

# LIBERTY PLEDGE

## NEWSLETTER

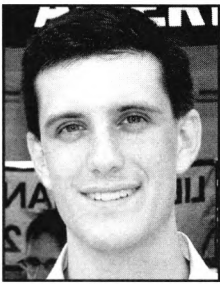
Libertarian National Committee, Inc. ♦ 2600 Virginia Ave, NW, Suite 200 ♦ Washington, DC 20037 ♦ Phone: (202) 333-0008 ♦ Fax: (202) 333-0072  
www.LP.org July 2009

## With unemployment skyrocketing, Libertarians suggest real stimulus

By Donny Ferguson

Director of Communications

Libertarian National Committee



Donny Ferguson  
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WASHINGTON (July 9) -- America's third largest party criticized Democrat and Republican leaders in Congress for suggesting that rising unemployment can be solved by passing another "stimulus" government expansion, or by spending current appropriations more quickly.

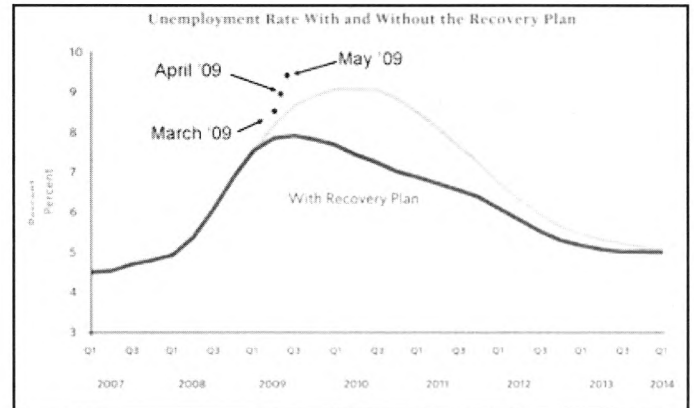
Libertarians propose an alternate package of tax and regulatory relief that will create the jobs Americans need.

When Congress passed President Barack Obama's "stimulus" package early this year the White House stated the spending expansion would keep unemployment below eight percent.

It instead skyrocketed to a 26-year high of 9.5 percent, which Republicans blame on not spending the money fast enough and Democrats claim is reason to pass another, similar bill.

"While Democrats are proposing another several hundred billion dollars on dog parks and ACORN recruiting and Republicans are complaining Obama isn't spending stimulus money fast enough, Libertarians are focused on growth policies that create the jobs Americans need," said Donny Ferguson, Libertarian National Committee Communications Director.

"We can start by preserving the 2001 and 2003 pro-growth tax cuts, scale back taxes on



A modified version of the infamous "Figure 1" from the January 10, 2009 White House report. Obama sold his government expansion plan (which he termed an economic "stimulus" package) as a way of keeping unemployment under 8.8%. Unemployment instead skyrocketed to a 26-year high of 9.5% in June 2009. The dots indicate the actual unemployment rate. (Graphic courtesy of innocentbystanders.net)

investments so job creators can expand their businesses, reduce taxes on individuals so Americans will have more money to save and meet basic needs and reduce unnecessary and unneeded federal regulations that are stopping employers from creating jobs," said Ferguson.

"The Libertarian Party is the only party in America with a proven plan to create the jobs Americans need."

"Poll after poll shows Americans are skeptical of trying to spend our way to prosperity. Poll after poll also shows they agree with the Libertarian Party that government cannot create wealth," said Ferguson.

"It's no wonder that's why Americans are showing a growing interest in the Libertarian Party's common-sense, reasonable and proven job growth policies."



Liberty Pledge - July 2009

# Your Libertarian Party: On The Trail



Matt Cholko (above), a small business owner and native Northern Virginia, is the Libertarian nominee for Virginia's House of Delegates in the 39th District. He faces Republican challenger Joe Bury and incumbent Democrat Vivian Watts, a seven-term incumbent and former state Secretary of Transportation, in a high-profile race.

## Cholko to run for Virginia Delegate

ANNANDALE, VA – Libertarian Party member Matt Cholko announced June 17 he has been certified for the ballot in Virginia's 39th House of Delegates district. Cholko will face Democratic incumbent Vivian Watts and Republican challenger Joe Bury in the race for the seat.

"I'm running for office in order to give 39th district voters more choices on election day. I believe many voters are tired of the status quo and the establishment parties. The Libertarian Party is aware of that frustration and is ready to fill that void for Virginians," said Cholko.

Cholko and his supporters were able to obtain the required amount of signatures and official Party endorsement necessary to have Cholko's name, as well as the Libertarian Party designation, appear alongside the two major party candidates on the ballot in November. "Our party has been growing substantially in the northern Virginia area over the past couple of years and the support we have received thus far in the campaign has been overwhelming," said Matthew Helm, Cholko's

Campaign Manager.

Cholko says he believes his stance on the issues is the same as most voters in his district: lower taxes, smaller government and more freedom. Cholko is a native of Fairfax County, former public school student, graduate of George Mason University, local, small-business owner and currently resides in Annandale.

For more information on Matt Cholko's campaign for House of Delegates you can go to [www.mattcholko.com](http://www.mattcholko.com).

Cholko is available for prearranged interviews by contacting Kara Tappan at 571-278-4787 or Matthew Helm by email at [manager@mattcholko.com](mailto:manager@mattcholko.com) or phone 703-625-1643. To reach the candidate directly you may email [matt@mattcholko.com](mailto:matt@mattcholko.com) or call 703-343-0047.

## Kaplan speaks to Tea Party

SUMMIT, NJ – Ken Kaplan, the Libertarian nominee for New Jersey governor, addressed voters at a July 3 "tea party" in Summit.

New Jersey Citizens for Liberty, a New Jersey non-partisan, non-profit corporation, kicked off the holiday weekend with a PRE-Independence Day Tea Party Friday, July 3rd, on the Village Green in Summit, NJ, just next to the Summit train station.

An estimated crowd of 300 attended the event. One of Kaplan's priorities is phasing out the New Jersey state income tax, reducing the size and cost of state government and state constitutional amendment to allow parents greater flexibility in educating their children.

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# Your Libertarian Party: From LPHQ

## Welcome to the Liberty Pledge Club!

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Alan T. Bussmann  
Ruben Canseco  
Christopher Eaton  
Robert D. Garrard  
Wayne Goff  
Raymond A. Hallenbeck  
David D. Hoesly  
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## Obama backs "the largest middle-class tax increase in history"

By Donny Ferguson  
LNC Director of Communications

*"I pledge that under my plan, no one making less than \$250,000 a year will see any type of tax increase...Not income tax, not capital gains taxes, not any kind of tax." - Candidate Barack Obama in Dover, N.H., Sept. 12, 2008*

Barack Obama, who won the presidential election promising absolutely no tax increase of any kind for the middle class, is now considering a new multi-billion dollar tax on employer-provided health care benefits -- the very proposal he attacked during the campaign as "the largest middle-class tax increase in history.

In Sunday interviews with ABC and NBC, White House adviser David Axelrod admitted Obama was considering enacting a massive new tax on families' health care benefits. Obama himself hinted at the new tax in interviews June 28.

The new tax hike is not only a broken promise, but is seen by many as a plan to force families with private health insurance onto his proposed government-run plan, should Congress give in to his demands for a government takeover of the health care system.

It's not the first time Obama has broken his middle class tax relief promise and instead fought for billions in new taxes on families. Obama is already fighting for a new \$1.9 trillion tax on energy and utilities, a multi-trillion dollar tax that will not only be paid largely by the middle and lower class, but will also cause the United States to lose an additional one million-plus jobs per year.

The Obama energy tax, passed the House, and is now being considered by the Senate. You may call your senators at 202-224-3121 to let them know what you think.





# Your Libertarian Party: In the Media

## Why Libertarians are courting gays and lesbians

KPBS, San Diego  
July 1, 2009

**SAN DIEGO** -- MAUREEN CAVANAUGH (Host)...And while (gays and lesbians) wait, some in the (gay) community are boycotting Democratic fundraising events and writing about re-examining their political affiliations.

It is in this atmosphere that a third political party sees an opportunity. Can the Libertarian Party, with its support of same-sex marriage, become a comfortable place for disappointed gay voters?...

JESSE THOMAS (San Diego LP Chair): Well, I actually say that government doesn't belong in the business of relationships in the first place but they do because they are involved with what I like to call social engineering, taxing people based on how they live, how many children do they have, whether they're married or single, sex, their tax rates and how they're treated by the government, the benefits that they get, that type of thing...

...We are in support of the individual living their lives the way they see fit without some central government authority deciding or affecting that person's life.

CAVANAUGH: I'm wondering, Gloria, where did the Libertarian Party stand on Prop. 8?

GLORIA PENNER (KPBS Political Correspondent): Well, on August second of last year, the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of California unanimously endorsed a vote of 'no' on Proposition 8, which would have amended the California Constitution to eliminate same sex marriages and these were just a couple of the ballot arguments: equality, freedom and fairness for all; they would deny lesbian and gay couples the same dignity and respect...So they were -- Prop 8, they were no on Prop 8.

CAVANAUGH: ...President Obama also has a problem with his stance on "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, and that is he's said one thing during the campaign and so far that "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is still in effect.

PENNER: ...actually the Libertarian Party says that they need to end the Defense Department's practice of discharging Armed Forces personnel for sexual orientation. So that means that, once again, the Libertarian Party is on the side of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender community.

## In health debate, words are weighty

The Kansas City Star  
June 20, 2009

**KANSAS CITY** -- It's been said that when ideas fail, words come in handy.

Think, then, about the value of words in the battle of unproven ideas at war over health care reform.

Public option or government-run. Single payer versus the market. Are patients trapped? Is health care broken?

Virtually everyone is determined to give you choice, in hopes you'll choose their plans...

...Consider a statement from the Libertarian Party, an unpopular-to-overlooked faction of American politics. But it can cobble together words of opposition that cling tightly to its principle and still fit comfortably in the political mainstream.

"Americans deserve health care that is affordable, effective and universally available."

Who could quibble?

"However, President Obama's \$1 trillion government takeover of hospitals and doctor's offices is not the answer."

Yikes. A trillion bucks? Government takeover? Scary stuff.

"That's why our job is hard," said Bocian. "It's always easier to use words to defeat something."