



FILE COPY

March 16, 1995

To Whom It May Concern:

The Libertarian Party headquarters has received several inquiries over the past month regarding the status of the Arizona affiliate of the Libertarian Party. I feel that it is important to clearly state the position of the Libertarian National Committee on this matter to all concerned individuals.

According to the Bylaws of the National Libertarian Party, there "shall be no more than one affiliate party in any one state." [Article 8, Section 3.]

The political entity recognized by the Libertarian National Committee as our affiliate party in Arizona is the "Arizona Libertarian Party," currently chaired by Rick Tompkins.

Also according to our Bylaws, "No person, group or organization may use the name 'Libertarian Party' or any confusingly similar designation except an organization to which the [National Libertarian] Party grants affiliate party status." [Article 8, Section 1.] The Libertarian National Committee remains fully committed to enforcing this provision.

The only way that another organization could be recognized as the "Arizona Libertarian Party" — with recognized affiliate party status — would be if the currently recognized Arizona Libertarian Party was first decertified by the Libertarian National Committee. According to our Bylaws:

"The National Committee shall have the power to revoke the status of any affiliate party, for cause, by a vote of 3/4 of the entire National Committee." [Article 8, Section 6.]

There is absolutely no reason to believe that the Arizona Libertarian Party is in violation of any Libertarian Party Platform or Bylaw provision that would provide "just cause" for such an action.

I understand that there is some speculation that another organization calling itself the "Arizona Libertarian Party" might someday be officially "recognized" by the state

government. However, recognition by state law — or lack of recognition — is not a factor mentioned by our Bylaws in our process of granting affiliate status. This would certainly not constitute grounds for decertifying an existing affiliate and granting recognition to the state-recognized organization.

The Arizona Libertarian Party, like all of our affiliate parties, is governed by its own set of Bylaws. Any changes in the organizational structure or leadership of any affiliate party must be handled in the manner specified in their Bylaws.

The next convention of the Arizona Libertarian Party will be held April 29-30 in Phoenix. Any internal disagreements over organizational structure, leadership, or the future of the Arizona Libertarian Party should be resolved within the context of that convention.

Sincerely,



Steve Dasbach,
Chairman
Libertarian National Committee

CC: Rick Tompkins, State Chair, Libertarian Party of Arizona
Perry Willis, National Director, National Libertarian Party
Bill Winter, Communication Director, National Libertarian Party
Members of the Libertarian National Committee
Dan Detaranto
Peter Schmerl

Attachment: Bylaws of the National Libertarian Party