Tamara Clark Takes Fight to Legislature

The Nevada legislature convened on January 18th and Tamara Clark had an opportunity to bring her case before a panel of three state senators. Tamara has been challenging the results of the November election where she lost a senate seat by a narrow margin in an election where exit polls strongly predicted her the winner.

Tamara was promised a 4-6 hour session where she and other candidates could present the copious evidence they have collected documenting irregularities and voter fraud (their evidence filled two sixteen-foot tables two-feet high).

Instead of carefully considering the issue, the panel limited the session to just 3 hours and the panelists never looked at one piece of Tamara’s evidence. Key election officials were not called to testify, even though the state had paid to have them flown to the capitol expressly for that purpose.

The result was a mixed message from the panel. They concluded that there was insufficient evidence to challenge the election results, meaning Tamara’s opponent was officially seated. But in the same breath, they said the evidence warranted a grand jury investigation of election procedures and a retroactive lowering of the ballot status requirement to 1% so that the Libertarian Party of Nevada will gain official ballot status.

Tamara hopes to get good media coverage from the controversy. The entire session was videotaped, including the comments by one senator that he was "too tired" to look at the evidence Tamara had brought with her. Tamara is talking to "60 Minutes" about doing a segment on the controversy.

Tamara is also considering filing a challenge in federal court.

San Diego Tax Invalidated

San Diego County must give back $380 million because of an illegal sales tax. The California Supreme Court made the ruling over a year ago, and it was upheld last month by the 4th District Court of Appeals.

The original suit was filed by Dick Rider, a long-time Libertarian activist and candidate.

The half-cent sales tax was deemed unconstitutional because it received only 50.8% of the vote instead of the required two-thirds.

County officials have not decided whether to attempt a further appeal.

Washington State Libertarians Challenge Tax-Supported Partisan Caucuses

Richard Shepard, secretary and attorney for the Libertarian Party of Washington, is writing staff leaders of the Washington legislature to complain about publicly-funded partisan activities that place third parties at a disadvantage.

The issue came to light in the wake of an investigation by the Public Disclosure Commission revealing that as many as 30% of legislative workers are employed for partisan activities such as research and advocacy. They work for legislative political organizations known as caucuses that are party-specific.

Shepard argues that either these groups are public agencies, in which case they should be nonpartisan, or they are private agencies, in which case they should be privately funded.
**State Government**

**Libertarian Party threatening PDC with lawsuit**

By Patricia Hennessy

**Gazette Reporter**

Barbara Cernak thinks the United States should spend more time worrying about its own starving children, and less time in famine-ridden Somalia.

She holds fast to her opinion, even in the face of the growing influence of the United States military presence in Somalia.

"To me, the United States is the party that should be worrying about its own children," she says. "I think that's a much more important issue."
SACRAMENTO—Seldom able to make a credible showing with its candidates, the Libertarian Party remains at the fringe of California’s politics. After it was founded and ran its first presidential candidate—John Hospers, a USC professor of economics—in 1968, the Libertarian Party have since received merely 2,484 votes nationally. Two decades later, Libertarian candidate Andre Marrou received 44,440 votes, or 0.4% of the state total. Party registration lags a bit, with 71,150 statewide, one-third the size of the American Independent Party.

But the libertarian movement is more than the Libertarian Party. As it pushes limit measures, libertarians say they have become the center of the dance in education and government involvement in schools.

The choice initiative had its genesis at the Reason Foundation, a nonprofit libertarian institute in Los Angeles. Libertarians are not the only ones who support it, but they are a "key element of the coalition," said Robert Poole, Reason Foundation director. "It’s one of the few areas where libertarians have put up a real fight in the battle for change in government and education measures. Although Alibrandi and his company have been involved in the school measures, they do not stand in the libertarian movement.

One is Everett Berg, chairman of another libertarian think tank, the Pacific Institute Research Institute in San Francisco. Berg gave more than $200,000 in term-limits campaigns this year, and $10,000 to the 1990 measure limiting legislative terms in California. He and his firm, BIECO Enterprises of Emeryville, Calif., gave the school voucher idea a good push, according to campaign contributions totaling $145,000 in 1992.

Both Koch brothers have given big money to libertarian movements, with $280,000 to the 1990 measure that limited California’s state legislators. When Citizens for Congressional Reform folded this year, the state limits, and the group based in Washington, D.C., emerged as the largest single financial supporter of term limits in this election.

It spread the message over all 14 states where term limits were before voters, including $655,000 in California, $364,000 in Michigan, $145,000 in Arkansas, and $100,000 in Ohio. U.S. Term Limits President Richard Rich is a New York businessman who, although no longer active in the party, has long been involved in the libertarian movement.

Orange County lawyer Dave Bergland, a party loyalist, received 250,000 votes when he ran for President on the Libertarian ticket in 1984, not much less than the 231,805 Marrou received nationally this time. But what libertarians lack in electoral victories, they make up for in their direct-democracy initiative.

With a congressional pay raise and corruption in Sacramento fresh in mind, voters backed term limits. With some schools failing and teachers threatening to strike in Los Angeles, the prospects of school vouchers for those who wish to improve. Libertarians decided to "strike while the iron is hot," Bergland said.

"That’s not a dumb thing to do."

Libertarians detail viewpoints on TV

By Andrea Rose

Sick and tired of paying taxes? Want to limit the government that you feel seems to have invaded all aspects of your life? Then the Bucks County Libertarian Committee will address your concerns at 7 p.m. and again on Friday, Dec. 11 at 1 a.m.

In the upcoming November elections, voters will be faced with a wave of ballot measures. The Bucks County Libertarian Committee will address the impact of these new safety technologies such as air bags, seat belts and helmets. It’s the laws he believes in, and the people who support it.

"We really think that public school choice plans no doubt will improve. Libertarians decided to "strike while the iron is hot," Bergland said.

"That’s not a dumb thing to do."

Libertarians to meet on Dec. 5

Members of the Libertarian Party in Jefferson County will meet at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Schumacher Station at 7700 Boulevards and H-Streets. Members will discuss the formal organization of a county Libertarian central committee. Plans will be made then to pick a time and place for future monthly county meetings.

For information, call David Holden at 746-9103.