

NEWS RELEASE

GOVERNOR
Northrup
LIBERTARIAN

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NORTHRUP: ABOLISH URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO REBUILD CITIES

Terming the state's urban "renewal" programs a "colossal failure which have destroyed thousands of housing units and wasted hundreds of millions of taxpayers dollars to create or bail out 'pie-in-the-sky' projects," John Northrup, Libertarian candidate for Governor called for the elimination of the state Urban Development Corporation, the New York Mortgage Loan Enforcement Administration, and the state Division of Housing and Community Renewal saving the taxpayers \$290 million annually.

"These programs, like their federal counterparts, force thousands of people from their homes, and in many cases, seize private property to turn it over to others for private gain at a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars annually to the taxpayers. About the only thing that the Urban Development Corporation has done successfully is to help bankrupt the state," said Northrup.

Quoting from Martin Anderson's The Federal Bulldozer, a landmark study of the failure of urban renewal projects, Northrup questioned:

"Is it right to deliberately hurt people, to push around those who are least able to defend themselves, to spend billions of dollars of the taxpayers money so that some people might pay to enjoy a prettier city?"

"Not only is such a system wrong and inherently incapable of curing urban decay, but it retards normal and productive rebuilding of our cities. What the state can do to promote urban renewal is to eliminate the many restrictions to productive investment which cause the problem in the first place - high taxes,

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restrictive zoning and out-moded building codes and work restrictions," said Northrup.

In calling for elimination of the Urban Development Corporation, Northrup has made good on his pledge to eliminate at least one useless and harmful agency each week during the campaign. His specific spending cuts to date already total more than \$5.7 billion.

"With the state projecting a deficit of up to \$500 million this year from a budget which is itself more than 10 times larger than just 25 years ago, it is time the public recognized that as long as they vote for the Republicans and Democrats, they will keep getting more of the same," Northrup pointed out.