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Tuccille

GOVERNOR

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PRIVATE ENTERPRISE ONLY SOLUTION TO TRANSPORTATION CRISIS,
TUCCILLE TELLS JERSEY AUDIENCE

WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY, 23 September--"The explanation for the dismal state of urban transportation is very simple," said Jerry Tuccille (pronounced "two-chilly") today. "Public transportation is presently a government monopoly. Return it to the private sector, and we'd see a vast improvement in the situation."

Tuccille, the gubernatorial candidate of New York's Free Libertarian Party, made the comment in an address to an audience of New Jersey libertarians.

"The reason transportation is now a losing proposition," continued Tuccille, "is that municipal governments have 'the only game in town.' Anyone who has mailed a letter recently does not have to be told that government services are almost by definition inefficient. When government has a legal monopoly on a service, there is no profit motive and no threat of competition. As a result, there is little incentive for improvement or efficiency. When the agency starts to fail, a few million more tax dollars are simply thrown in to cover the loss. We are subsidizing incompetence and obsolescence.

"When a company is privately owned, on the other hand, a venture must succeed or fail on its own merits--with the risk borne by the investors and with no bailouts by the taxpayer."

Tuccille claimed that if the government's powers of monopoly and franchise-granting were abolished, American cities would witness a plethora of private alternatives and new technological innovations. "We've seen some of the possibilities already," said Tuccille. "Jitneys, gypsy cabs, 'people's vans,' dial-a-ride lines, private bus routes, hydrofoils and so forth. But the limited experimentation thus far is nothing compared with what would occur if the free market were opened to the potential flood of investment and ingenuity now dammed up behind governmental restrictions."

Concluded the candidate: "Ask yourself whether you'd like mass transportation to be operated by the sort of people who provide you with antibiotics and stereo equipment--or by the sort of people who deliver your mail and educate your children. I think you'll agree that the Private Alternative is superior to the Government Bureaucracy."

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PRESS RELEASE

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