

LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER



The Liberty Pledge Newsletter is monthly publication for the contributors in the National Libertarian Party's Liberty Pledge Program and the Torch Club. It is also distributed to current National Committee Members and State Party Chairs in appreciation of their involvement and to serve them as a regular update on Libertarian activities at Headquarters and in the news.

Clippings and other stories of interest are appreciated.

Libertarian Party National Headquarters • 301 W. 21st St. • Houston, Texas 77008 • 713/880-1776

MAY
1986

Dear Supporters of Liberty,

What a month April was for our Party! Lots and lots of news from everywhere. Try as the world might, we just couldn't be blown out of the news; pushed back a page or two, but we were there.

There's so much news this month, that I'm going to forego a page of my writing and just let the clippings speak for themselves. By the way, for those of you who don't know it: we receive an average of 100 clippings a month, having to do with the activities of libertarians (individuals and groups). I have to fight with myself each month as to which clippings to print and which not to. Granted, some of the clippings are of the same story, repeated in the papers of one community or a nearby town, but let me tell you folks, this Party's moving!

I guess the hottest number for April was the "taking" of Big Water, Utah by the Utah LP. Evidently all five city council members and the mayor switched to the Libertarian Party. A reporter stated that Big Water is the first community in the nation "controlled" by the party... I think "un-controlled" is a better description. In addition, the Utah LP is fielding **52 candidates** in upcoming elections! The next time you have a drink in your hand, drink a toast to LP State Chairman, Bob Waldrop and the Utah activists. Well done, Utah!!

Norma Jean Almodovar (candidate for lieutenant governor) is really staying in the press in sunny California. Her credentials are excellent: Who knows law enforcement like a police officer? Who knows the reality of persecution for victimless crimes like a prostitute? And who could voice the futility of trying to legislate morality better than a person with a background in both occupations? This lady is definitely worth her weight in Kruggerands.

April was a month for many well planned tax protests. Andre Marrou was center stage in Anchorage where he took part in a march with 100+ others to the IRS offices. There Andre gave a speech decrying the income tax. He'd have made a better splash in the media, but our government bombed the Hell out of Libya the day before. It's an old ploy of stage magicians... when you don't want the audience to look at your left hand, catch their attention with your right.

So, fellow Libertarians, the rest is in the clippings, read on and enjoy.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "M. Gary Van Alstine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tax day

Ventura Star Free Press
Ventura, CA
April 16, 1986

Libertarians get noisy response to call for protest

There were a lot of motorists honking their horns at Chuck Wright of Thousand Oaks Tuesday night.

And it was music to his ears. They were doing just what Wright wanted.

As a member of the Libertarian Party, Wright was protesting the federal income tax by picketing the post office in Oxnard.

His sign said, "Honk if you hate taxes."

A good number of procrastinating taxpayers — the ones who were running in and out of the post office to mail in their last-minute returns — did just that.

For men such as Wright, paying taxes is the moral equivalent of sin, he explained.

He and a half-dozen other party members passed out flyers.

"Haven't you said 'Uncle' Long Enough?" was one of the pamphlets' headlines; "Taxation is theft," was another.

Does he pay taxes himself?

"Of course I do," Wright said, "I'm not in favor of going to jail. The 16th amendment is the law, but we want to change it."

Wright said that his party would like to see government minimized.

Said fellow Libertarian Harry Center of Newbury Park: "The problem is that bureaucrats believe the government is God and that they are kings and queens."

The Libertarians passed out their anti-tax pamphlets to anyone who'd hold out their hand.

More than one taxpayer approached the Libertarians to ask a few questions.

A few of these citizens started to debate, asking the Libertarians such things as, "So how do we pay for those F-111 bombers we need to bomb Colonel Moammar Khadafy with?"

Or, "Then how do we pay for any of our government?"

Wright suggested that the federal government start lotteries. Import and excise taxes were other suggestions.

Another of Wright's suggestions was selling of the Postal Service to a company such as Federal Express.

They said a whole lot of money could be saved if the government got out of every business except that of national defense.

This caused a great deal of debate with the passersby, and the whole scene was reminiscent of Berkeley's Sproule Plaza or London's Hyde Park, the world's two largest meccas for arguing. And in the midst of all the arguing, the long line of cars came and went as men and women mailed in their tax returns at the last possible moment.

Pendery expects to lose by a lot

Record Searchlight / April 3, 1986
Redding, CA

By BILL MILLER

There's no question that Harry Pendery, a little-known physician from Paradise, will win his political party's June primary.

But, according to his own forecast, the 2nd Congressional District candidate should lose the general election by a landslide.

"I think I'd be ecstatic with 5 percent of the vote," he said Wednesday in Redding.

Pendery, representing the Libertarian Party, said his role in the election lies in educating the public about what Libertarians are all about.

Generally Libertarians support almost anything that translates into less government intrusion in private lives, he said.

It's essentially a free-market philosophy with an emphasis on individual rights.

That translates to calls for voluntary taxation, removal of government restrictions like gun control, an end to criminal penalties against marijuana cultivation and prostitution and so on.

Could such a system really work in the U.S.? Absolutely, Pendery said.

A former Republican who became a Libertarian six years ago, Pendery said he's examined the major political parties "and found them lacking. My campaign will be wrapped around the slogan, 'We can do better.'"

Although he's never run for political office before, Pendery is confident that his low-budget campaign will attract disenfranchised Democrats and Republicans — "abstract thinkers" who share his party's government-limiting views.

"As a movement, we look at government coercion and force as the root of most, if not all, evils," he said.



Harry Pendery

Pendery supports President Reagan's appeals for tax reform and budget tightening, but he chides him for failing, in large

Tax protesters stage lively rally

Anchorage Times
Anchorage, AK
April 15, 1986

by Jim Springer
Times Writer

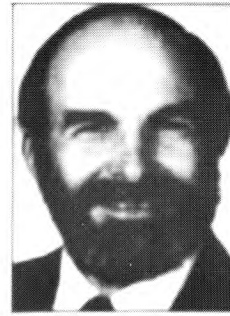
Tax protesters rallied and paraded today in a festive spirit that belied their resentment over federal tax policies.

Getting horn blowing support from many passers-by, 100 or more demonstrators lined C Street on the Delaney Park Strip to display their conviction that federal income taxes are unconstitutional. Enjoying balmy temperatures, some were costumed and many carried colorful signs blasting the Internal Revenue Service, hours before the midnight tax deadline.

At noon, they headed off on a trek to the Internal Revenue Service building where more rallying and speeches were planned.

"I think the people here are people who sense the government is much more powerful than it is entitled to be under the Constitution," said rally organizer Jeff Dickstein. He said the marchers were part of a loosely knit group called People Against Unconstitutional Taxation.

"It just sort of came together," Dickstein said of the boisterous gathering. "There



Rep. Andre Marrou
... opposes income tax

have always been people who have spoken out, but this is the first time we've joined together in unison."

Toting a sign proclaiming "IRS/KGB," Charles Studdert of Anchorage explained why he was demonstrating.

"I support the movement to get the IRS to back down from some of their gestapo tactics,"

any. He believes the savings that can be gleaned from more efficient government can more than make up the difference.

The candidate also came out strongly against attempts by groups like the Moral Majority to drag moral issues into the political arena.

"I think too many times one group or another has taken their moral agenda and tried to make it the law of the land. When you

Studdert said. "They bulldoze, they buffalo, they bluff a lot. They're always threatening to take us to court. They act like they're the law and they're not."

A few feet away, Jerry Rapp, age 11, was taking the day off from school to join the protest.

"You know how parents are always right? Well, my parents hate the IRS and so I guess I hate them too," Jerry said. "They just take money to help other people, but they use it to make bombs to blow up the earth . . . It's gonna get like Russia."

Surveying the scene with satisfaction was Rep. Andre Marrou, the Alaska legislature's lone Libertarian.

"There is growing opposition to unconstitutional taxes," Marrou said. "People are scared of the IRS and in the United States — people shouldn't be afraid of government."

He said federal income taxes would be unnecessary if the government was "cut back to a level the founding fathers intended." He said excise and sales taxes, along with other consumption taxes, would be sufficient to fund government operations.

mix politics and religion, you get too many politicians playing God."

Pendery has a wife, Norma, and three grown children.

The announced retirement of incumbent Rep. Gene Chappie, R-Chico, triggered a rush of interest in the vast 2nd District, which covers 12 northern counties, including Shasta, Siskiyou and Trinity. The primary election is June 3.

Former call girl campaigns for second state slot

Sentinel
Hanford, CA
April 23, 1986

DAVIS (UPI) — A former call girl who is running for lieutenant governor says there's no reason why voters should refrain from electing an ex-prostitute to public office.

Libertarian candidate Norma Jean Almodovar made an irreverent plea for votes in a speech Tuesday to about 300 students at University of California, Davis, Tuesday.

She detailed to the student audience her transition from civilian traffic cop to prostitute.

Almodovar later told reporters she is not really interested in winning the lieutenant governor's office held by Democrat Leo McCarthy, who is seeking a second term. "The office of lieutenant governor is superfluous, and if elected, I would abandon it," she said.

But there is no reason why a former prostitute should not be elected to public office, Almodovar said. To her, politics is only "legal prostitution" anyway.

In any case, "If they can elect a governor and a president who played in 'Bedtime for Bozo,' I don't see why they can't elect someone from another part of the entertainment industry," she told reporters.

She said she is running for public office in an effort "to promote the Libertarian philosophy" of personal freedom and focus attention on "victimless crimes."

Her unusual campaign speech, if nothing else, grabbed the attention of the students.

Elizabeth Klasch and Jeff Miller said they skipped classes at the UCJ because they wanted to hear what "the call girl candidate" had to say.

Miller, 21, a physiology student from Shingle Springs, "She is entertaining. I didn't have to listen to all that political rhetoric to get the point she wanted to make. She is



Norma Jean Almodovar

very direct."

Almodovar is so direct, in fact, that "I don't think the people are ready for her quite yet," said Klasch 21, a biology major from Placerville.

The 34-year-old first-time political candidate makes no effort to conceal the fact that in 1984 she was convicted of pandering for trying to persuade another woman traffic officer on the Los Angeles Police Department to become a prostitute.

Almodovar readily admits she was once a \$200-an-hour call girl. She insists, however, that she was a victim of entrapment in her pandering arrest.

She became a prostitute after working as a civilian traffic cop for 10 years. She said she left the police department in disillusionment and was arrested only because she was writing a book about corruption in

the department. Police confiscated her manuscript and have never returned it.



Herald Examiner / April 30, 1986
Los Angeles, CA

Call girl turned candidate sues to make sex film

A former civilian traffic officer who became a call girl and is now a Libertarian candidate for lieutenant governor filed suit in federal court yesterday to win the right to make a sex film without fear of violating her probation.

Norma Jean Almodovar, 32, claims the proposed 30-minute sexually explicit video is designed to educate the public on "safe sex" techniques to avoid AIDS.

The suit asks for a court order barring the police from charging her with violating her probation on a 1984 conviction for pandering.



As last-minute filers run in and out of Oxnard's post office with tax returns, Libertarians protest the paying of taxes altogether

Says polygamist seeking office

If you can handle ten wives, you can do job

Ellensburg Record
Ellensburg, WA
April 14, 1986

BIG WATER, Utah (UPI) — Mayor Alex Joseph has more wives than some men have neckties and he says the organizational skills required by a polygamist will be an asset if he's elected to the Kane County Commission.

Joseph, 51, has become the second Utah polygamist in two weeks to seek public office on the Libertarian Party ticket.

"I'm really dissatisfied with these characters (in the county commission) and I just don't think they're doing their job," Joseph, who has 10 wives, said Sunday of his decision to run for commissioner. Joseph has held the mayor's job

since his small southern Utah community incorporated in December 1983.

Now, he wants to follow in the wake of Royston Potter, another polygamist living 300 miles to the north in suburban Salt Lake City, has entered the race for Salt Lake County Sheriff.

Joseph said polygamist will become an issue in the campaign "because they're going to try to use the prejudice against that lifestyle against me."

But Joseph, who says besides his part-time mayor's job he makes his living by managing some country

music performers and "minding his own business," claims plural marriage would make little difference in his conduct in office, if elected.

"That (polygamy) is not my occupation, it's my lifestyle," he said. "I've never been convicted of a crime in my life, so I've never considered plural marriage illegal."

The practice of polygamy is in fact a misdemeanor in Utah, where authorities seldom prosecute offenders.

Rather than being a liability, Joseph thinks his polygamy could help win votes.

"I think it's absolute proof of my administrative ability," he said.

Joseph said he garnered 85 percent of the vote while running unopposed in the 1985 race for mayor of Big Water, despite most of the 300 people in the community being devout monogamists.

And he said he has a good shot at the county commission post now held by Republican Vince Underwood, because of what Joseph perceives as a growing disenchantment with the "irresponsible" and "unresponsible" attitude of GOP office holders.

"As a pragmatist I've been a

conservative on the right end of the Republican Party all of my adult life. But if the Libertarians are willing to have me, I'm willing to have them," he said.

"They (Republican incumbents) take me plenty serious. That's the problem," he said. "They'll get organized real quick," Joseph said.

Economic development and holding down taxes will be two of his major issues, he said.

"While they (current commissioners) mouth they want economic development and they mouth they want people to develop (the area), they don't do anything about it," Joseph said.

Bee / Fresno, CA / April 30, 1986

Utah town is first in nation to go Libertarian

Associated Press

BIG WATER, Utah — Four of five City Council members have switched political allegiance to the Libertarian Party, making this tiny community the first in the nation controlled by the party, the state chairman said Tuesday.

Big Water, with a population of

350 and a polygamist for mayor, came under Libertarian control during a meeting, one of hundreds held Monday throughout the state to choose delegates to county conventions, said Chairman Bob Waldrop.

"It's not Salt Lake City, but it's a start," Waldrop said. "It really surprised our national office."

Elizabeth Joseph, one of Mayor

Alex Joseph's 10 wives, said council members Frank Flom, Janet DeJardo and Charles Maness joined Joseph in crossing over from the Republican Party.

Deseret News
Salt Lake City, UT
April 5, 1986

Polygamist enters contest for sheriff on Libertarian ticket

Roy Potter, who admits he has three wives and was fired from the Murray Police Department in 1982 for polygamy, announced Friday he is running for Salt Lake County sheriff as a Libertarian.

Potter, 32, a business consultant from Taylorsville, pledged to enforce only laws against crimes that inflict actual damage or injury and not those "victimless crimes" that "inhibit the private citizen in the peaceful exercise of his rights."

He said that means he would not arrest citizens who practice polygamy as part of their religion. However, he said he would enforce bigamy laws where a one spouse is guilty of deceiving another spouse about his or her marital status.

He would also not necessarily enforce other "victimless crimes" such as unlawful alcohol consumption or living together without marriage. "It is usually impossible to enforce such laws anyway... It is noble to do right. It is not noble to force someone else to do what you consider to be right."

He said such selective enforcement of law would reduce the sheriff's budget and reduce criminal activities in other more serious areas.

"Although," he said, "I have three women whom I call my wives," he said he is not violating any law. "The way I live does not violate any statute. Show me a statute that it violates." However, he said he plans to push for a constitutional amendment to legalize polygamy.

When asked why he would invite the publicity that would come by admitting he has three wives while running for sheriff, he said, "A man of conviction has to do what he has to do. I know men and women who have gone to prison for their religious beliefs."

He said he also doesn't know why polygamy brings such attention. "It's perfectly normal." He unsuccessfully fought in courts for two years against his firing from the Murray Police Department, claiming it was unconstitutional because it violated his religious freedom.

Potter says he has experience that could make him an effective sheriff. He was a police officer between 1980 and 1982 in Murray and was an assistant provost marshal between 1978 and 1980 at the Tooele Army Depot.

He has a bachelor's degree in law enforcement and justice administration from Brigham Young University, graduated from the U.S. Army Military Police School and graduated from the Utah Peace Officers Standards and Training academy.

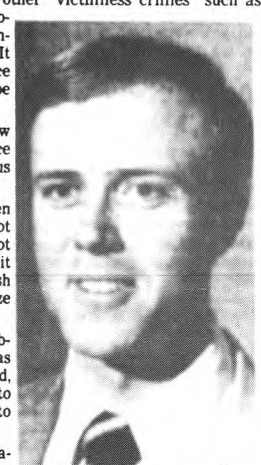
Can an admitted polygamist legally run for county sheriff?

Yes, according to Deputy County Attorney Gavin J. Anderson, but his views might prevent him from serving any longer than six months if he wins.

"The only legal qualification for the sheriff is that he must become a certified police officer within six months after his election."

And Anderson said such certification may legally be denied by the director of State Peace Officer Standards and Training for "any conduct or pattern of conduct that would tend to disrupt, diminish or otherwise jeopardize public trust and fidelity with regard to law enforcement."

Anderson said, "With his lifestyle, there's a good chance he would not be certified, meaning he wouldn't serve any longer than six months."



Roy Potter

Libertarian Party Takes a Utah Town

San Francisco Chronicle

Big Water, Utah

Four of five City Council members have switched political allegiance to the Libertarian Party, making this community the first in the nation controlled by the party, the state chairman said yesterday.

Big Water is a recently incorporated city of 350 population in Kane County near the Arizona border. It has a population of 350 and a mayor who espouses polygamy. It came under Libertarian control during a meeting to choose delegates to county conventions, said Chairman Bob Waldrop.

"It's not Salt Lake City, but it's start," Waldrop said. "It

really surprised our national office."

Elizabeth Joseph, who Mayor Alex Joseph claims is one of his 10 wives, said council members Frank Flom, Janet DeJardo and Charles Maness joined Joseph in crossing over from the Republican Party.

"I talked to the fifth council member, and she's thinking about it, too," said Joseph who is her husband's attorney.

Joseph said her husband had gained a sizable political following during his 10 years of involvement in county Republican politics, and now leads a bloc of more than 70 voters.

Associated Press

Polygamist Joins Libertarian Party

Tribune / April 14, 1986
Salt Lake City, UT

Alex Joseph Runs for County Commission

BIG WATER, Kane County (AP) — Polygamist Alex Joseph says he will run for Kane County commissioner, becoming the second polygamist to declare for public office on the Libertarian Party ticket in Utah this year.

Joseph, who has 10 wives, has been the Republican mayor of Big Water, near Lake Powell in southern Utah, since 1983.

He said he decided to run for the commission as a Libertarian because he likes the party's goal of reducing government, he said.

"The Libertarian Party is aligned with my philosophy," Joseph said in a telephone interview. "I share the philosophy of getting government out of people's lives. Less government is best government."

Plural marriage is illegal in Utah but prosecution of the thousands of Utahns practicing it rare. Joseph has openly practiced polygamy since the early 1970s.

"I elected to live the way I want to live a long time ago," Joseph said.

Another polygamist, Royston Potter, is running for Salt Lake



Alex Joseph Wants Less Government

County Sheriff, also on the Libertarian ticket. Potter who was fired from his job as a Murray police officer for practicing polygamy, has three wives.

Bob Waldrop, chairman of the

Utah Libertarian Party, said the party recruited Joseph to run.

"We're trying to reach out to people in Utah with different constituencies who might be favorable to us," Waldrop said. "We're trying to build a coalition of groups who have been outside the power structure."

Joseph was elected mayor of Big Water, population about 250, in 1983 and his seventh wife, Elizabeth was elected city attorney. Elizabeth Joseph lost a bid for county attorney in 1982.

Joseph, a former Modesto, Calif., police officer, was excommunicated from the Mormon Church and later founded the Church of Jesus Christ in Solemn Assembly.

Joseph gained national attention when he and a group of followers attempted to homestead federal land in southern Utah in 1975, but lost court battles and were evicted.

Joseph said he decided to run for the commission because he is unhappy with the management of the Kane County Hospital, which he said has run up a \$300,000 deficit.

Libertarian leader has vision of self-reliant nation

By JIM HILL
of The Oregonian staff

BEAVERTON — The new president of the Libertarian Party of Oregon says the party — by promoting a move toward, rather than away from, individual liberty — can counter “a serious loss of self-reliance” among Americans.

Trish Coffey, elected at the party's state convention in Salem earlier this month, said the present American political system was close to being a social-welfare state, tending “to reward helplessness” and give people the attitude that they don't need to look after themselves.

Regarding the party's purpose, she said, “The main impetus for it, I think, is that the Republican and Democratic parties have been moving away from individual liberty. . . . What we want is a society that rewards the most productive, honest people of high moral character, and to discourage the predators in society.”

Although Libertarians would like to eliminate nearly all elements of government, Coffey contended that a society run without today's myriad



TRISH COFFEY
Working for individual freedom

agencies and based instead on free market principles would be more efficient, more effective and more economical.

“It's not an absence of law and order at all,” said Coffey, a Beaverton-area resident who succeeded Kent Dillon of Philomath as head of the Libertarian Party in Oregon. There are about 2,000 registered Libertarians in Oregon, according to the state Elections and Public Records Division.

Libertarians, who tend to be ultra-liberal on social issues and ultraconservative on economic issues, believe that every person has the inalienable right to life, liberty and property and that no one has the right to use violence or threats to impose his or her values on others.

The party views the only proper role for government to be the protection of individual rights against violence.

At the party's state convention, attended by approximately 50 delegates and observers, resolutions favoring the repeal of county gasoline taxes and passage of the Oregon marijuana initiative were passed.

Coffey said she “hates smoke” and is anti-smoking herself but defends the rights of individuals to smoke cigarettes or marijuana.

The illegality of drugs, she said, has resulted in high prices and in a high crime rate among those who must have money to buy drugs. Coffey said that after visiting 22 countries she was convinced that people who needed an escape from reality would find a way, through drugs or other means. “Should we define them as criminals?” she asked.

In general, Coffey contended, no laws should be made to protect people from themselves. She said that while mistakes sometimes can be fatal, they also can help build character.

Regarding imposition of gasoline taxes by individual counties, Coffey declared that such taxes represent an unfair imposition on businesses in those counties that must compete with businesses in neighboring counties without gasoline taxes.

She said one of her immediate priorities would be opposition to any new tax proposed by Tri-Met. She said she would rather see the transportation agency go broke and leave the transit problem to private enterprise than to see people pay “a tax without representation.”

Acknowledging that only a relative handful of Libertarian candidates had gained office nationally, Coffey said that Libertarians had managed to appear on ballots in all 50 states.

She noted that the party in Oregon has launched a court challenge in an effort to loosen election laws it believes make it overly difficult to place third-party candidates on the statewide ballot.

Describing present requirements as “some of the most difficult in the country,” Coffey said it would take about 70,000 signatures to submit a slate of Libertarian candidates.

Despite some problems, said Coffey, “already we have had an impact on this country.”

She said that although many people shrugged off the efforts of socialist activists in the past, the nation had “moved in that direction.” The Libertarian Party, she said, decided that the country needed to move in the other direction, toward individual liberty.

“I hope we become one of the major parties,” Coffey declared, “but even if we just reverse the trend, I'll be thrilled.”

Levittown Tribune
Levittown, N.Y. / April 3, 1986

Libertarian Alternative

The Nassau Libertarians realize that most people only recognize categories such as liberals and conservatives. They are making public a test devised by the libertarian Society for Individual Liberty to help people identify themselves as libertarians.

Answer these ten questions yes or no. 1) Is government too big and are taxes too high? 2) Is the best government that which governs least? 3) Should you be free to do whatever you want as long as you don't harm anyone else? 4) Do you think you could spend your own money more wisely than the government spends it for you? 5) Should criminals be required to work to pay restitution to their victims for losses and suffering, instead of being imprisoned at taxpayers' expense? 6) Should the US government stop trying to be the policeman of the world & 7) Should the draft be permanently abolished? 8) Should laws regulating or prohibiting “vices” (such as gambling, pornography, consenting sexual relations, and Sunday shopping be repealed? 9) Is it wrong to force people to give charity to others? 10) Inflation should be prevented by stopping government expansion of the money supply.

Multiply your total number of “yes” answers by 10 to find your percent libertarian. If this gives you a clue the Libertarians invite you to contact them by writing Nassau Libertarian Party, PO Box 1729, Massapequa, N.Y. 11758 or calling their HQ at 212-226-6483.

Herald-Journal
Spartanburg, S.C.
February 27, 1986

Tax bill should help property owners

Record / Columbia, S. C.
March 12, 1986

I read with interest a letter which appeared in the March 4 *Columbia Record* from Ms. Jan L. Chapman of the S.C. Libertarian Party. I'm sure you are aware that often times what's proposed in a bill is not necessarily what comes out in the final form. H. 3252, which is currently in the Ways and Means Committee, is somewhat different from what I had anticipated.

I will not vote for any bill that will raise taxes. My interest in the Local Government Finance Act was because it would lower and/or eliminate property taxes and also require a public referendum, not advisory, before any new tax could be passed into law by local governments.

I will have no part in a bill which will raise or add taxes — such as an income tax, sales tax, occupational tax or property tax. I think we are taxed entirely too much now. The only way I would even consider this bill would be as a means to eliminate property taxes.

In many counties, some 60 or 70 percent of the people have to pay 100 percent of the property taxes. Property taxes are used to provide revenues for county and municipal governments, schools, etc., and are, I think, quite often unfair. An example of the unfairness of property taxes is that senior citizens, whose children have graduated and have not been in the public schools for 20 or 30 years, must continue to pay taxes to support the school districts.

I must agree with Jan Chapman. There is no way I will vote for a bill which places all of these other taxes on top of the current property taxes. I also will have no part in a bill which denies local people the opportunity to determine their own taxing methods.

DISTRICT 92 REP. FRED L. DAY

Ladson

Letters

Provisions Of Local-Tax Proposal

Dear Editor:

There is currently a 10-page bill before the S. C. House Ways & Means Committee that, if enacted into law, will allow counties and cities to impose a sales and use tax, income tax, occupational tax, motor vehicle license tax, coin-operated device tax, and admissions tax.

According to some newspaper reports, the bill would lower or eliminate property taxes, require a referendum, and allow an “income” or “occupational” tax, but not

both. These are, however, just myths. The bill: (1) says nothing about property taxes; (2) requires only an advisory referendum before imposing a sales and use tax; and (3) includes an “income” tax within the “occupational” tax.

A copy of the bill is available from the Legislative Council on the second floor of the Statehouse (telephone 758-2306).

Jan L. Chapman
S. C. Libertarian Party