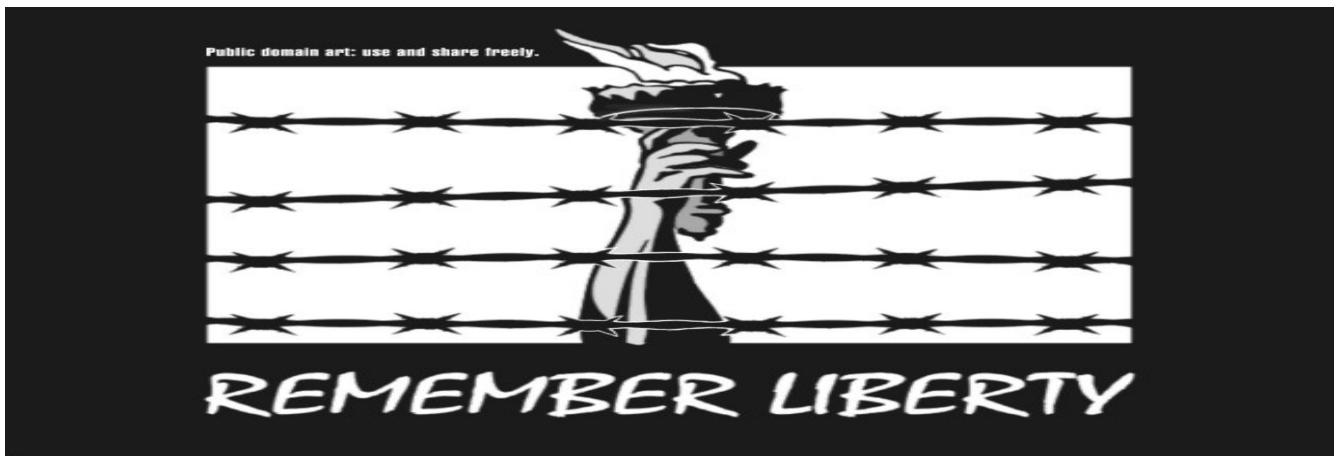
There are two state-representative races where signature requirements are not too tough and Libertarians could make a huge impact because there is no incumbent:

- in the 56th representative district (4400 signatures), Paul Froehlich (R Schaumburg) is retiring.

- in the 41st representative district (5600 signatures), Bob Biggins (R Elmhurst) is retiring.

Contact Crystal for more information or to express your interest in being a candidate, for the next election or any beyond.

Now is the time for all good men and women to come to the aid of their country. We need you to run for office or help others win campaigns.



TEA PARTY STRENGTH IN POLL SHOWS DESIRE FOR THIRD PARTY: LIBERTARIANS PROVIDE THE ANSWER

Posted by Kent McMillen, Public Relations Director of LP Illinois

A recent poll taken by Rasmussen Reports found that Tea Party candidates beat Republicans in generic congressional match ups. The findings indicated Democrats polling 36% of the vote, followed by the Tea Party candidate with 23%, Republicans at 18% with 23% undecided.

The report also indicated that 41% of voters nationwide say Republicans and Democrats are so much alike that a new party is needed to represent the American people, and that 60% of voters not affiliated with either major party agree that a new party is needed.

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Tea parties and similar events have been held in numerous American cities over the past couple of years. Members of the Libertarian Party of Illinois ("LP Illinois") have been instrumental in many of these gatherings:

- LP Illinois members coordinated and spoke at the fall 2008 Chicago Tax Protest
- LP Illinois members began organizing a 2009 Tax Day Tea Party BEFORE Rick Santelli called for it on television

- LP Illinois members helped to plan and coordinate the 2009 Chicago Independence Day Tea Party
- LP Illinois members coordinated and spoke at the 2009 Chicago End the Fed Rally

These demonstrations illustrate citizens' loss of patience with politics as usual. They were about excessive taxation and runaway spending and were grassroots efforts by those in favor of limited government. The Republican Party cannot lay claim to being for small government, with its tremendous growth and the passing of the PATRIOT Act during the administration of George W. Bush. The answer lies with the Libertarian Party. For nearly 40 years, we have adhered to the ideals of limited government, lower taxes, personal freedom, individual responsibility and a non-interventionist foreign policy. We are the true alternative for voters looking for a new direction. With so many career politicians on both sides of the aisle remaining in office for decades, how can change ever be affected without a new landscape?

Despite unfair ballot access laws in the State of Illinois passed by the Democrats and Republicans which make it time consuming and expensive for third parties to appear on the ballot, LP Illinois fully expects to field a slate of energetic candidates for the 2010 state-wide elections. We welcome the debate and the opportunity to offer the answer so badly needed.



LP Illinois Announces Candidate Breakfast Forum In Rockford and Afternoon Forum at Northern Illinois University

The Libertarian Party of Illinois is pleased to announce the participation of the following candidates in a breakfast forum in Rockford on Saturday, January 16th.

Mike Labno	<i>U.S. Senate</i>
Lex Green	<i>Governor</i>
Ed Rutledge	<i>Lt. Governor</i>
Josh Hanson	<i>Secretary of State</i>
James Pauly	<i>Treasurer</i>
Julie Fox	<i>Comptroller</i>

The forum will take place at 9:30 a.m. at the Machine Shed, 7475 East State Street (Rte. 20) in Rockford. The telephone number for the Machine Shed is: 815/229-3276.

Each candidate will give a short presentation followed by a question and answer session with the audience.

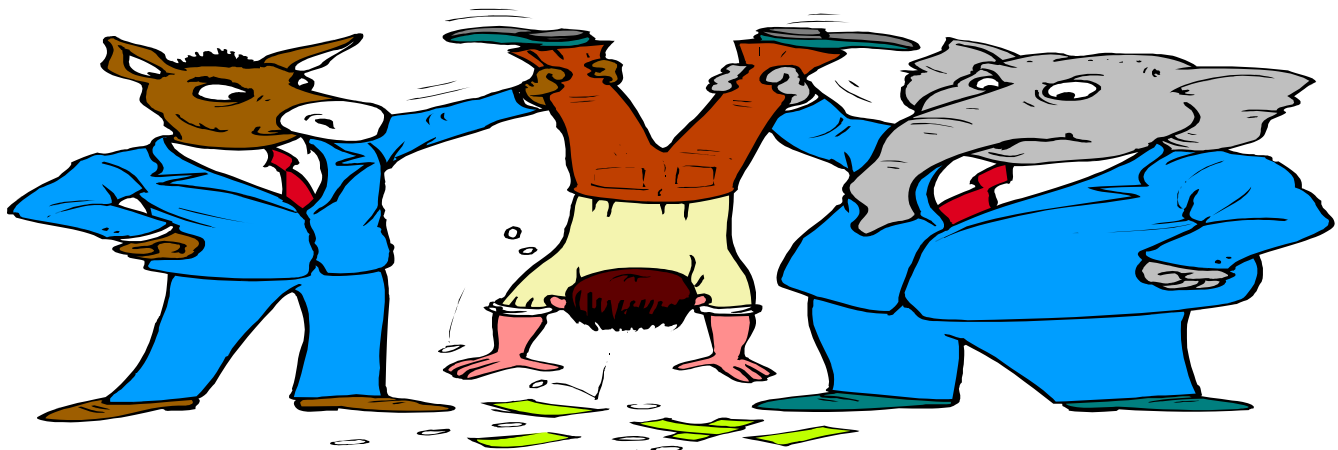
The afternoon forum will take place at 1:00 p.m. at [Northern Illinois University Holmes Student Center](#), 200 Carroll Ave, Dekalb, IL 60115.

This is one day in a series of joint appearances by Libertarian Party candidates for state-wide offices in 2010. Libertarian candidates are traveling across the state to show voters that they have an alternative to the corruption and inefficiency that plague Springfield and Washington. In November, they can vote to keep Illinois the butt of late night talk shows or they can vote Libertarian. We plan to show the voters of Illinois that the Libertarian Party is the true alternative and remedy to the political corruption and bloated inefficient government in the state.

For questions or for further information on the candidates' forum, please contact Mike Fogelsanger, Activism Director for the Libertarian Party of Illinois, at: 815/899-2351 or activism@lpillinois.org.

Contact information for our candidates:

Mike Labno for U.S. Senate	www.Labno4Senate.com	(630) 541-8322
Lex Green for Illinois Governor	www.ElectLex.com	(309) 828-9212
Ed Rutledge for Illinois Lieutenant Governor	www.Rutledge4illinois.com	(309) 828-9212
Josh Hanson for Illinois Secretary of State	www.JoshHanson2010.com	(630) 200-9527
Julie Fox for Illinois Comptroller	www.FoxForComptroller.com	(888) 317-1977



GOVERNOR SAVING MONEY IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES

Posted by Kent McMillen, Public Relations Director of LP Illinois

Recently, Governor Patrick Quinn announced an initiative to save taxpayers approximately \$5 million a year by letting 1,000 prisoners out early. Quinn also stated that his intention was to release only “non-violent criminals.” News reports have indicated that among those criminals granted release were serving time for domestic battery, felony drunk driving and burglary, hardly non-violent offenses.

The Libertarian Party of Illinois feels the initiative is misguided in several ways.

First, a substantial savings in the cost of incarceration would be realized by changing the drug laws in the state. The 2008 Annual Report of the Illinois Department of Corrections reported that nearly 23% of the prison population (10,352 inmates) were serving time for controlled substance and cannabis

related crimes. Based on the calculation of saving \$5 million per year for 1,000 inmates, this would result in an annual savings of over \$50 million by decriminalizing drugs and releasing all non-violent drug offenders. In addition, sentencing those guilty of financial crimes with restitution only would save money for the prison system.

Second, the state needs to look “within” for additional cost savings for taxpayers. Illinois’ debt is in the billions of dollars, and a \$5 million savings which results in violent offenders re-appearing in the general public is both a drop in the bucket and a poor tradeoff. Illinois needs to cut its’ bureaucracy by eliminating jobs and slashing salaries, as well as changing the pension system for public employees. This would send a positive message to citizens in this current economic climate. Third, we need to allow people to feel safe when out in public. Illinois is only one of two states (the other being Wisconsin) which does not allow concealed carry of weapons. We would have fewer violent offenders in the states’ prisons, and the cost of running the jails would decrease as a result, if these criminals knew their potential victims could be armed and able to defend themselves. You don’t hear about violent crimes being committed at gun shows.

The State of Illinois needs to be more fiscally sound, more prudent on what types of criminal offenses result in jail sentences, and more realistic as to the prevention of violent crimes. This would add up to savings for taxpayers and a better rationale for who goes to jail.



Illinois patients' voices needed to move medical marijuana legislation

In the coming weeks, Illinois will have a chance to stand up for seriously ill patients when the legislature returns for the 2010 legislative session. [**SB 1381, the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program Act**](#), passed the Senate May of 2009, and is now awaiting a vote in the House. SB 1381 still needs more representatives’ support to get to the 60 votes it needs to pass.

Want to know what you can do to make this happen. Contact our Legislative Director David Daves, at Legislative@LPillinois.org today. If you hear of bill that is important to the Libertarian Party let David know so, we can get others involved.

Message from the State Chair

A Hearty and Loud Welcome

Please welcome Jennifer Hawk, our new Fundraising Director her contact info is

Fundraising@LPillinois.org. Many will remember her from the 2009 Convention Committee Fundraiser as the person who called and e-mailed everyone. I think a good way to make her feel at home is for everybody to ***Donate \$10 on our website today.***

SOC In-Person Meeting Dates:

January 17th, 2010 (Budget/Goals in Bloomington)

March 21st, 2010 (Before Petition Drive in Bloomington)

June 23rd, 2010 (Before Petition Drive Ends in Bloomington)

September, Sunday of Convention Weekend in Springfield

All members are encourage, and welcome to attend these meetings. If you are interested please contact our State Chair, Lupe Diaz at Chair@LPillinois.org or (800) 735-1776.

New LP Illinois Address:

Libertarian Party of Illinois

PO Box 6, Bloomington, IL 61702-0006

New LP Illinois Chapters Yahoo Group

We are trying to build open communication between all Chapters (County and Campus) Chairs, and Vice-Chairs. Developing Chapters will also be invited to join to share valuable information from Chapters already developed. Grow Chapters, help plant seeds for new Chapters. If you are interested in setting up a new Chapter, or would like to add your Chapter to this group please contact our Membership Director Damon Dillon at Membership@LPillinois.org.

If you have any Newsletter items or ideas please forward to News@LPillinois.org.

