

REGIONAL REPORT  
REGION 6

by Joseph D. Brennan  
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CONNECTICUT:

There were no electoral candidates in 1993. The State Party would like to field 30 to 40 candidates for state legislature in 1994. Ballot access in the state can be obtained district by district and the State Party already has ballot access in 4 districts. Ballot access is awarded based on votes received in previous elections. The Party is not planning to run a gubernatorial candidate next year, because they don't believe that they have sufficient resources. The Party is trying to organize town committees. They are also working on outreach and have been doing Operation Politically Homeless at gun shows. The state has about 300 active members.

MAINE:

No information available; unable to contact State Chair prior to this meeting.

MASSACHUSETTS:

Galit Dukach ran for City Council of Cambridge in 1993 election. She finished 20 out of 29 in a non-partisan race, but was identified as a Libertarian during the campaign. She received a lot of media attention. The State Party is involved in 3 initiatives: 1) A repeal of rent control, 2) Term limits, and 3) Opposing the imposition of a graduated income tax (currently, the State income tax is a flat tax). The Party is planning to run a full slate of statewide candidates in 1994. If any of these candidates receive 3% of the vote, then the Party will have ballot access for 4 years. The threshold for ballot access has been lowered and the Party believes they can meet it next year. However, they have an onerous petition drive and will need 30-40,000 valid signatures to get their slate on the ballot (they stress that the Massachusetts Board of Elections carefully examines each and every signature submitted, which makes the burden heavier than it would, at first, appear). The Party requests assistance for the National Party for their petition drive. If they get ballot access in 1994, then we will have it for the Presidential Election in 1996. The State Party has about 400 dues paying members, of which about 100 are active.

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

There were 4 or 5 candidates in the State. No Libertarian candidates won, but all received double digit percentages. The State Party wants to participate in upcoming town meetings, were

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selectmen are elected. They want to run Libertarians for local offices. So far they have 2 announced candidates for Governor for the 1994 election. Another candidate will announce soon and a fourth is expected. The Party will have an active primary. The Libertarian Delegation to the State Legislature has drafted a Constitutional amendment, known as CACR7, which would allow voters to repeal laws by referendum. The amendment is out of committee and has received an "ought to pass" recommendation. The Delegation is supporting legislation allowing voters to vote on educational expenses by Australian ballot and eliminating School Administrative Units (seen as a cost saving measure).

The Party is holding a series of strategic planning sessions to plan for next year's elections and to recommend legislation to the Libertarian Delegation. The Party wants to run 150 candidates for State Legislature in 1994. By comparison, they ran 97 candidates in 1992 and 3 in 1990. at their recent convention, the Party set the goal of electing a Governor within the next 10 years. There are 3,500 registered Libertarians in the State, with 500 dues paying members. About 100 people attended their convention and a smaller number attend monthly meetings. The State Chair asked me to tell the members of the National Committee that one of New Hampshire's Party members recently received one of the health care kits and was very impressed by it.

#### RHODE ISLAND:

There were no Libertarian candidates in 1993. The State Party is participating in a lawsuit with the ACLU, contesting the removal of the Libertarian Party's name from the ballot. The Party is publishing a newsletter and is looking for a Gubernatorial candidate for 1994, an election which could determine ballot access. The Party is planning a convention for February of 1994. There are 20 active members.

#### VERMONT:

Larry Phillips, the acting Chair, says there are no active members. He's working on outreach and reorganization, but suffers from a lack of funding. During our brief telephone conversation, Larry showed no interest in the activities of the National Committee and seemed to have little interest in communicating with me.

#### NEW YORK:

In the November 1993 election, the first Libertarian to be elected in the State won a seat on the Town Board of Woodstock. Rebecca Wilber, who was cross endorsed by the Republican Party, received 3% of the vote as a Libertarian, 48% as a Republican. However, her Libertarian status was a major issue in the race, focused upon by her Democratic opponent. In New York City, I (Joseph D. Brennan) led the Party's slate of 4 candidates for city office. None of the city candidates received more than 1/2% of the vote, however, by participating in the city's Mayoral election with a full-time candidate (the only one of the 4 who was a full-time

candidate), the Party received the most media attention in 20 years. Libertarian election results were reported in all of the city's major newspapers, including the New York Times (an unusual event). The Party has 4 announced candidates seeking the 1994 Gubernatorial nomination, including one Republican who wants a Libertarian cross endorsement. Receiving 50,000 votes in the Gubernatorial election is the only way to get ballot access in the State. The Party plans to run a full slate of statewide candidates next year. A State Convention is planned for late April of 1994. There are about 600 dues paying State members, with about 100 of those being regularly active (State membership is up 100% from 1992 levels).