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# LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

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## FIJA Plans Jefferson Memorial Rally, Other Activities Across U.S. for September 5th

Libertarians will be participating in various activities across the country September 5, sponsored by the Fully Informed Jury Amendment organization.

The top-billed event will be a demonstration at the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C. The activities are planned in remembrance of an important anniversary—It is the day an English judge actually imprisoned a jury for exerting its right to nullify unjust laws when it refused to heed the judge's instructions and find William Penn guilty of teaching an illegal religion, Quakerism.

The Jefferson Memorial demonstration will begin at noon and will feature Larry

Dodge, leader of the FIJA campaign, Don Ernsberger from the LNC, Larry Pratt from the Gun Owners of America, and a spokesperson from the ACLU.

LP and FIJA activists across the country will distribute literature at courthouses or participate in related activities September 5.

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## McCann Campaigning Hard In Two-Way Assembly Race

Dr. David M. McCann, Chair of the Sacramento Libertarian Party, is running for the 5th Assembly seat in a special election to be held September 17. It will be a two-way race between the Libertarian and a Republican.

As with all special elections to fill a seat in the state legislature, an open primary was held, with the top vote getter in each party proceeding to the final election. The Democrats failed to field a candidate.

McCann polled better than five of the Republicans in the nine-way primary race.

The Republican primary winner, B.T. Collins, is reported to be the hand-picked candidate of Gov. Wilson. Collins favored the Governor's tax increase plan and is considered to be a gun-control advocate.

McCann is running an active campaign for the seat. Donations may be sent to: David M. McCann, M.D., 8880 Greenback Lane, Suite B, Orangevale, CA 95662.

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## Bill of Rights Anniversary Ceremony Expanded by LP

The December 15 ceremony marking the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights, previously planned by the Libertarian Party, has been expanded into a weekend conference.

The conference will be held at the Quality Hotel on Capitol Hill and will run all day Saturday, with a Saturday night banquet. The ceremony on the Supreme Court steps will begin at noon Sunday with C-SPAN coverage.

The National Committee will also be meeting at the same hotel that weekend.

Further details will be made available in a separate mailing and in *LP News*.

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LIBERTARIAN PARTY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1528 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. • Washington, D.C. 20003 • (202) 543-1988

# State Rep. Warburton Quits GOP; Tax Issue Made Him a Libertarian

By DONN TIBBETTS  
State House Bureau Chief

CONCORD — An 80-year-old retired clergyman and 14-year conservative Republican legislator, Calvin Warburton of Raymond, has become the Libertarian Party's only state representative in the nation.

"I think that's the case," said Miriam Luce, the N.H. Libertarian Party Secretary and its 1990 gubernatorial nominee.

Warburton announced at his news conference yesterday that he switched parties because a drive to enact a state income tax "is being led by Republican representatives in the House" and because the House leadership "is dominated by spend-and-tax Republicans."

"Today marks the beginning of a new era in New Hampshire politics. Today New Hampshire truly becomes a three-party state," declared Libertarian Party Chairman Bill Winter. "Cal Warburton is the first. He will not be the last," vowed Winter, looking to the 1992 elections.

Luce received 14,348 votes for governor in 1990 which was 4.9 percent of the 295,018 votes cast. "We exceeded the required 3 percent to qualify as a major party here in N.H. and because of that, Rep. Warburton was able to register as a Libertarian and is able to join us today," said Luce.

Warburton conceded that as the sole Libertarian in the 400-member House he "may not be able to prevent" enactment of an income tax by the 1992 Legislature but he sees the Libertarian Party as "supplying a strong voice of opposition."

"I am convinced that the present House would vote for an income tax now except for the Governor's veto threat," asserted Warburton, noting that a bid to kill a 6 percent income bill failed this year 188-170 and that it was re-referred to the January session.

He said a constitutional amendment requiring 75 percent of income tax revenue be returned to local communities also was re-referred to January 285-64 in a division, not individually recorded vote.

"I'm going to press for a recorded vote in January and it may not pass," said Warburton.

Asked if he were deserting the head of the Republican Party, Gov. Judd Gregg, whom Warburton credits with a strong veto pledge preventing an income tax, Warburton replied that Republican House members supporting an income levy this year "walked out on the Republican Party Platform and on me."

Winter charged that when it comes to an income tax "the Democrats say, yes, and the Republicans say, maybe, and we're con-

vinced it's only a matter of time until the Republicans officially change their mind and vote for an income tax."

"The Libertarian Party resolutely says no new taxes, no income, no sales tax," insisted Chairman Winter. "If nothing else we think we will perhaps terrify the Republicans into getting a backbone on the income tax issue."

"We do not support any kind of increased taxes or spending at any level for any reason," Winter insisted. Does that mean Libertarians would cut spending every year at least by the rate of inflation? "We would certainly try to," he vowed.

"You can't guarantee lower property taxes by passing another tax," declared Warburton, ironically paraphrasing a oft-stated position of Republican Gov. Gregg, the head of the party Warburton has renounced.

Rep. Warburton will introduce next January the first Libertarian-inspired legislation in the House. He said he joined the Libertarians "because it is the party of freedom, economic freedom, personal freedom, social and judicial freedom."

Meanwhile, Alan Groupe will seek another House seat for the Libertarians in a special election upcoming in Milford.

Submitted by Elmer Frey

San Diego Tribune  
July 15, 1991.

Submitted by  
Al Anders

Tuesday, June 11, 1991 Marshfield News-Herald

## COMMENT

Letters From Readers

### Fight seat belt laws

Editor, News-Herald: Unbelievably, we are willing to send our boys overseas to protect our freedoms at home and at the same time we re-elect legislators to statehouses and Washington who willingly ignore our Constitution by confiscating our freedoms based on unsubstantiated statistics.

The mandatory use seat belt law is a case in point: Promoters of this unasked for law say "it saves lives," however they completely ignore the fact that the belt also costs "loss of lives." It would be easier to get along in this world if we were colorblind. We should put our shoulder to the wheel, nose to the grindstone, stay on the ball, try to keep a level head and also keep our "cool."

We have discrimination by government galore. Everybody must wear that obnoxious belt, except if riding in a taxi, they are sick enough to have an exemption certificate or are riding in a school bus. And this is as a semblance of intelligence while constitutional freedom lovers

are accused of stupidity and aren't even allowed a people's referendum.

Citizens who are angry over this blatant confiscation of our freedoms will keep their cool while un-elected bureaucrats heap mesmerized statistics at our elected representatives. And unbiased surveys cannot boast 50 percent compliance.

The coalition of Seatbelt Freedom of Choice will not crawl into a hole to die. Without strong opposition in the 1993 legislature, the oppressors will feel free to impose more harsh forfeitures for non-compliance and we can expect angry legislators to introduce new repeal legislation. Furthermore, we must keep on fighting to help stop Rep. James Cooper's Bill HR 1782 and Sen. John Chaffee's current, joint attempt to pass a national seat belt and helmet law.

ELMER W.J. FREY  
Co-chairman, Seatbelt Freedom of Choice, 605 W. Upham St.

### Bring in business

At the same time that we find we are plagued by an 8.2 percent unemployment rate, the yahoos in Sacramento are saddling us with the biggest tax increase in the history of our state. Even the Keynesian socialist economists at the People's Republic of Berkeley point out that this is the wrong time to be raising taxes.

California has become such a high-tax, anti-business state that one out of every seven large corporations has made plans to leave the state for better economic climates. Small businesses have already been devastated by the onerous tax and regulatory burdens.

Meanwhile, welfare costs soared 28 percent in 1990. The Caltrans employee waving a flag at cars passing highway construction now earns over \$25 an hour (\$42 an hour on Sundays). The average state prison guard makes \$53,000 a year.

The Golden State has become a gold mine for gold diggers and goldbrickers, but the producers are leaving in droves. This madness cannot be allowed to continue.

—DICK RIDER  
Harborview Heights

## Libertarians want spot on state ballot in 1992

Page 2 The News-Record, Gillette, Wyoming, Wednesday, July 3, 1991

By The News-Record staff  
The Libertarian Party is looking for 8,000 Wyoming voters to sign a petition to put it on the state's 1992 ballot.

Two party volunteers are in Gillette this week to gather signatures. Alvin Anders and Gary Fincher of Cheyenne will be at Cam-plex on Thursday evening and the U.S. Post Office on Friday.

While the Republican and Democratic parties are guaranteed spots on the ballot, third parties such as the Libertarians must collect 8,000 registered voters' signatures. To maintain a guaranteed spot on the ballot, they must win three percent of the total votes cast in the previous general election.

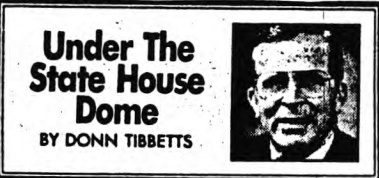
Craig McCune, the Libertarians' 1988 and 1989 U.S. House candidate, says it's very difficult for so-called "minor parties" to get on the ballot in Wyoming.

"This is the most restrictive ballot in the United States of America and quickly the world," McCune said. "It's nine times easier to get on the ballot in Moscow than it is to get on here. Our Legislature knows it and they think that's desirable."

Libertarians have been on Wyoming's ballot frequently since 1980.

Libertarians say signing the petition isn't necessarily an endorsement of the party or a pledge of support. "This is purely for the Secretary of State to promote free elections."

NEW HAMPSHIRE SUNDAY NEWS, Manchester, N.H. — July 14, 1991



### Libertarian Party Gets Symbol on 1992 Ballot

THE STATUE OF Liberty will appear on the New Hampshire general election ballot for the first time ever in 1992.

Secretary of State Bill Gardner says the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire, which attained ballot status as a result of getting 3 percent of the gubernatorial vote in 1990, has formally requested that its national party symbol be placed on the ballot.

It will be there along side the Democratic Party column topped with a star on the state primary and general election ballots and the Republican column on the ballot headed by an eagle symbol.

The Libertarians will also get — for the first time — a separate ballot for the 1992 New Hampshire first-in-the-nation Presidential primary on Feb. 18.

"Something that will make this Presidential primary different is an old law which says any registered voter who is a member of the Democratic or Republican Parties can take a Libertarian ballot," said Gardner.

"The law says a person shall be given a ballot only of the party with which he or she is registered unless they desire to vote the ballot of a party not having official existence at the time their party membership was previously registered," explained the state's top election official.

"So anyone who registered as a member of a party prior to the time the Libertarians became an official party will have the right to vote the Libertarian ballot and become a Libertarian at that time," he said.

"The Libertarians became an official party when we reported the official results of the November 1990 general election," Gardner told us.

Undeclared voters will be able to ask for either a Democrat, Republican or Libertarian ballot in the Presidential primary.

In 1968 the American Party, with Mel Thomson as its gubernatorial candidate, secured enough votes to gain official party status but that party never organized and subsequently Thomson ran as a Republican.

So 1992 will mark the first time in modern history that a third party gets official party status in the Granite State.

Current special elections to fill vacant House seats have already carried a Libertarian column. Milford is seeking a special election which will be approved by the Executive Council this week.

The Town of Derry is still mulling over whether to have a special election to fill the House seat vacated by Republican Eunice Campbell. Libertarian Craig Gould of Derry is eyeing a run for that seat. Gould received 1,234 votes in the Derry House race in 1990 which wasn't enough to win but Libertarians said that was 22.5 percent of the vote and one of the highest vote percentages for any Libertarian in the nation in a multi-candidate state representative contest.

Granite State members will be attending the Libertarian Party Presidential nominating convention in Chicago Aug. 28-Sept. 1.

As to why the Democrats don't use a donkey rather than a star as their ballot symbol and why the Republicans don't use an elephant rather than an eagle as their party symbol, Gardner said he really didn't know.

"As far back as we look somebody at some point decided on the star and eagle. But if either party requested a change I'd certainly be willing to go along with such a request," he told us.

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Submitted by Jim McClarin

Submitted by

A10 THE ARLINGTON JOURNAL THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1991

## Viewpoint

Submitted by Rick Sincere

### The sober truth: The Prohibitionists want to control our lives

Richard E. Sincere Jr.

In a recent New Republic article, Joshua Zimmerman reports that a California school district banned "Little Red Riding Hood" from first-grade classrooms because Grandma has a glass of wine after she is rescued from the wolf.

Zimmerman, a Princeton University student, also notes that after a single incident of overdrinking that gave him a bad hangover, a campus counselor told him that he was "teetering on the brink of alcoholism" and that he should seek treatment. Fox TV's "Beverly Hills 90210" portrayed a similar incident on a recent episode; the teen-age protagonist got drunk once, and by the end of the show he was at an AA meeting.

These are but surface symptoms of a much deeper malady affecting American life today: neo-Prohibitionism. Another symptom is the attempt to link alcoholic beverages to illicit drugs — an inapt analogy heard quite often in the wake of the drug arrests at the University of Virginia and Radford University.

The net effect of this activity is to shame social drinkers, driving the vast majority of drinkers who do not abuse alcohol into social closets. The neo-Prohibitionists are social engineers who want to legislate their moral agenda and increase state control of people's private lives. This is unhealthy, politically unwise and morally reprehensible.

In response to the new Carrie Nations among us, Gene Ford has written a comprehensive book, "The Benefits of Moderate Drinking: Alcohol, Health and Society." Ford reviews all the relevant literature on alcohol and human health and charges that fearmongers have exaggerated the negative health effects of alcohol and buried the research demonstrating alcohol's health benefits. These pseudoscientists have cowed most responsible physicians and scientists to the point that few of them are willing to speak in favor of moderate alcohol use.

One exception is Dr. Thomas B. Turner, the former dean of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. In his foreword to Ford's book,

Dr. Turner notes that "the moderate use of alcoholic beverages has been with us for millennia; so has alcohol abuse. It is important to understand the difference." The new Prohibitionists seem unable to make that distinction.

Today's alcohol debate is over whether individuals should be allowed to control their own lives. Ford sees the new Prohibitionists as the foot soldiers in a shadow army of totalitarians who seek to increase state control over individual behavior and decision-making.

He asserts that the anti-alcohol studies are skewed and emotionally biased. "New temperance" activists, as he calls them, use "highly selective and bastardized science to single out alcohol . . . to garner public support for their draconian measures."



Nick Galifianakis/Journal

"New temperance devotees are classical political progressives wearing the mantle of public health," Ford writes. "Like stern mothers and fathers, they seek Orwellian control over the conduct of your most intimate personal lives. Progressives like to set standards for others. They suggest what you can eat, what you can drink, how you can exercise, the nature of your sexual practices, even what you and your children should read. Since the middle of the past century, when Christian progressivism evolved into a form of political fundamentalism, there has been a strong undercurrent of repression in American society."

Ford singles out one group in particular, the Center for Science in the Public Interest, which calls "on Big

Brother government to ordain what we eat, what we wear, and how we entertain ourselves." Although the center's health studies do not necessarily lack merit, their "unrelenting dependency on governmental intervention and controls" makes them and the new temperance movement "frightening and dangerous."

Even where the controls they seek are put on the law books, alcohol abuse does not diminish. Ford points out that the worst problems in the United States today persist in those states that still cling to prohibitionary laws — Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and Utah. Yet, he exclaims, "new temperance blindly looks to more government controls."

Alcohol use and abuse have been with us since prehistoric times — in fact, some anthropologists believe that civilization itself began because prehistoric man abandoned his hunting-and-gathering lifestyle and began planting crops to ferment grains and fruits into alcoholic beverages. Those early farmers who consumed

beer and mead were better nourished than those who simply consumed gruel.

As man advanced technologically, he began to write; the earliest written record we have found is a Sumerian tablet containing a recipe for brewing beer. The Bible, Greek philosophers and Roman poets all lauded alcoholic beverages. The moderate use of alcohol is something deeply imbedded in our culture.

Banning Little Red Riding Hood is just the tip of the iceberg. Millions of Americans who enjoy a glass of wine with dinner, a cocktail after work or a beer at the ballpark suffer increasing ostracism from a vociferous and vocal minority of social progressives whose paternalism tells them that they know better than we about ordering our lives. They want to expand the government's already broad powers to interfere in our personal decisions, something we must firmly resist.

Richard Sincere is chairman of the Libertarian Party of Virginia. He lives in Arlington.

Charlottesville, VA

Hans Bader

UNIVERSITY JOURNAL UJ, 4/11/91

# Seizures Usurp Rights

Jefferson is turning in his grave. The Bill of Rights he prized is in tatters.

The March 21 seizure of three fraternity houses, allegedly sites of drug violations, demonstrates the extent to which the War on Drugs has eroded civil liberties. The houses seized will remain federal property even if their indicted residents are found not guilty. Seizure of property on which drugs are found, regardless of its owner's innocence or guilt, has become systematic policy, vitiating property and due process rights.

In Orwellian fashion, the seized houses, rather than their owners, are sued in civil court as if they are persons, instead of inanimate objects. The government circumvents rights accorded their owners by the Fifth, Sixth and

erty, rather than its owner, is the defendant. This bizarre fiction renders the owner's guilt or innocence irrelevant, eviscerating Fifth Amendment pledges that "No person shall be . . . deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process." Even if the owner demonstrates innocence of drug dealing and ignorance of its occurrence, his property is forfeit. Civil forfeiture proceedings sidestep Sixth Amendment rights to counsel and criminal law's presumption of innocence until proven guilty.

Property can be seized for any amount of drugs, no matter how small. In 1986, the Coast Guard seized a \$3 million yacht after finding a pinch of marijuana ash an employee left in a trashcan on board, even though its owner does

unknowingly to drug dealers, even if they are not negligent. Our property is at the mercy of drug police.

The drug war's cost to society is immense. It violates privacy and property rights. Prisons are so overcrowded with non-violent drug users that murderers are released early to kill again by officials like our new drug czar, former Florida Governor Bob Martinez. Increasing drug prices, the drug war drives addicts to steal to fund their habits.

The costs of prohibition generally exceed the costs of drug usage, especially for marijuana, the plant grown by Jefferson, which poses less health risk than tobacco. In 1988, after 15 days of testimony and more than a year's deliberation, conservative Drug Enforcement Agency Administrative Law Judge Francis Young ruled that "marijuana is one of the safest therapeutically active substances known to man."

Citing research by Harvard and leading medical schools, Young pointed out that marijuana has not caused a single documented death. "In strict medical terms," he wrote, "marijuana is far safer than many foods we commonly consume." Noting that marijuana is "capable of relieving the distress of great numbers of very ill people," he recommended its prescription to glaucoma and chemotherapy sufferers, who can avoid blindness and nausea by consuming pot.

Unfortunately, Young's recommendations were rejected by DEA administrator Jack Lawn and attacked by anti-pot crusaders like Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates. Administration officials have chosen instead to listen to fanatics like former Drug Czar Bill Bennett and his predecessor, White House Drug Advisor Carlton Turner, who was fired in 1986 after the Washington Post ridiculed him for announcing that marijuana causes homosexuality and AIDS.

Rather than reflexively supporting the war on drugs, Americans should respond to property seizures like that which occurred on March 21 by demanding a restoration of individual rights.

*Hans Bader is a fourth-year student in the College of Arts and Sciences.*



Journal graphic by Jonathan Bolch

Eighth Amendments.

Automatic property seizures originated in medieval superstition. Under old English law, any object causing a man's death, such as a run-away ox-cart, was personified, declared tainted or evil and forfeited to the Crown. Kings broadened justifications for seizure of property until forfeiture became their principle means of tax enforcement.

The founding fathers so abhorred automatic seizures that they outlawed even forfeiture following conviction in the Constitution's first article. Only under admiralty and maritime law did they permit it, to seize enemy ships.

Today, however, the state employs *in rem* proceedings in civil suits against property. *In rem* suits share with medieval superstition the idea that seized prop-

erty not use drugs. Even if the owner were guilty, such a seizure would violate the spirit of the Eighth Amendment, which bans cruel and unusual punishment.

In 1990, police seized a Detroit grocer's cash register after finding traces of cocaine on a dollar bill in it. Recently in Rochester, U.S. Marshalls seized a woman's home while she was preparing her children for school because, unknown to her, her teenage son had allegedly sold pot there the previous day. Now homeless, she lacks the collateral she needs to obtain bail for her jailed son and had no funds to sue for the return of her home.

*In rem* proceedings threaten livelihoods of landlords and merchants who risk losing property because of unauthorized drug use of tenants or employees. Individuals can lose residences leased

Submitted by  
← Jim Lark

Pittsburg  
Press  
June 26, 1991.

## City school cost high

Pittsburgh taxpayers wonder why their school taxes are so high. And the June 17 Pittsburgh Press story by Bill Zlatos, "Wallace plan calls for \$5 million more in cuts," gives part of the answer.

Next year's budget will be (after proposed cuts) around \$320 million. The number of school employees is nearly 5,100.

So far, so good. But the vital data to complete the analysis was omitted from the story: How many students? A five-minute call to the Board of Education soiled that problem: 40,000 students.

A few calculations and the answer was clear. There is one school employee for each eight students. It costs \$8,000 to educate each student for one year.

One employee for eight students is irrational; \$8,000 to educate one student for one year is ridiculous.

That's where your school dollars go. That's why your school taxes are so high. What's the answer? Simple — privatization, competition and parental choice!

LEO Z. ALMAN  
Squirrel Hill

*(The writer is research chairman of the Libertarian Party of Western Pennsylvania.)*

Submitted by  
Leo Alman