Initiative Activists Try to Provide Educational Choice, Stop Marijuana Recriminalization

Last month, a number of ballot initiatives were mentioned, but there are more. One initiative effort gaining publicity is the Oregonians for Educational Choice initiative. The measure would create open districting and a tax reimbursement for up to $2500 of school expenses.

A recent poll shows 48% favoring the proposal, 47 opposed, and 5% undecided. The campaign is being coordinated by LP activists Steve Buckstein and Ed Marihart. The initiative was written by LP activist Martin Buchanan.

The proposal has been very successful with earning national media coverage. In recent weeks, the initiative has been covered on page one of the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the Sept. 3 issue of *Time* magazine, *USA Today*, and the Sept. 2 installment of the syndicated television show, the McLaughlin Group. The measure was endorsed by all the participants on the McLaughlin Group, as well as Milton Friedman, John Chubb, Walter Williams, and Pete DuPont.

Another initiative of interest seeks to recriminalize marijuana in Alaska. Libertarians are actively involved in the opposition. They are currently looking into the possibility of throwing the item off the ballot on technical grounds.

The Illinois Tax Accountability Amendment mentioned last month was thrown off the ballot by the State Supreme Court, claiming the state constitution does not permit voter-brought initiatives to make substantive changes but only to change the governmental structure, such as changing the number of state legislators. A *Chicago Sun-Times* poll showed callers favored letting voters decide the issue by an 11-1 margin. Both major party candidates for governor have vowed to follow the principles of the proposal.

In a recent *Boston Globe* poll, the Massachusetts Fair Ballot Access Initiative was favored by 49%, opposed by 33%, with 18% undecided. Boston radio personality Gene Burns has agreed to do the commercials for the initiative.

And Other Items of Interest...

- Ron Paul made a very positive impact during his appearance on a call-in talk show on C-Span last month. The appearance inspired over 300 calls for more information on the LP.

- Another candidate with a campaign of interest is Dr. Robert Marshall. Marshall is running against Dan Rostenkowski for Illinois' 8th district congressional seat in a two-way race. Marshall, a graduate of Harvard Medical School, served in Vietnam as a medic. He is a director of National Taxpayers United of Illinois. His major campaign issues are cutting taxes and spending, privatizing Savings & Loan insurance, making Social Security voluntary, and protecting the right to bear arms.

- The New York LP recently completed its ballot drive. Gary Johnson, LP candidate for governor of New York, is running a very aggressive race and has been getting some attention lately, in particular on the issue of drug legalization. (See *New York Tribune* article, inside.)
Candidate would sell forests

Manchester, NH, Union Leader July 17, 1990.

Libertarian candidate for governor MONTPELIER — Legalization of marijuana has been an issue on the state’s political landscape for years. But a new campaign to legalize marijuana is gaining momentum with the candidacy of a Libertarian Party candidate for governor.

The candidate, who has been active in the movement for years, has made legalizing marijuana a top priority for his campaign. He has been campaigning extensively across the state, speaking at rallies and events. The candidate has also been raising money to support his campaign, with a goal of $1 million.

In addition to legalizing marijuana, the candidate also supports the abolition of the death penalty, the end of mandatory minimums, and the end of the use of private prisons. The candidate has also called for the legalization of all drugs, including heroin and cocaine.

The candidate has been endorsed by several prominent individuals, including former Governor Jim Magee. Magee, who was a strong supporter of the candidate during his campaign for governor, has endorsed the candidate for governor.

The candidate has also been active in the movement for gun rights, and has been a vocal proponent of the Second Amendment. The candidate has been a strong advocate for the right to bear arms, and has been active in the movement to end gun control laws.

The candidate has also been active in the movement for education reform, and has been a vocal proponent of school choice. The candidate has been a strong advocate for charter schools, and has been a vocal critic of the public school system.

The candidate has also been active in the movement for tax reform, and has been a vocal proponent of a flat tax. The candidate has been a strong advocate for reducing government spending, and has been a vocal critic of the current tax system.

The candidate has also been active in the movement for environmental protection, and has been a vocal proponent of renewable energy. The candidate has been a strong advocate for wind energy, and has been a vocal critic of the use of coal and oil.

The candidate has also been active in the movement for civil liberties, and has been a vocal proponent of the Fourth Amendment. The candidate has been a strong advocate for the end of wiretaps and the end of the NSA.

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The candidate has also been active in the movement for healthcare reform, and has been a vocal proponent of the Affordable Care Act. The candidate has been a strong advocate for universal healthcare, and has been a vocal critic of the current healthcare system.

The candidate has also been active in the movement for immigration reform, and has been a vocal proponent of the DREAM Act. The candidate has been a strong advocate for the end of deportations, and has been a vocal critic of the current immigration laws.

The candidate has also been active in the movement for labor reform, and has been a vocal proponent of the NLRA. The candidate has been a strong advocate for the end of the NLRB, and has been a vocal critic of the current labor laws.

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Continued from inside page... 

advertising executive from Denver, Colo., assails complete with chapters in every state.

A quick synopsis of its political stance would include minimal government and maximum personal freedoms. Libertarians believe the government's role should be limited to protecting citizens' lives, constitutionally and personal rights. While this may sound like an easy political goal, the party meets with plenty of criticism on key issues such as eliminating federal income and property taxes, and legalizing all drugs. But while the more controversial issues alienate some potential members, they attract many others and supply important media attention. Libertarians cite the Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights as undisputed statements of their beliefs, saying the government has wandered from them as governing principles. They claim Thomas Jefferson was a founding father, for he was empowered citizens with their personal rights, previously considered rewards to be granted by those in power only.

Monthly LPNH meetings usually feature guest speakers and current issues in the context of libertarian philosophy. Recent meetings have included Libertarian Congresswoman Representative Stephanie McKinnon (R-Salem), who spoke on abortion rights; and State Representative Michael Weddle (R-Portsmouth), who talked about his plan for the legalization of drugs. Also appearing at Libertarian events has been Republican Chris Tremblay, currently running for Congress in the 1st District. 

However, none of these political figures can compare to the LPNH's new chairman, Bill Winter. LPNH chairman Bill Winter. "The general public hasn't really heard about us yet, but we're beginning to reach the groups that are active."

Members of the Gun Owners of New Hampshire, another group which has worked with the LPNH, often discuss with the Libertarian stance on drug legalization and abortion rights. Members of the National Organization for Women (NOW) agree with the LPNH's pro-choice aspect, but for the most part, disagree with the lack of social programs which would come with less government. "For those of kind of single-issue people, they need to make some connections that the one issue they agree on isn't the only one where the government abuses people's rights," Winter says. 

A large single-issue campaign is "The general public hasn't really heard about us yet, but we're beginning to reach the groups that are active."

what brought the antitax Straight Arrows into power in Laconia in November 1989. John Hildreth, lifetime Libertarian Party member and executive director of the Straight Arrow Committee, is facing a McCarthy-style attack by local opponents upset by the committee's victory.

Since the Libertarian name became associated with the Straight Arrows, through Hildreth, citizens and local politicians have been keeping a tight and seemingly fearful rein on the actions of suspected members. Voters became scared when Laconia School Board member Philip McLaughlin called Hildreth's motives in leading the Straight Arrow Communique into question, implying that Hildreth is using the committee as a front to get Libertarian ideas put into the public mind. Hildreth became scared when Laconia School Board member Philip McLaughlin called Hildreth's motives in leading the Straight Arrow Communique into question, implying that Hildreth is using the committee as a front to get Libertarian ideas put into the public mind.