Late Flurry of Scare Tactics Beats Term Limit; Washington State Initiative Linked to LP

An initiative to limit the number of terms politicians may serve was defeated in Washington State this month, amid desperate claims by its opponents that the initiative was being supported by Libertarian billionaire outsiders.

The initiative was predicted to pass, based on earlier polls; however, the political establishment's last-minute barrage apparently turned the tide.

A large number of media reports—from Washington State media, as well as the New York Times, CNN, and other national media outlets—publicized during the final weeks of the campaign that the initiative had received heavy financial support from former LP Vice Presidential candidate David Koch, his brother Charles, and the Washington, D.C.-based Citizens for Congressional Reform (CCR), described as a right-wing lobbying group with ties to the libertarian Cato Institute.

Congressman Jim McDermott of Washington State delivered a long speech on the floor of the Congress, attacking the measure as a libertarian attempt to dismantle government. The speech quoted from the LP Platform and had numerous inaccuracies, including claims that the LP was behind the term limitation initiative and that the LP had not won "a single office" in its history. McDermott went on to compare the LP's views with those of political extremist David Duke.

LP National Chair Mary Gingell responded with an Open Letter to McDermott, released to the media, demanding an apology for the slanderous comments.

Numerous news commentary/discussion shows, including CNN's Crossfire and PBS's MacNeil-Lehrer, centered on the term limits issue during the weeks before the election. Former LP National Director Paul Jacob, now Term Limitation Project Director for CCR, debated the issue with William Proxmire. The debate ran several times on C-SPAN.

Efforts are currently underway to place Term Limit Initiatives on the ballot in a number of states in 1992. Many of those efforts are being supported by CCR.

CORRECTION

Last month's article about Dr. David McCann's election results contained several inaccuracies, which we regret. Thanks to Richard Winger for correcting us. It should have read as follows:

McCann's results set a record for the best showing for a third party candidate in a two-way race in California since 1936 and the best showing by a Libertarian Party candidate for the state legislature, outside Alaska, since 1980.
Free speech has limits

7th-grader's 'political' views on drug war curbed

By David Bank

When 12-year-old Allen Hoffman heard on the radio last month that former presidential candidate Jesse Jackson was calling for drug dealers to go to jail, Allen was outraged. It was one of the first times that Hoffman had ever thought about drug dealers, and he had a different idea.

"I'm a libertarian," Allen said. "I believe in free enterprise and the free market. I don't think the government should be involved in things like drugs."

Allen's views are rare for a 12-year-old, but they are not uncommon among libertarians. The Libertarian Party, which Hoffman is a member of, is a political party that advocates for individual liberty, free enterprise, and limited government.

"I was surprised, but should get out of the Social Security pyramid and give young workers the option of choosing their own retirement plan. Also, flooding private markets with foreign labor would be easily solved. "Eliminate all foreign aid," Hoffman said. "We are going to Collegian. But we should definitely make sure that all elderly Americans have a pension scheme.

"I don't see a little problem that Retirement is a personal responsibility, and Social Security is just an extension of the government," said Hoffman. "In order to be able to pay my own bills, I have to work for a living."

"The Libertarians see little that cannot be fixed by changing the system," Allen said. "They believe in free enterprise and the free market, and they want to get rid of government intervention in the economy."

Allen's views are not limited to economics. He is also a strong advocate for civil liberties and individual freedom. "I believe in free speech and the right to privacy," Allen said. "The government should not be allowed to interfere with people's lives."
register and vote libertarian

libertarians are on the ballot in maryland, and you can now register as and vote for libertarians! ballot status was achieved the hard way, through petition by voters, to overcome unfair ballot access laws set up by republican and democratic party legislators. your registration and vote can gain continuing ballot status for libertarians (three percent of the vote does it).

why vote for the lesser of evils among democrats and republicans when your libertarian vote brings something better? call the elections board now and make the change: 217-6450.

the libertarian presidential candidate is andre marrou. marrou is a former elected libertarian state legislator from alaska now living in nevada. as the libertarian party’s vice presidential candidate in 1988, mr. marrou campaigned in all 50 states and d.c. his reasoned response to questions, and his views on issues, have earned him respect from the media. he is worth your vote!

- dr. nancy lord, who received much media attention when she ran for mayor of d.c. last year, is the libertarian vice-presidential candidate this time. a medical doctor and lawyer with a no-nonsense approach to issues, she has the respect of media as does mr. marrou.

- voting for mr. marrou and dr. lord will count in getting the libertarian party recognition and permanent ballot status! what can you expect from a vote for a republican or democrat? be the one that makes the difference between politics as usual and the politics of freedom of libertarians.

readers new to my column may be unaware of what the libertarian party stands for. in brief, libertarians are purists on individual civil liberties, economic choice, free trade; and a nonintervention foreign policy.

persons wanting more information about the libertarian party and its candidates can telephone the party’s national headquarters in d.c.: (202) 543-1988. locally, you can reach the state and county libertarian party at 951-0539.

wall street journal
editorial page
oct. 1991

needle points

did you notice that the libertarian party candidate, david mccann, running against moderate republican b.t. collins up north, got a higher percentage of the votes than the democratic candidate opposing republican mickey conroy here in orange county? sure, there was no democrat in the collins race. but the overall result can hardly be reassuring to the tax-and-spend crowd.