

KEYNOTE MESSAGE

to the

PLATFORM COMMITTEE of the FLP

You are about to begin a project that will have an immediate and profound effect upon our organization. The adoption of a platform will, in large measure, set the course for our Party for some time to come and we look to your judgement and creativity to produce a document which, when ratified, will create a stronger and more cohesive FLP.

You are urged to consider the following viewpoints:

- A. That the platform of the FLP should, in its content and language reflect neither anarchist nor limited government viewpoints. Rather, in keeping with the goals of the FLP for the next several years, the platform should emphasize the principles upon which all Libertarians agree and which provide a sound foundation for subsequent development of concrete political programs to be presented to the voters of the State of New York.

You will have performed the highest service if you can produce a platform that makes the debate over the merits of limited government vs. anarchy irrelevant to the goals of the Party for the next decade, leaving such discussions to those who wish to engage in them outside of the Party's context.

- B. That the platform of the FLP is a State document and will be the fundamental statement of candidates for all levels of State, County and Municipal government. This being the case, you are urged to carefully weigh the advisability of including planks on Foreign Policy and National Defense. For the two classes of State candidates for national office (Senator and Congressman) Libertarian positions on foreign policy and defense must indeed be developed by the FLP, but the issue of exposing local candidates to irrelevant discussion on these two planks deserves your most careful consideration.

- C. That the FLP, as a major unit of the National Party has the opportunity to exert a positive influence on that body to the end of insuring that it remains the Party of Principle for all Libertarians.

There is no deadline for your deliberations. When you have completed a final first draft, the Executive Committee will authorize the publication of that draft (and minority reports) to the general membership and, with your advice, announce an open hearing at which members may comment on the Platform. Following this hearing, you will produce a final draft (and minority reports, if any) which will be sent to the membership along with the announcement of a general meeting, to be held not less than three weeks nor more than six weeks after the announcement, for the purpose of adopting the Platform.

At that meeting, any member may submit an alternative plank(s), provided that:

- A. The plank(s) is complete rather than partial;
- B. It is submitted in writing to the Secretary (of the FLP) one week prior to the meeting;
- C. That ten members in good standing of the FLP endorse, in writing, the submission of the plank, and
- D. That the author, or one of the endorsees, present the plank to the general meeting.

If you have any suggestions or questions concerning the above plans, the Executive Committee stands ready to assist you in any way.

Yours in Liberty,

Jerome J. Klasman
State Chairperson

Members of the State Committee:

Howard Rich
Vice Chairperson

Andrea Millen
Vice Chairperson

Michael P. Higgins
Secretary

Raymond Goldfield
Treasurer

Gary Greenberg

Samuel E. Konkin III

Linda Klasman

Calvin C. Beatty

Christina M. Graf

Mark Fitzgerald

(abstaining)
Leland W. Schubert