

LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA

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For immediate release

LIBERTARIANS CALL FOR END TO COMMUTE SUBSIDIES

SAN JOSE--Calling current commute fares "a subsidy for the rich," Libertarian Party state chairman Bill Evers testified at a December 9 public hearing here that the "only cure" for San Francisco Peninsula transit woes is "both ending the subsidies and setting up a transit enterprise zone in the West Bay corridor."

Speaking before a hearing panel from Caltrans, the state department of transportation, Evers said that the Libertarian Party believes that the current commuter train deficit, which was \$11.52^{million} for 1980-81, is "insane" and "wholesale robbery of the taxpayer."

Evers displayed an advertisement from the Oct. 24 San Francisco Business Journal that speaks of the "bustling, booming audience exposure" on Peninsula trains and says "98% of of our passengers are adult and represent a highly defined segment of the affluent Peninsula market." Evers said this ad was "the most eloquent testimony" he could offer on the fact that Californians' taxes are going to subsidize the rich. Evers also cited articles by UCLA transportation economist George W. Hilton on the high income of commute riders.

The Libertarian Party, according to Evers, proposes ending all transit subsidies, putting all transit systems back in the private sector, and establishing transit enterprise zones, in which transit systems are free from government regulations.