



Golden Gate Libertarian

Libertarian Party of San Francisco, November 2006

Dear Libertarian,

We are inviting you to take a look at our activities and join the fun! We have sponsored a Law Enforcement Redeployment Petition. We believe the San Francisco Police Department command staff can do a better job of assigning the current manpower levels to clearing the backlog of unsolved major felonies and creating beat foot patrols in high crime district hot spots by simply re-assigning current officers from victimless crimes and non-essential and low priority duties to actually protecting citizens.

Libertarian candidates are running for statewide elective office! Please look for them on the ballot. We also have two San Francisco Libertarian candidates, Phil Berg for Congress and Starchild for Supervisor.

Read on for messages from Phil and Starchild, as well as details on our other recommendations for the November 7 General Election, and an introduction to our Law Enforcement Redeployment Petition. For more, including downloadable petitions, please see our website, www.lpsf.org.

November 7 Ballot Recommendations

The Libertarian Party of San Francisco considered and voted on recommendations for the November 7, 2006, General Election at our regular September and October meetings. We heard from candidates in local non-partisan races at our Candidate Forum the first week of October.

The LPSF heartily and unanimously endorses **Philip Z. Berg** for the U.S. House of Representatives, in the 8th Congressional District, and **Starchild** for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, in the 8th Supervisorial District.

Additionally, though we only endorse Libertarian Party candidates, we also make recommendations for candidates in local non-partisan races where no Libertarian is running. We therefore recommend Ed Jew for Supervisor, 4th District; John Knadler for Community College Board; and Boots Whitmer for Board of Education.

The LPSF recommends a vote of **NO** on local measures A, B, C, E, F, G, H, and K. We are not making recommendations for or against local measures D, I, and J.

The Libertarian Party of California recommends a vote of YES on state propositions 1A and 90, and recommends a vote of NO on state propositions 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 83, 84, 86, 87, 88, and 89. The LPC is not making a recommendation for or against state proposition 85.

The LPSF also endorsed Harland Harrison for the U.S. House of Representatives, in the 12th Congressional District, but he ultimately did not qualify for the ballot.

The 12th Congressional District includes northern parts of San Mateo County and the southwest quarter of San Francisco. The rest of San Francisco is the 8th Congressional District. The 8th Supervisorial

District covers the Castro, Glen Park, and Noe Valley neighborhoods of San Francisco.

A Message from Phil Berg

My Journey from Democrat to Libertarian by Philip Z. Berg, LP Candidate, 8th Congressional District

Like most Jewish kids in Baltimore I was raised by very liberal Democrats. We lived in the city but our house was near an old growth forest preserved by covenant and hilliness. The oak trees there are said to be older than Baltimore. I grew to love Nature.

In 1959 the husband of a very close friend of my family was laid off at Bethlehem Steel. She was very upset. I resolved then to learn why such bad things happen. My father lost his job in 1962, and this also made me determined to learn why there was so much economic trouble with the adults around me.

Some books had a powerful effect. *The Grapes of Wrath* only added to my determination to learn about economics. *Silent Spring* began my own concern with the environmental movement. Unfortunately at a very tender age my parents allowed me to read Adolph Eichmann's biography. This led to a lifelong quest to understand how a civilized country could descend into hell.

Lyndon Johnson promised the Great Society when I was a young man. When I returned from College to Baltimore, I enrolled in the School of Public Health. I remember clearly it was September of 1976 and I was swimming in the Hopkins Alumni Pool. The East Baltimore Campus where the pool is located is in the Ghetto. Looking over the fence of the pool one could see the people sweltering in the run down row houses across the street.

I wondered to myself why after all these years of Great Society, with Baltimore getting a lions share of every Federal program, things seemed to be getting worse for so many. The factories were closing left and right and the misery was spreading.

I had graduated cum Laude in Economics but still didn't feel I understood why things were going so bad for so many in Baltimore. In 1984 I was working for the Federal Government as an Industrial Hygienist. Things were going from bad to worse for so many around me. I met a young man that summer in the Lost and Found, a bar in Washington. He was a graduate student in Philosophy at George Mason. He introduced me to the works of Hayek, Mises, and Rothbard, economists of the Austrian School of Economics. (See www.mises.org)

The Austrian economics made a lot of sense to me and over time I have seen that it explains and predicts what is happening with the economy. The suffering, the poverty, and all that goes with it, is not a necessary part of the human condition. It can be much better than this. It took me a while, as a liberal Democrat, to take what I had learned from Rothbard and Mises, and change my political identity. Giving up the dream that a loving and caring government can and will someday make things better was difficult.

We all identify with our dreams and perhaps it is what helps us deal with the realities of life and feel good about ourselves.

I have adopted a dream that liberty will bring us peace and economic prosperity and justice. Maybe it is just a dream, but after much study and consideration, I have come to the conclusion that liberty, true liberty, has a much greater chance of making a decent and peaceful world, much freer of want, hunger, disease, ignorance, violence, and war.

The Libertarian movement has as its basis a pledge. The pledge is never to espouse or indulge in the initiation of violence. From this simple rule all of the philosophy emerges. Please consider how this simple idea can lead to a more peaceful and cooperative world locally and globally.

You don't have to give up your dream to consider Liberty. Even if you want to hold onto the dream of a good government someday, you could vote Libertarian at the federal level so that money and power could flow to the fifty States. At least the States don't make war.

Go to www.choosethepeacenow.us on the Web.

A Message from Starchild

by Starchild, LP Candidate, 8th Supervisorial District

I am running to represent the interests of the people against those of the ruling political class. We all deserve the right to make our own choices in life so long as we are not hurting others. We do not need our lives run by self-interested or even well-meaning bureaucrats and politicians. San Francisco used to be the "City that Knows How." San Franciscans need to recapture that spirit, to stop being afraid of freedom and change, to embrace the future with an independent, can-do attitude. We can build a better, fairer society with voluntary cooperation instead of government force.

As a libertarian, I believe how you live your life and what you do with your own body, time, money and property should be your choice as long as you do not hurt others.

As your Supervisor, I will defend your civil liberties and your pocketbook. Some of my specific priorities include:

- Capping city salaries at \$99,999
- Reducing taxes and fees of all kinds
- Protecting our cannabis dispensaries
- Supporting your right to self-defense
- Holding police officers accountable for excessive force
- Applying Sunshine laws to the School Board and SFPD
- Defunding government Public Relations spending
- De-prioritizing enforcement of victimless crime laws
- Standing up for immigrants
- Fixing potholes and maintaining streets
- Opposing the use of privacy-violating government cameras
- Making permits easier and less expensive to get
- Stopping the Redevelopment Agency's Bayview land grab
- Allowing off-leash dogs in parks with owner/companion responsibility
- Supporting civil service and pension reform
- Stopping the parking ticket rip-off
- Promoting bicycle lanes and alternative transportation
- Allowing alcohol at street fairs
- Cutting stifling bureaucracy and red tape
- Making San Francisco more fun again!

Remember, with ranked choice voting, no vote is a wasted vote! Please make me your first ranked choice! Thank you for your support.

Local Ballot Measures

by Justin Sampson, LPSF Chair

The Board of Education (Measure A) and the Board of Supervisors (Measures B through K) have given us quite a full slate of legislation to consider. None of the measures on the November 7 ballot were placed there by citizen initiative. Supervisors Daly and Mirkarimi

have been especially prolific; their names appear among the sponsors of every one of the ten Supervisor-sponsored measures.

Where our recommendations were not unanimous, they are given below with the numbers voting to "recommend yes"—"recommend no"—"make no recommendation", respectively. Abstentions are not shown.

Measure A asks San Francisco to issue \$450,000,000 in general obligation bonds to fund school facilities improvements. We unanimously recommend **NO on A** because San Francisco is already swimming in bond debt.

Measure B suggests that Supervisors and members of other boards be allowed to participate in board meetings, including voting, without being present. We recommend **NO on B (0-7-2)** because it goes well beyond reasonable accommodation for parental leave.

Measure C would *raise* the salaries of several City officials. This being quite the wrong direction to move the City budget, we unanimously recommend **NO on C**.

We are not making a recommendation on Measure D (0-3-5). We believe very strongly in the privacy of ordinary citizens, but the intent and effect of this law are not clear.

Measure E would raise the City's already sky-high parking tax from 25% to 35% and apply it to more businesses, so we unanimously recommend **NO on E**.

Measure F would dictate the "sick leave" policy for all employers in the City. We believe in freedom of employment, and we believe that centralized economic policies are doomed to failure, so we unanimously recommend **NO on F**.

Measure G imposes arbitrary red tape on "formula retail" stores. Claiming to "protect" small business, this will just heighten the anti-business climate in the City, so we unanimously recommend **NO on G**.

Measure H dramatically increases the existing "relocation expense" that landlords are forced to pay evicted tenants. This is a further example of the anti-ownership climate that is ultimately *preventing* ordinary San Franciscans from owning their own homes, so we unanimously recommend **NO on H**.

Measure I, requiring the Mayor to attend some Board of Supervisors meetings, is a nice idea; we don't see it as clearly libertarian or not, so we are not making a recommendation (3-3-4). Now, if the Mayor were required to answer *citizens'* questions, we might have something.

Measure J calls for President Bush's impeachment. Many of us agree, but we don't see it as relevant for a San Francisco ballot, so we are not making a recommendation (4-2-4).

Finally, Measure K, while merely a statement of policy, is clearly intended to justify spending additional tax money on what is really an economic problem. We believe the solution to the City's housing woes is to allow more housing development and fundamentally promote rather than hinder homeownership, so we unanimously recommend **NO on K**.

Law Enforcement Redeployment

by Ron Getty, LPSF Initiatives Director

We are sponsoring this petition because we believe the San Francisco Police Department could make better use of its current staffing levels to protect our lives and property.

Our efforts are necessitated by the enormous 6 year un-cleared back log of some 275 homicides, 1,000 forcible rapes and 16,000 armed robberies. Further, neighborhood communities are being under-served by the SFPD because of current policies regulating assignment of police officers.

The command staff should stop assigning officers to victimless crime and all other non-essential and low priority duties. By so doing the SFPD would not impair its mission to protect the lives and property of San Franciscans. By redeploying more effectively and efficiently, serious crime would be significantly reduced and perpetrators would be in prison.

However, to accomplish this redeployment we are asking for your help in not only signing the signatures page of the Law Enforcement Redevelopment Petition but circulating the signatures page for additional names. We want to be able to gather tens of thousands of signatures from all residents of San Francisco from all the City neighborhoods.

Once signatures are gathered, we will present them in a formal ceremony to Mayor Newsom, Board of Supervisors, Chief of Police, District Attorney, police commission and the head of the Police Officers Association.

All of us together can create a major impact on the policies carried out by the SFPD by literally showing City leaders that tens of thousands of San Franciscans are serious about stopping felony crime, and want policies enacted that will accomplish this—immediately.

Summary of Ballot Recommendations

Libertarian Party of San Francisco Endorsements

House of Representatives, District 8..... **Philip Z. Berg**
 Board of Supervisors, District 8..... **Starchild**

Libertarian Party of San Francisco Recommendations

Measure A, School Bond and Tax Rate Statement..... **NO**
Measure B, Allowing Members of Boards and Commissions to Participate in Meetings by Teleconference due to Pregnancy and Related Conditions; Adoption of Parental Leave Policies..... **NO**
Measure C, Setting Salaries of Certain Local Elected Officials. **NO**
Measure D, Disclosure of Private Information..... *no recommendation*
Measure E, Parking Tax Ordinance..... **NO**
Measure F, Paid Sick Leave Ordinance..... **NO**
Measure G, Limitations on Formula Retail Stores..... **NO**
Measure H, Relocation Assistance for No Fault Tenant Removal..... **NO**
Measure I, Adopting a Policy that the Mayor Appear Monthly at a Board of Supervisors Meeting..... *no recommendation*
Measure J, Adopting a Policy Calling for the Impeachment of President Bush and Vice President Cheney..... *no recommendation*

Libertarian Party of San Francisco Membership/Donation/Volunteer Form

___ **I wish to become a member of the Libertarian Party of California.** I understand that I will be joining the local and state levels of the LP, for one of the annual membership rates or the lifetime rate indicated below, and I will receive the *Golden Gate Libertarian* (local newsletter) and *California Freedom* (state newspaper). I choose the following membership category:

New Member (\$25) Renewal (\$50) Sustaining (\$100) Sponsor (\$250) Patron (\$500) Life Member (\$2,000)

(Note: Joining the LP does not automatically make your voter registration Libertarian. Contact the San Francisco Elections Department at (415) 554-4411 to request a voter registration form, or register online at www.ss.ca.gov/elections.)

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To publicly affirm what we believe—and to ensure that our party never strays from its principles—we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:

I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

Signature (required for voting membership): _____

___ **I wish to make a separate donation of \$** _____ **to the Libertarian Party of San Francisco.** (Membership dues are split between the state and local organizations.) Non-members who donate at least \$15 will receive the *Golden Gate Libertarian* for a year.

___ **I wish to volunteer to help with** _____

(We're looking for artists, candidates, organizers, programmers, researchers, speakers, writers, and more, but what you do is up to you!)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone(s): _____ E-mail: _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____ Thanks for your help in making our world a better place to live in!

Please make your check payable to the Libertarian Party and mail it with this form to:

2215-R Market Street, PMB 170, San Francisco, CA 94114

Government-Mandated Notices: The Federal Election Commission requires political committees to report the name, address, occupation, and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate more than \$200 in a calendar year. The IRS requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fundraising appeals.

Measure K, Adopting a Policy Relating to the Housing Needs Of Seniors and Disabled Adults..... **NO**
 Board of Supervisors, District 4..... **Ed Jew**
 Board of Education..... **Boots Whitmer**
 Community College Board..... **John Knadler**

Libertarian Party of California Endorsements

Governor..... **Art Olivier**
 Lieutenant Governor..... **Lynnette Shaw**
 Secretary of State..... **Gail Lightfoot**
 Controller..... **Donna Tello**
 Treasurer..... **Marian Smithson**
 Attorney General..... **Kenneth Weissman**
 Insurance Commissioner..... **Dale Ogden**
 U.S. Senator..... **Michael Metti**

Libertarian Party of California Recommendations

Proposition 1A, Transportation Funding Protection..... **YES**
Proposition 1B, Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006..... **NO**
Proposition 1C, Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006..... **NO**
Proposition 1D, Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006..... **NO**
Proposition 1E, Disaster Preparedness and Flood Prevention Bond Act of 2006..... **NO**
Proposition 83, Sex Offenders. Sexually Violent Predators. Punishment, Residence Restrictions and Monitoring. Initiative Statute..... **NO**
Proposition 84, Water Quality, Safety and Supply. Flood Control. Natural Resource Protection. Park Improvements. Bonds. Initiative Statute..... **NO**
Proposition 85, Waiting Period and Parental Notification Before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy. Initiative Constitutional Amendment..... *no recommendation*
Proposition 86, Tax on Cigarettes. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute..... **NO**

Proposition 87, Alternative Energy. Research, Production, Incentives. Tax on California Oil Producers. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute..... **NO**

Proposition 88, Education Funding. Real Property Parcel Tax. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute..... **NO**

Proposition 89, Political Campaigns. Public Financing. Corporate Tax Increase. Campaign Contribution and Expenditure Limits. Initiative Statute..... **NO**

Proposition 90, Government Acquisition, Regulation of Private Property. Initiative Constitutional Amendment..... **YES**

Regular LPSF Meeting..... November 11

Regular LPSF Meeting..... December 9

LPSF Annual Meeting. We will be electing our Party officers for the coming year..... January 13

Libertarian Party of San Francisco 2215-R Market St. #170 San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 775-LPSF www.lpsf.org / outreach@lpsf.org		
Chair	Justin Sampson	chair@lpsf.org
Vice-Chair	Marcy Berry	vice-chair@lpsf.org
Treasurer	Michael Acree	treasurer@lpsf.org
Secretary	Chris Maden	secretary@lpsf.org
Golden Gate Libertarian		
Editor	Justin Sampson	newsletter@lpsf.org

Calendar

Regular LPSF meetings are held the second Saturday of every month, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Cybelle's Front Room on 9th Ave. at Judah St. The third hour, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., is a free pizza social.

Also be sure to catch our TV show, "The Libertarian Revolution," on Comcast cable channel 29 every Wednesday at 9:00 p.m.

Golden Gate Libertarian

Vote November 7!

Philip Z. Berg for Congress,
8th Congressional District

Starchild for Supervisor,
8th Supervisorial District

Vote **NO** on A, B, C, E, F, G, H, and K



See inside for additional ballot recommendations and information on our current activities and upcoming meetings.