

Platform Committee Report for 3/5/2023

The goal that was set by me as the chairman, was to streamline the platform and make it easily remembered and quoted. To this end, the committee discussed the following four amendments to the LPNY Platform, and discussed the Abortion issue. Many positions were identified to exist on the abortion issue, so a survey was sent out to determine whether there was a strong preference for any of the proposals. I inadvertently failed to include a fairly brief proposal from Dr Mark Braiman. His proposal is being included in the list of proposals for the state committee to consider.

The committee itself was ambivalent on the first proposal. It was agreed that the opening platform statement lacked the appeal needed to draw people in. At one meeting it was determined that as an opening statement to the platform it was irrelevant. It was proposed that we present the proposed change in wording. At another meeting the feeling was that it was not necessary to present the proposal to the committee at this time. In keeping with the goal set at the beginning of the Platform Committee meetings, the proposal is being presented

Notes to the first proposal: The citing of parts of the Declaration of Independence is considered superfluous, and drags in a lot of controversial issues. Thus, propose deleting the wording "all people, being created equal, are endowed with unalienable rights", and just start out with the statement, "Life, Liberty, Property and the pursuit of happiness..." . Also, the statement. "... if governments must exist ..." is considered agonizingly hostile to the 98% of Americans who already accept the existence of the US Government and state Governments. It was thus proposed that the introduction be reworded as shown.

Proposal 1- Rephrase the preamble

~~Recognize that all people, being created equal, are endowed with unalienable rights, among these are the right to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness. We recognize that if governments must exist at all, their only just purpose is to secure these rights for individuals.~~

Life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness are rights to be enjoyed by all. Those rights do not allow imposing a duty on others, or violations of the non aggression principle. The role of government is to secure the rights of individuals.

(Notes to Proposal 2 Unlike all the other statements in the platform, this statement is strictly an internal, Libertarian Party, prerogative. The statement doesn't belong in the public platform. Besides, we should not be deferring to our candidates to set policy, neither specific nor general. The purpose of having a political party is to determine policy and proposals that we support and to find candidates that support the party's decisions, not the

other way around. Also, there is no need to state that we 'defer to National'. The statement is superfluous.)

Proposal 2 - Delete this paragraph

~~While we defer to the national party on issues of national interest, and we defer to our candidates to offer specific policy proposals, we do so only so far as they do not conflict with the following principles:~~

Special Treatment of groups is what the governments seem to be specializing in, and thus the following was proposed as a relative plank of current interest. A definition of Identity Politics was provided in the plank for clarification purposes.

Proposal 3 - New Plank – Special Treatment

Special Treatment - We oppose all forms of identity politics-where special treatment is conferred by the government to any group or groups of people, including individual members of any group. Identity politics include reparations, affirmative action, hate speech laws, and any action that gives special treatment to individuals and groups

Comments *{The inclusion of the following plank statement seemed appropriate since we do not have an exhaustive list of platform statements.}*

Proposal 4 – New Plank - Silence does not imply approval

Our silence on any other government policy, law, etc., does not imply approval. Our guiding principles are the non-aggression principle, property rights, and the supremacy of natural rights.

Proposal 5 - Propose a straight forward vote on the following proposed Abortion Planks.

email		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Mark G		0	9	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	10	
Rebecca Lau		0	0	4	8	2	0	0	9	5	10	
Andrew Kolstee		10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Michael Rebman		9	0	0	10	0	0	1	9	0	0	
Michael Long		0	0	3	8	10	9	9	4	0	0	
Mark Weinblat		5	5	7	9	8	8	7	10	0	2	
BLAY		5	0	1	2	2	6	4	2	10	0	
Mark B		3	2	4	9	1	5	1	9	1	6	10 - We op
Brian Wells		10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Francis Law		5	0	0	10	0	0	0	9	0	0	
Jennifer Oconnor		10	5	0	9	8	7	7	9	7	0	
Mark Axinn		0	0	5	9	8	5	8	10	5	5	
Justin Carmin		10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Keith Redhead		10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Rich Purtell		3	3	3	10	9	8	2	7	0	0	
Jeff Bradley		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Zachary Reiman		10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Craig Cowell		0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	
Dan Donnley		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		90	24	29	86	50	50	51	80	28	33	10
		12	5	8	11	9	8	10	11	5	5	1
		7.5	4.8	3.6	7.8	5.6	6.3	5.1	7.3	5.6	6.6	10.0
Steve Becker		9	3	1	3	4	2	2	3	1	0	
Paul Grindle		0	0	5	8	7	7	5	10	6	7	
		99	27	35	97	61	59	58	93	35	40	
		13	6	10	13	11	10	12	13	7	6	
		7.6	4.5	3.5	7.5	5.5	5.9	4.8	7.2	5.0	6.7	
# of 10's		6	0	0	3	1	0	1	3	1	2	NOTA

NOTE: The survey responses were tabulated as shown. Two came in after the deadline. The number of points (gray line) were divided by the number of people who gave that option a ranking (tan line) to give the average support (yellow line). Viewing the average support, five options stood out. However, only four of those five options had two or more individuals who ranked the option as their preferred option. Thus, those options are being placed before the committee to discuss, and to consider, and to vote on.

From this list, A, D, H, J, NOTA, and the omitted proposal have been selected to be presented for consideration by the State Committee.

The first proposal, A, is to create no platform concerning abortion, and to make no comment concerning abortion. For the record, that option will be considered differently from B, i.e., NOTA. The NOTA option will indicate that a platform plank on abortion is desired, but none of the wordings in these proposed plank statements are acceptable. The option C, listed, is the platform statement proposed by Dr Mark Braiman that was inadvertently not included in the survey.

- A. Make no comment and create no platform statement regarding abortion.**
- B. NOTA**
- C. We oppose government involvement in either funding or criminalizing abortion.**
- D. Libertarians are Pro-Choice.**

E. Abortion - being a complex issue with valid views on either side, should be a matter of personal conscience, without any government interference or

F. Recognizing that abortion is a sensitive issue and that people can hold good-faith views on all sides, we believe that government should be kept out of the matter, leaving the question to each person for their conscientious consideration.

Respectively Submitted,
Mark Glogowski, Chairman
LPNY Platform Committee