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## Sexy 'pin-up' calendar promotes her State House campaign

*"This is a fun-loving campaign, but I stand strong on issues."*

**WASHINGTON, DC** — North Carolina House candidate Rachel Mills said "no" to posing nude in *Playboy* — but "yes" to a provocative pin-up calendar that is now available for sale.

Mills is one of six Libertarian candidates who appear in lingerie and other skimpy attire in the new "North Carolina Ladies of Liberty" calendar.

The calendar will raise awareness and money for her campaign, said Mills, 27, who is running for the District 31 seat. Mills is hoping to sell 2,000 copies of the calendar and raise \$30,000 for her campaign.

"When the powers-that-be absorb all the funds you raise in ballot access and petitioning expenses, you have to get really creative with how you fund your bid for office," she said.

She decided to create the North Carolina Ladies of Liberty calendar, said Mills, after she received a phone call from *Playboy* magazine.

**The men's magazine asked her to pose nude for an upcoming "Women of WorldCom" feature, which will feature employees of the struggling telecommunications company.**

Mills was reluctant. "I was raised as a missionary kid, so my parents would really not be happy" seeing their daughter in *Playboy*, she said.

When North Carolina Libertarian Party Executive Director Sean Haugh proposed creating a calendar instead, Mills said that idea was "much better."

The calendar is "a more modest way to raise campaign funds and awareness of her political ideas, albeit in a flirtatious and highly unorthodox manner," said Haugh.

Mills worked with Robert Mihaly, a former artist-in-residence at Washington National Cathedral, to create a series of photographs that paid tribute to Alberto Vargas, the classic pinup artist of the 1940s and 1950s.

Even though appearing in a "pinup" calendar is an unusual political strategy, Mills said her campaign issues are completely serious.

**"This is a fun-loving, colorful campaign," she acknowledged. "But I stand strong on issues. Runaway government is no laughing matter."**

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