

LIBERTY PLEDGE

NEWSLETTER

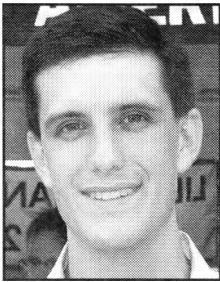
Libertarian National Committee, Inc. ♦ 2600 Virginia Ave, NW, Suite 200 ♦ Washington, DC 20037 ♦ Phone: (202) 333-0008 ♦ Fax: (202) 333-0072
www.LP.org May 2009

LP succeeds where Obama fails: Finding budget savings

By Donny Ferguson

Director of Communications

Libertarian National Committee



Donny Ferguson
media@lp.org

Did you hear? Obama's cutting the budget!

Unfortunately, it's only \$100 million, which comes out to 0.0027 percent of the \$3.6 trillion in spending he is imposing on current and future taxpayers. Much of it is simply things like buying office supplies in bulk, or one-time cuts that do nothing to curb long-term spending.

And according to senior White House official, speaking to the Associated Press on the condition of anonymity, "said Obama will point to cuts already being proposed."

Well, Libertarians know better. Obama is doing this out of desperation, and there's a reason he's scrambling to take credit for tiny spending reductions other people came up with.

That's why the Libertarian Party is proposing real, specific spending reductions --- reductions that will go much, much further to reduce taxes on our children than Obama's raindrop-in-the-ocean repackaging of already-proposed cuts.

So what are they? How are Libertarians going to reduce the size and cost of the federal government and stave off trillions of dollars in higher taxes on our children?

Here are just a few reductions we back. You can find more in the Cato Institute's "Handbook for Policymakers, Seventh Edition."

- Avert the oncoming fiscal crisis in Social Security by indexing initial benefits to changes in prices, instead of wages. Saves \$47 billion annually by 2018. Without reforms like this, the program will go bankrupt or force trillions of dollars in destructive new taxes or borrowing.

- Turn Medicare into a block grant and freeze federal spending, forcing states to pursue cost-cutting reforms. Saves \$227 billion annually by 2018.
- Eliminate the Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration, a \$352 million corporate welfare program.
- Eliminate the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration, another \$369 million in corporate welfare.
- Eliminate the Energy Department's nuclear energy research programs, \$695 million in welfare that should be undertaken by nuclear energy investors.
- Turn Head Start over to private charities, saving \$687 million annually. Since its inception Head Start has shown no substantive increase in inner-city literacy rates.
- Eliminate the Bureau of Indian Affairs, saving nearly \$2.5 billion a year.
- Eliminate funding for the United Nations and other international programs, saving nearly \$1.6 billion annually.
- Eliminate the Legal Services Corporation, saving \$350 million annually.
- Eliminate the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities, \$278 million a year in welfare for wealthy arts patrons.
- Eliminate the Small Business Administration, \$530 million in welfare for businesses.
- Eliminate the \$935 million a year in Postal Service subsidies and force them to further privatize operations.

Those are just a few cuts, a "twelve step program" if you will, which alone save taxpayers \$282.3 billion. That comes out to \$921.78 in savings for every man, woman and child in America, and there would be a lot more savings than that to come with future reductions.

The numbers are clear. The only way to get real fiscal reform is to elect Libertarians.



Your Libertarian Party: On The Trail

Agrella runs in special House race



Chris Agrella, the Libertarian nominee for U.S. House of Representatives in California's 32nd District, seeks to fill the seat vacated by Labor Secretary Hilda Solis. Agrella, a union carpenter is running on a platform of lowering taxes and bringing "common sense" to Congress.

BALDWIN PARK, CA -- Running on a platform of limited government, Christopher Agrella addressed a crowd at the only publicly scheduled forum inclusive of all twelve candidates running in the House special election to replace former Representative and now Labor Secretary Hinda Solis.

"The voters have an important choice to make this election," says Agrella. "Transfer the failed policies and politics from Sacramento to the rest of the country, or send a new voice to represent us in Washington."

"I hope you will support my campaign this and vote for me on Tuesday, May 19th."

Agrella touched on his 30 years of experience working in the district as an electrician and as superintendent of school construction. "Chris the Carpenter" connected with local union members as he spoke about how we need to bring common sense back to Washington rather than reward career politicians for their failures.

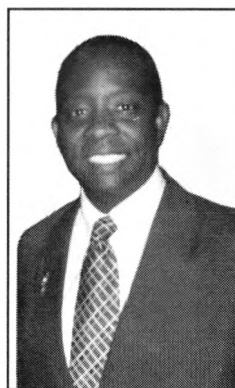
When speaking about the recent bank bailouts, Agrella stated that we should not reward failure and to "let the banks fail" which was accompanied by thunderous applause.

Agrella is endorsed by the Libertarian Party of Los Angeles County and the Libertarian Party of California. The Special Election is Tuesday, May 19th.

Agrella is a self-employed businessman and a resident of California for over 40 years. He has been an active member of the community first as a Boy Scout in Pomona, then in the Carpenters Union #1752 where he helped build safe schools across the state, and today as a Libertarian candidate for office. Agrella is campaigning on a commitment to lowering taxes and bringing common sense to the House of Representatives.

His website is <http://agrella4congress.org>.

John Monds running for Georgia Governor



John Monds, the 2008 Libertarian nominee for Georgia Public Service Commission, was the first candidate in Party history to win over 1 million votes. Monds, a father of four and Morehouse graduate with a degree in Finance, announced his Libertarian bid for Georgia governor at a March press conference at the State Capitol.

ATLANTA -- John Monds announced his intention to seek the Libertarian Party of Georgia's nomination for Governor with a March 25 press conference at the Capitol in Atlanta with family, close friends and supporters by his side.

During his campaign for Public Service Commission (District 1) in 2008, Monds became the first Libertarian to break one million votes in the United States.

Monds and the Libertarian Party believe Georgians are ready for something new and different. "It's difficult to tell the difference between Republicans and Democrats; both want to raise your taxes, waste your money and



Your Libertarian Party: In Office

“...increase the size and scope of state government,” said Monds.

“We must be competitive in the 21st Century. We must have meaningful tax reform that allows businesses and individuals to thrive, a transportation system that eases congestion without raising taxes, an education system that gives more choices and returns control to the local level, and we need to stop wasting the taxpayers’ money with mandated long term incarceration of individuals for non-violent victimless infractions of the law,” said Monds.

John Monds, 43, is a graduate of Morehouse College with a degree in Banking and Finance. He is president of the Grady County NAACP and currently serves on the Grady County Planning Commission.

He resides in Cairo with his wife, Dr. Kathaleena Edward Monds, and four children, Akintunde, Cazembe, Halima and Malik.

Monds’ website is at www.VoteMonds.com.

Libertarian county commissioner defeats tax hike to fund theme park



Heather Scott, a two-term Wilson County, Tenn. Commissioner and Libertarian Party official, authored a resolution defeating plans to raise taxes on residents to fund a theme park. Commissioners also passed a resolution by Scott asking the county’s congressional delegation to dismiss a report by the Environmental Protection Agency suggesting taxes on cows to combat global warming.

LEBANON, TN -- The Wilson County, Tenn. Commission passed an April resolution by Libertarian Commissioner Heather Scott killing a measure to create a new privilege tax to fund a theme park.

Scott’s resolution repealed a plan to tax residents to fund a Bible-themed entertainment park. Financing for the park to pay back the bonds was contingent on a 5 percent privilege tax within a tax zone district.

The project also called for “tax increment financing,” which would take advantage of rising property tax bills and funnel the money to the project.

Scott presented a resolution to rescinding all the previous resolutions regarding the theme park to insure this project could not be brought back. She received a majority vote.

First elected in 2002 and re-elected in 2006, Scott is a two-term Libertarian elected official.

She has served as chair of the Libertarian Party of Wilson County and Heartland Regional Coordinator for the Tennessee LP.

Welcome to the Liberty Pledge Club!

Gary C. Bryant	John Morris
David L. Fuquay	Phillip Mullinax
Gregory Habib	Jack D. Papin
Edward Hines	Michael Penrow
Pamela J. Hoiles	Jeffrey Shapiro
Piper Keairnes	Patrick Shockey
Douglas W. Koobs	Joseph P. Silvestri
Joseph C. Moore	Melvin L. Zwillenberg

Thank you for your support!



Your Libertarian Party: In the Media

Legalize it?

The Daily Free Press (Boston)

April 27, 2009

By Lauren Finch

BOSTON -- The deadly and seemingly hopeless drug-related violence along the Mexican-American border has some drug legalization proponents full of hope.

The violence is both proof that the United States drug prohibition has failed and an opportunity to renew the legalization debate, drug legalization proponents said. Support for drug policy reform is growing as people learn of the economic and social benefits of throwing out criminalization, legalization proponents claimed, while drug prohibition advocates continue to warn that a permissive drug policy is dangerous.

"There's a reason that you don't see Mexican alcohol or tobacco wars," Libertarian Party spokesman Donny Ferguson said. The Libertarian Party's official platform supports drug legalization. "When you make something a criminal matter, such as drugs, it creates a black market and fuels gang crime."

With legalization, the world "would be much safer," Ferguson said....

(Missouri Speaker) will appoint profiling committee, Libertarian says

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch

April 23, 2009

By Tony Messenger

JEFFERSON CITY — According to a news release posted on Facebook by Missouri Libertarian Party spokesman Mike Ferguson, Missouri House Speaker Ron Richard has agreed to appoint a special committee to investigate the political profiling done by the state's "fusion center" known as MIAC.

The MIAC came under fire earlier this year for a report about the militia movement that

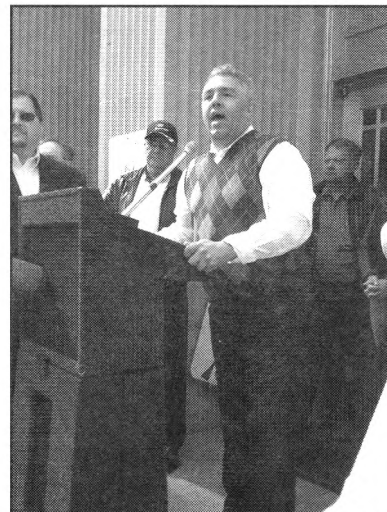
indicated that some members of that violent movement favor specific third-party presidential candidates. The report named Bob Barr, Ron Paul and Chuck Baldwin. All three men sought, and obtained, apologies for the state and the report earned nationwide publicity.

Some of that publicity was spurred by Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder, who criticized Gov. Jay Nixon over the report, even though the report was produced mostly under the previous administration. Since the MIAC controversy, the Post-Dispatch and others reported that MIAC had also issued reports profiling groups from all political spectrums.

In his news release, Ferguson takes a shot at Kinder:

"In contrast to Lt. Governor Peter Kinder's grandiose statements and rhetoric in his press conference last month, he's nowhere to be found on actually delivering the solution to this problem. Despite his skillfully taking a public bow for the hard work of others, it should be pointed out that Mr. Kinder contributed nothing to this effort other than empty words.

"It's important for the public to know the difference between those who merely talked about leading, like Lt. Governor Kinder, and those who truly led, like Representatives Schoeller, Molendorp, Dixon, Kelley and Guest."



The Libertarian perspective was well represented at Tea Parties throughout Oregon protesting rising taxation, government spending, and the exploding federal debt. LPO State Committee and former LNC member Richard Burke was a featured speaker at Tea Parties held in Medford (2,000 attendees) and Grants Pass (1,500 attendees).