

For additional information: Bill Winter, Director of Communications ♦ (202) 333-0008 Ext. 226

Libertarians will fight for the right not to fund Clinton's millennium party

"We don't need Bill Clinton acting as Social Director-in-Chief"

WASHINGTON, DC — Bill Clinton doesn't want to party like it's 1999 — he wants to party like it's the year 2000. And he wants you, the taxpayer, to pick up the check for his year-long millennium party, Libertarians complained today.

"We're going to fight for our right *not* to party," said Libertarian Party Director of Communications Bill Winter. "At least, for the right *not* to pay for President Clinton's federally funded party."

Earlier this week, Clinton unveiled his plan for a nationwide, year-long millennium party — running from 2000 to 2001 — to mark the arrival of the new century. The festivities will include TV commercials about American heritage from the National Endowment for the Humanities, a "photographic survey" of the U.S. by the National Endowment for the Arts, and a federal program to encourage and recognize local communities with millennium projects.

Even Hillary Clinton gets to be a millennium party animal, overseeing a White House lecture series and an American cultural showcase.

Although Clinton did not mention the total cost of the revelry, estimates range into the tens of millions of dollars, which would be funded largely by taxpayers. The NEA's projects alone are slated to cost \$5.8 million.

Clinton's slogan for the party is: "Honor the past, imagine the future."

"Libertarians have a different slogan to suggest to Bill Clinton," said Winter. "It is: Honor the *taxpayer*, imagine spending your *own* money if you want to throw a party."

Like so many things that the government does, said Winter, a millennium party is a project that private citizens, community groups, non-profit groups, and commercial enterprises can organize and run — without any involvement from politicians.

"Americans don't need politicians to help them throw a party," said Winter.

"If people wish to celebrate the dawn of the 21st Century, they can do so. We don't need Bill Clinton acting as the nation's Social Director-In-Chief."

The bottom line, said Winter: **Count us out.**

"Bill Clinton, this is an RSVP from the Libertarians: Sorry, won't attend your millennium party, and we don't want to pay for it, either," he said. "Do America a party favor: When it comes to the millennium, make it a private party — not another big government party."

#