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# **Libertarian Party of California 2003 Convention of Delegates**

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**Saturday - Monday, February 15-17, 2003  
Ontario Airport Marriott, 2200 East Holt Blvd, Ontario, CA 91761**

**OFFICERS:**

**Aaron Starr, CPA  
Rodney Austin  
Mark Selzer  
Donna Nowland  
Lori Adasiewicz, Esq.**

**Chair  
Northern Vice-Chair  
Southern Vice-Chair  
Secretary  
Treasurer/Acting Secretary**

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Keynote Speaker: Geoff Neale, National LP Chair, *Winning the Hearts and Minds of America*

Communications Workshop, Larry Pinci, *The Power of Influence*

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Program Committee meeting

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## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2003

### 1. Call convention to order

Aaron Starr called the convention to order at 8:00 am. Mr. Starr introduced the officers of the party, and announced that Lori Adasiewicz would be acting secretary in place of Donna Nowland.

### 2. Credentials Report - Preliminary

The credentials report was tabled until there was an official count.

### 3. Agenda Review (suspension of rules for non-traditional agenda)

Aaron announced that we are NOT doing a non-traditional agenda, but would like to suspend the rules to address another issue. Mr. Starr introduced Bob Weber as the official parliamentarian for the convention. Starr requested that the convention suspend the rules to modify a convention rule that states that when you have a main motion, you must have 10 people second that motion. When someone does an amendment or substitution, it does not require 10 seconds, and thus someone can hijack a motion without proper support from the floor. Mr. Starr solicited a motion that the rule for main motions is extended to amendments and substitute motions. Ted Brown so moved, and the motion was seconded. The motion to suspend the rules passed, and the motion was put to debate. Vote on the matter was deferred until an official credentials report was available.

Ted Brown raised concerns about the elections beginning split between two days, and wanted to move to suspend the rules to have elections on Monday. Aaron suggested that instead we just move through the agenda, and maintain the traditional order of business.

Gary moved that we add 30 minutes to the Platform committee report. The motion was seconded. Bob Weber stated that 2/3 was needed for the vote to pass. Since the agenda had not been adopted, Aaron Starr instead announced that he was going to make a ruling that the motion only needed a majority, and not 2/3. Motion failed. **Agenda was adopted unchanged.**

### 4. Officers and Staff Reports

#### a. Chair - Aaron Starr

Elected 29 people to office in 2002. The previous year, the LPC elected 8 people. Operation Breakthrough has resulted in 52 people elected to office.

Financially, the LPC was \$15,000 in the red when Aaron took office, and today the LPC is in the black by \$14,000. Financial outlook also appears to be improving.

A big challenge has been falling membership. The LPC has relied on the National Party to grow the party and overcome attrition, and we are down to 4300 contributors and 3900 members. The party is going to have to focus on growing membership ourselves, and hopefully National will be able to turn around their finances, but we need to move forward as if we are

on our own. Pledge program brings in \$30 for every new member, which should help to fund membership acquisition activities. Dues split: \$25 membership fee goes to National; \$12 is returned to the state, but from that \$12, \$7.20 goes to region. State is left with \$4.80 which is not enough to cover the newsletter. This is effectively a 60% tax on revenues, so we will never bring in enough from membership dues to make ends meet. Starr would like to create a membership fund where the regions and the state can share the cost of new members. Also, change the incentives for membership growth.

Telephone call from Shawn Steele about recalling Gray Davis. Potential LPC endorsement of the recall effort. Mr. Steele requested 5 minutes to address our convention regarding passing the resolution, and permitted a representative from our party to address their convention. The convention will hear from him at 10:00 am. Lori Adasiewicz was selected to address the Republican convention in Sacramento, and she accepted the opportunity.

#### **b. Northern Vice Chair – Rodney K. Austin**

Rodney reported that the year has been good, bad and ugly. Starting with the ugly, there were a couple unfortunate situations in northern counties. In Yolo, the chair pro-tem that Rodney appointed was arrested for attempted murder of the former mayor of Woodland, and is currently awaiting trial and is no longer a member. Katherine Harding stepped up to be the new chair pro-tem. In Shasta, a situation went to the Judicial committee. The chair of two regions turned Republican. Some counties were declared inactive: Solano, Yolo, Inyo, El Dorado and Marin. Chair pro-tems have been appointed for all but Marin, though Region 1 was planning to help re-activate Marin.

Operation Energy Tax Revolt was given a solid effort in Santa Clara county, but did not get signatures to put in on ballot. Mark Dieroff in Monterey County also gave it a tremendous effort in Salinas. Ray Strong and Mark Dieroff deserve special recognition and a round of applause.

A couple candidates in NorCal, Mike Denny got 7%, Maad Abu- Ghazalah got 8% in contested elections. David Eadon (D) received \$147,000 from prison guard lobby in their attempt to get libertarian votes away from Republican candidate, but effort did not succeed.

Special Commendations: Thanks to Fred Mangels for setting up websites across Northern California, and a few in Southern California, so that regions have web presence. Dolores Comstock helped with brochure templates for Libertarian partisan candidates, thank you to Kristi Stone. Dennis Umphries of Santa Clara set up a Yahoo list for NorCal activists. Thanks to Joe Dehn for all his help, advice and counsel.

#### **c. Southern Vice Chair - Mark Selzer**

Mark has been dedicated to the Libertarian Alternative, a television show which presents a positive, professional, civilized image of Libertarians. Going on in more and more counties, resulting in new attendees to supper clubs. Mark visits regions to help them get the show on public access stations across the state. Other organizations have been using public access very

effectively.

Mark also continued to organize for various events, like the Doo-Dah Parade. It was a lot of fun. Mark visits regions as often as possible:

Help keep a Libertarian on KRLA radio, Sunday night at 6:00 pm, on the June Cain Miller show. Call in around 6:15 -6:30 pm, to 1-866-870-5752 to comment on issues from a libertarian perspective.

Mailing and contact with members, like supper club events, are tremendously important for inspiring and retaining membership.

### **Item 2: Credentials Report - Preliminary was taken off table.**

Steve Cicero gave a report. Total is 84 people checked in. The LPC did not receive advance notification of thirty individuals who appeared at the convention to serve as delegates: Al Segall and Karen Segall of Gold Country Libertarians (Region 03); Gary Copeland and Anthony Turley (Region 30); Gene Trosper (Region 33); Dave Hollist, Julie John and Steve John (Region 36); Barton Barry, Amarcy Barry, Starchild, Rafael Mahler, (Region 38); BJ Wagener (Region 42); Dwight Bailey and Vince Carlton (Region 45); Susan Aquino and Eric Rawley (Region 56); Kathy Harding (Region 57); David Sacks, Monica Kadera, Ann Heitzack, David Bowers and Rose Weber (Region 61); Eric Fine, Sandra Callendar, Bob Weber (Region 62); Kim Goldsworthy (Region 63); Michael Everling (Region 64); Jose Casteneda (Region 65); Phillip Heath (Region 66). All are paid up in dues, and are in good standing.

Joe Dehn offered a procedural point that this election must be voted on only by the credentialed individuals. Aaron Starr wanted to seek objections, rather than to take a vote, then determine whether we need to have a number of credentialed delegates. David Nolan (Region 30) objected to seating Gary Copeland (Region 30), and the objection was seconded. Aaron sought objections to all other persons named, no objections were raised, so all were seated except Gary Copeland. Official delegate count was 87. Debate was had on the issue. Vote was had on whether to seat Gary Copeland. Vote tallied at 63-24, and Gary Copeland was seated.

### **Item 3: Motion to Suspend Rules was taken off table.**

Ted Brown's motion to extend Rule 9 to amendments and substitute motions was removed from table. Bob Weber read Rule 9 of Roberts Rules of Order. Tabled until Bylaws Committee report.

### **Special Appearance by Shawn Steele, Esq., Chair of the Republican Party.**

Mr. Steele spoke about the real enemies of freedom, an exchange of representatives to address the California GOP ExCom, Hiram Johnson's contributions to California politics: initiative, referendum, and recall. Make politicians honest by getting them out of power. Three reasons to recall Gray Davis: (1) Corruption of arrogance; (2) corruption of power; (3) corruption of money. Must be a multi-partisan effort. Motion by Scott Lieberman to suspend the rules for the purpose of introducing a motion to adopt a resolution to endorse the recall effort. Rules were suspended.

**RESOLUTION:** Whereas Governor Gray Davis has abused his power as governor of California by awarding millions of dollars in political pork to his campaign contributors; and whereas Governor Gray Davis has turned a multi-billion dollar surplus into a multi-billion dollar deficit; THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Libertarian Party of California strongly endorses the effort to recall Governor Gray Davis.

The motion was seconded. Debate was had. **Motion passed.**

**d. Secretary - Donna Nowland**

No report.

**e. Treasurer - Lori Adasiewicz**

Lori reported that 2002 was a difficult year for the LPC. We started the year with a \$6,000 deficit, but with sufficient pledges to meet our ongoing obligations. Thank you to the monthly pledgers who helped sustained the party and brought us back into the black.

Operation Breakthrough diverged staff time from other functions, and fund raising was somewhat neglected May through October, so revenues were slow. Linda Kay left our employment in June. David Moloney left employment in early October, which eased the financial burdens. Aaron Starr has volunteered his time as executive director, and Aubri Webb has been working for the LPC 30+ hours per week.

Financial risks this year was Operation Breakthrough. Found \$9,000 in dedicated funds for OB, which was clearly insufficient. Aaron augmented these funds with loans to pull off OB, and get 29 libertarians elected.

Drop in membership results in lower revenues from dues, and also pledges. Revenues did not meet expectations, so expenditures were adjusted to compensate. Despite drop in membership, the LPC shows a trend to increasing revenue from pledges. Expenditures are going more and more toward campaigns and elections, and actual programs that will bring us closer to liberty. Largest portion of expenses is administration (the base of our operations), the next largest is regional dues sharing, fund raising costs, then campaigns & elections and membership communications. Trend is more money going to the right programs, and less to administration. We are at a stage where we are too small to afford a staff, but too large to rely on volunteer help exclusively.

Budget passed for 2003, projecting amounts very conservatively. Took November 2002 membership numbers and projected using zero growth and zero attrition to based membership dues and pledges on that number. Personal solicitation is higher due to election year, and more time available for fund raising efforts by the chair. No drastic changes to expenditures. Compensation has been reduced, since we are currently without an executive director. Revenues from membership growth activities will increasingly fund compensation for paid staff (infrastructure) and more membership growth programs.

Richard Venable moved to suspend the rules to consider a motion to withdraw from UMP, which would have a positive impact on LPC revenues. Failed, and the rules were not suspended.

## **5. Consent Calendar**

No items were submitted for consideration on the consent calendar.

## **6. Working Committees - Judicial Committee**

This item should have been on the agenda. Bob Weber made a report for the Judicial Committee, who heard a complaint from Shasta County. Vincent Carlton and Dwight Bailey presented a complaint that they were improperly suspended by Region 45, that a proper election of officers was not held. The Judicial Committee ruled that regions do not have the authority to suspend membership, and thus the memberships of Mr. Carlton and Mr. Bailey remain in full effect. Regions can request the Executive Committee suspend membership. The Judicial Committee also found that no valid election was held, and that the Executive Committee should declare the region inactive, and assume responsibility for giving proper notice and having a valid election.

Question from the floor regarding Judicial Committee archives. Responsibility falls on LPC secretary to archive such documents.

## **7. Credentials Committee Report**

Before a vote on any matter, an official credentials committee report will be given.

## **8. Bylaws Committee Report**

Daniel Wiener gave a report. Mr. Wiener provided the convention with a bound copy of the Bylaws and Platform, and a four-page Bylaws Committee report. Committee consisted of Daniel Wiener, Joe Dehn, Mark Hinkle, JR Nobody and Bob Weber. Extensive debate was had before the meeting, and the committee met on February 15, 2003. The report will reported with less controversial items first, including "no debate" items.

- a. Motion to adopt proposed change to Rule 21, a "no debate" item, as follows:

**RULE 21: STYLE COMMITTEE:** The Chair shall appoint a Style Committee of no more than five delegates which shall propose stylistic changes to the Platform, the Program, and the Bylaws and Convention Rules. The proposed changes shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for ratification.

**Motion passed on voice vote.**

**Credentials Committee Report:** Two more individuals needed to be seated, both are members in standing. No objection was made to seating the two delegates. **112 delegates** and 2 alternates currently registered. Majority will be 57 votes, and 2/3 is 75 votes, presuming all delegates are

voting.

- b. Motion to adopt proposed change to Bylaw 4, Section 6, a “no debate” item.

**Bylaw 4, Section 6.** All references in the Bylaws or Convention Rules to “mail” or “written notification” or similar terms shall be considered to include email or fax communications.

A motion was made to suspend the rules and make this a debatable item. The motion failed. A vote was had, and the **Motion passed on voice vote.**

- c. Motion to adopt proposed change to Bylaw 9, Section 2, a “no debate” item.

**Bylaw 9, Section 2.** The Executive Committee may, without meeting together, transact business by mail by voting on questions submitted by the Secretary at the request of at least five members of the committee or by the Chair. ~~For the purposes of this section mail refers to U.S.P.S. mail, electronic mail, facsimile mail, or other commonly known term that refers to “mail”.~~ Seven (7) days from the marked date of the mail ballot shall be allowed for the return of votes thereon by mail to the Party Secretary. Members may change their vote up to the close of the voting period. If, at the expiration of the applicable period, a quorum of the Executive Committee has not voted the measure being voted upon shall be deemed to have failed. The Secretary must preserve all such votes until the next meeting of the Executive Committee at which meeting the Executive Committee shall order the disposition of such votes.

**Motion passed on voice vote.**

- d. Motion to adopt proposed change to Bylaw 9, Section 2, a debatable item.

**Bylaw 9, Section 2.** The Executive Committee may, without meeting together, transact business by mail by voting on questions submitted by the Secretary at the request of at least five members of the committee or by the Chair. ~~Seven days from the marked date of the mail ballot shall be allowed for the return of votes thereon by mail to the Party Secretary.~~ Voting will be completed any time after 48 hours from the transmission time of the mail ballot if the motion has received Yea votes from 2/3 of the members of the Executive Committee, or if the motion has received Nay votes from 2/3 of the members of the Executive Committee, or after 120 hours in all other cases. An alternate's vote will not be counted towards the 2/3 requirement unless it is definitely known that the corresponding voting member will not be participating. Members may change their vote up to the close of the voting period. If, at the expiration of the applicable period, a quorum of the Executive Committee has not voted the measure being voted upon shall be deemed to have failed. The Secretary must preserve all such votes until the next meeting of the Executive Committee at which meeting the Executive Committee shall order the disposition of such votes.

Debate was heard, a vote was taken. John Scott Ballard moved to amend to strike the last sentence regarding alternate’s votes, “An alternate's vote will not be counted towards the 2/3 requirement unless it is definitely known that the corresponding voting member will not be



participating.” This motion was seconded, and debate was heard. **Motion to amend failed on voice vote**, and a vote was taken on the original motion. **Motion passed on voice vote.**

- e. Motion to adopt proposed change to Bylaw 8, Section 4, a “no debate” item, as follows:

**Bylaw 8, Section 4.** ~~All disbursements shall be made solely by check.~~ No disbursements of \$100 or more shall be made with cash. No disbursements shall be made without supporting documentation.

**Motion passed on voice vote.**

- f. Motion to adopt proposed change to Bylaw 3, Section 6, a debatable item, as follows:

**Bylaw 3, Section 6.** 40% of dues revenues shall be retained by the state party. ~~Dues shall be disbursed monthly to the active regions.~~ Dues shall be distributed to any active region upon request, or whenever the total amount owed to the region exceeds \$50. Contributions shall be used for their designated purposes or, if not designated, as decided by the state Executive Committee or county organization which receives the contribution. Dues shall not be used for financing individual campaigns.

Debate was heard. **Motion passed on voice vote.**

- e. Motion to adopt a further proposed change to Bylaw 3, Section 6, a debatable item, as follows:

**Bylaw 3, Section 6.** 40% of dues revenues shall be retained by the state party. Each region shall receive the portion of the 60% attributable to the people in that region. However, if the Party participates in a joint membership arrangement which allows for a portion of initial dues to be retained, that portion shall be retained by the Libertarian Party state or regional organization which recruited the new member. Dues shall be distributed to any active region upon request, or whenever the total amount owed to the region exceeds \$50. Contributions shall be used for their designated purposes or, if not designated, as decided by the state Executive Committee or county organization which receives the contribution. Dues shall not be used for financing individual campaigns.

Discussion was had.

**MOTION TO SUSPEND CONVENTION RULES:** Ed Moss interrupted discussion to make a motion to suspend the rules to consider a motion to appeal the ruling of the chair to exclude C-SPAN from the convention floor. This motion was clarified to be a motion to allow Gary Nolan to address the convention for 20 minutes at 2:00 pm, which will be taped by C-SPAN. The motion to suspend the rules passed. The motion was debated, and a vote was taken. **Motion passed.**

Convention returned to debate the motion.

[Recessed at 12:01 (Lunch and Keynote Speaker, Professor Karl Manheim, *Combating Terrorism*

*and the Impact on Civil Liberties)]*

MOTION TO SUSPEND CONVENTION RULES: Ted Brown made a motion to suspend the rules to return from the recess after Gary Nolan's address to go directly to election of officers and return to the bylaws after the elections. Seconded. Motion to suspend the rules failed.

Debate returned to the motion regarding state retention of portion of dues to which its entitled through joint membership acquisition arrangements. **Motion passed on voice vote.**

- f. Motion to adopt proposed change to Convention Rule 9, Debate Procedure, as follows:

**Rule 9: DEBATE PROCEDURE.** For each main motion, the maker shall have two minutes immediately following to speak to the motion. For amendments to proposed changes to the bylaws, convention rules, platform, program, or to resolutions, the maker shall have 30 seconds to speak to the amendment. The Chair shall then request a standing second to the motion or amendment. If fewer than 10% of the delegates stand, the motion or amendment shall die for lack of a second.

Debate was heard, a vote was taken. **Motion passed on voice vote.**

- g. Motion to adopt proposed change to Bylaw 15, Section 3, a debatable item, as follows:

**Bylaw 15, Section 3.** Every county shall be entitled to send delegates to the convention according to the following criteria:

A. Each county central committee shall have one delegate for each .5% or fraction thereof of the total number of all members of all county central committees. These delegates shall be selected by counties in such manner as the county organizations may provide.

B. In addition to the foregoing, each holder of an elective public office who is registered to vote as a Libertarian, each chair of a county central committee or a person appointed by the chair of that County Central Committee who is otherwise qualified as a delegate under Rule 3, and each member of the Party Executive Committee, at the time the convention is held, shall be a delegate from his or her respective county. Central committee membership shall not be considered to be holding of public office.

C. In addition to the foregoing, any Party member may become a delegate to the state convention by obtaining the signatures of ten Party members, each of whom has been a member of the Party for at least one year. Signatures shall be submitted to the Party Secretary at least 2 weeks prior to the opening session. No Party member may sign petitions for more than 5 delegates.

€D. No person shall be a delegate who does not meet such requirements as may be stated in the Convention Rules.

David Nolan offered a motion to amend to replace "5" with "1" referring to the number of petitions a member can sign in paragraph 9(c), to prevent an organized cabal from infiltrating party business with less support than what elected delegates are required to have. Motion was seconded, and the **motion to amend passed 45-34.**

The amended motion was put to a vote, and the **motion failed 27-54**.

- h. Motion to adopt a new Bylaws section, which would be numbered Bylaw 4, Section 7, a debatable item, as follows:
- a. Conflict of Interest: The purpose of this Section is to avoid a situation in which an Executive Committee member has a direct, substantial personal financial stake in a decision or action by the Party, such that their financial gain could cause that person to act or vote in a manner contrary to the best interests of the Party.
  - b. A “direct, substantial personal financial stake” is one in which the net monetary benefit to the person would exceed \$500. Reimbursements for approved expenses or repayments of loans are excluded from this definition. Transactions which do not directly inure to the personal financial benefit of an Executive Committee member are excluded from this definition.
  - c. Executive Committee members shall abstain from any action, and recuse themselves from any vote, which would constitute a conflict of interest. Taking an action which falls within the definition of a conflict of interest shall be considered a breach of that person’s fiduciary responsibility, for which that person may be held personally liable. Votes that fall within the definition of a conflict of interest shall not be considered valid.
  - d. If an Executive Committee member is unsure as to whether they have conflict of interest, that person may request a vote of the Executive Committee (if time permits) or of the Operations Committee to resolve the question. Similarly, any Executive Committee member who questions whether another member has a conflict of interest may request a vote of the Executive Committee (if time permits) or of the Operations Committee to resolve the question. The person about whom the question has been raised shall not vote on the matter.
  - e. A vote by the Operations Committee as per paragraph (d) above may be overridden by the Executive Committee. A vote by either the Executive Committee or Operations Committee as per paragraph (d) above may be appealed to the Judicial Committee, but the result of the vote shall remain in effect until and unless overturned by the Judicial Committee.

Motion was made to amend the motion to insert the words “or loss” in paragraph (a), such that it would read as follows: The purpose of this Section is to avoid a situation in which an Executive Committee member has a direct, substantial personal financial stake in a decision or action by the Party, such that their financial gain or loss could cause that person to act or vote in a manner contrary to the best interests of the Party. Ten percent stood to second, no debate was offered, and a vote was taken, and the **motion to amend passed 51-22**.

Starchild proposed an amendment of paragraph (d) as follows:

If an Executive Committee member is unsure as to whether they have conflict of interest, that person may request a vote of the Executive Committee if time permits, or if time does not permit, of the Operations Committee to resolve the question. Similarly, any Executive Committee member who questions whether another member has a conflict of interest may request a vote of the Executive Committee if time permits, or if time does

not permit, of the Operations Committee to resolve the question. The person about whom the question has been raised shall not vote on the matter.

Out of time on the bylaws committee report before the main motion was not put to a vote.

*[Convention recessed to allow Gary Nolan, libertarian presidential candidate, to address the convention, which was taped by C-SPAN for later broadcast. See, Audio Tape 3, side B.]*

*[The following portion of the Bylaws Committee report occurred out of sequence while ballots were counted on the election of at-large representatives to the Executive Committee. It is reported here for ease of review.]*

Debate resumed on the motion to adopt new Bylaw 4, Section 7 regarding conflicts of interest. The amended motion was put to a voice vote, and the **motion failed.**]

*[The following portion of the Bylaws Committee report occurred out of sequence on Monday morning during the Judicial Committee election. It is reported here for ease of review.]*

- i. Motion to adopt a proposed changes to Bylaw 4, Sections 2, 3, 4 and 5, as follows:

**Bylaw 4, Section 2.** *Add at the end of the bylaw, “No one shall be eligible to serve [as an LPC officer] who has not been a county central committee member for at least 2 years.”*

**Bylaw 4, Section 3.** *Add at the end of the bylaw, “No one shall be eligible to serve [on the LPC Executive Committee] who has not been a county central committee member for at least 1 year.”*

**Bylaw 4, Section 4.** *Add at the end of the bylaw, “No one shall be eligible to serve [on the LPC Operations Committee] who has not been a county central committee member for at least 1 year.”*

**Bylaw 4, Section 5.** *Insert the following as the second sentence of the bylaw, “No one shall be eligible to serve [on the LPC Judicial Committee] who has not been a county central committee member for at least 5 years.”*

Debate was heard. David Bowers offered a motion to amend to strike the word “county” in each instance of “county central committee”. Standing ten percent seconded. A voice vote was held, and then by raised hands, and then by standing, the motion to amend failed. Aaron Starr moved to close debate, motion was seconded and the motion passed. The motion was put to a voice vote, and the **motion failed.**

- j. Motion to adopt proposed change to Bylaw 6, Section 3, a debatable item, as follows:

**Bylaw 6, Section 3.** A county is deemed as having selected its officers, Executive Committee representatives and convention delegates only if an election notice has been mailed to the members at least 30 days but no more than 60 days in advance of the election.

The election notice must also be sent to and received by the Party Secretary at least 30 days in advance of the election. Such notice shall specify the reason for the meeting and a time and place reasonably accessible to its membership. An election must be held every year. The results of the election must be reported to the Party Secretary within 15 days after the election. Any member of that county may challenge the legality of an election by bringing the issue before the Judicial Committee. The Executive Committee may declare a county inactive if it fails to hold elections in accordance with this section.

Debate was heard on the motion. Paul Studier moved to strike “and received by”. Standing ten percent seconded. Debate was heard. Someone made a motion to amend by inserting the word “State” before “Party Secretary”. This motion failed for lack of a second. A vote was taken on the original motion to amend by striking “and received by”. The **motion to amend failed 30-34**. Debate was closed. A vote was taken on the original motion, and the **motion passed 58-12**.

- k. Motion to adopt proposed amendment to Bylaw 4, Section 3, as follows:

**Bylaw 4, Section 3.** ... The Executive Committee of the Party shall be composed of the following members of the county central committees:

A. The five elected officers of the Party;

B. One representative from each of the five largest counties, as determined for representation at the most recently held convention; but if a county fails to have a representative in attendance at two successive meetings, or if the county declines to be represented, the position on the committee shall, through the next convention, pass to the next largest county not already having a county representative;

~~C. Five representatives and two alternates elected at large to represent all of the other regions in the state except the five largest regions. These representatives and alternates shall be elected for a one-year term. There will be free substitution of alternates in ranked order at an Executive Committee meeting.~~

C. Ten representatives elected at large to staggered two year terms. Five of the representatives will be elected at the 2003 convention, and five representatives will be elected at each subsequent convention. Section B will continue in effect until the 2004 convention, after which Section B will be deleted. Starting with the 2003 convention, representatives will also be separately elected to complete the terms of any vacant at large positions.

D. Three alternates elected at large to one year terms. There will be free substitution of alternates in ranked order at an Executive Committee meeting.

Daniel Wiener explained that this proposed amendment would eliminate regional representatives and have ten at-large members of the Executive Committee, serving two-year staggered terms. This would allow the party to select the most qualified individuals without regard to geography and for institutional memory by having two-year staggered terms.

Motioned to replace “2003” with “2004”, and “2004” with “2005.” No debate was offered, so the motion was put to a voice vote and **passed**.

Rodney Austin moved to amend as follows: “C. Ten representatives and two alternates elected at large to represent the state membership. These representatives and alternates shall be elected for a one-year term. There will be free substitution of alternates in ranked order at an Executive Committee meeting.” and to strike paragraph B. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion to add section E, which would state, “All elections would be held by proportional representation.” Failed for lack of a second.

The **motion failed** at vote by a raise of hands.]

## **9. Officer Elections**

### **a. Chair**

Nominations for candidates for the office of LPC Chair were requested from the floor. Mark Hinkle nominated Aaron Starr, and gave a speech in support of his election. Mark Selzer seconded the nomination, and gave a speech in support of Aaron Starr. Ed Moss nominated John Scott Ballard. The nomination was seconded by an unidentified delegate. Aaron Starr accepted the nomination and gave a speech in support of his candidacy for the position. John Scott Ballard spoke about his reasons for running, and stepped down from the election and requested that the convention support Aaron Starr. No other nominations were offered. John Scott Ballard moved to suspend the rules to elect Aaron Starr by acclamation, the motion was seconded. Scott Lieberman made an alternate motion, at the suggestion of the parliamentarian, to suspend the rules to elect Aaron Starr by voice vote. Bob Weber read the rule on voting procedures for secret ballots. Voice vote was taken to suspend the rules, and the suspension passed. **Aaron Starr was elected by voice vote.**

### **b. Northern Vice Chair**

Nominations for candidates for the office of LPC Northern Vice Chair were requested from the floor. Mark Dieroff (R-27) nominated Lawrence Samuels, and made a speech in support. Mark Hinkle (R-43) seconded the motion, and made a speech in support. No other nominations were offered. Daniel Wiener made a motion to suspend the rules to elect Lawrence Samuels by voice vote, seconded. Lawrence made a speech requesting the vote of the convention. **Lawrence Samuels was elected by voice vote.**

### **c. Southern Vice Chair**

Nominations for candidates for the office of LPC Southern Vice Chair were requested from the floor. Doug Scribner nominated Mark Selzer, and made a speech in support. Shree Rajan (R-30) seconded the motion, and made a speech in support. Bob Weber nominated Eric Fine, and made a speech in support. John Scott Ballard (R-36) seconded the motion, and made a speech in support. No other nominations were offered. The candidates were each allowed five minutes to address the convention. A vote was made by secret ballot using IRV, and Mark Selzer won the election, with the following vote totals: 2 NOTA, 17 Eric Fine, 50 Mark Selzer.

#### **d. Secretary**

Nominations for candidates for the office of LPC Secretary were requested from the floor. Bruce Dovner nominated Lori Adasiewicz, and made a speech in support. Mark Selzer seconded to the nomination, and make a speech in support. No other nominations were offered. Lori accepted the nomination and made a speech requesting the vote of the convention.

MOTION TO SUSPEND CONVENTION RULES: Ted Brown moved to suspend the convention rules to elect Lori Adasiewicz, and conduct future elections where there is only one candidate, by voice vote. Motion passed by voice vote.

**Lori Adasiewicz was elected by voice vote.**

#### **e. Treasurer**

Nominations for candidates for the office of LPC Treasurer were requested from the floor. Aaron Starr nominated Monica Kadera, and made a speech in support. Mark Selzer seconded the motion, and spoke in support. Monica Kadera accepted the nomination and made a speech requesting the vote of the convention. No other nominations were offered. **Monica Kadera was elected to serve as LPC Treasurer by voice vote.**

MOTION TO SUSPEND CONVENTION RULES: Daniel Wiener moved to suspend the rules to return to Bylaws while they are counting ballots for At-Large regional representatives to the Executive Committee. Substitute motion was offered by Mark Murphy to return to the bylaws for the remainder of the session, and maintain the election of at-large representatives remain on schedule for Monday morning. A vote was taken on Mark Murphy's substitute motion, which failed on voice vote. A vote was then taken on Daniel Wiener's original motion, which passed on voice vote.

MOTION TO SUSPEND CONVENTION RULES: John Scott Ballard moved to suspend the rules to consider a resolution recognizing Region 13's elections and giving a letter recognizing JR Graham as the Chair of Region 13. The motion was seconded. Motion to suspend failed on voice vote.

### **10. Committee Elections**

#### **a. At-Large Regional Representatives**

Nominating speeches were accepted from the floor, and each candidate had an opportunity to address the convention. San Diego, Orange, Santa Clara, Los Angeles/San Fernando County and East Bay Region are the five current largest counties, and thus delegates from those regions are ineligible to participate in this election.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: John Scott Ballard moved to suspend the rules to consider a motion that the candidates that come in at sixth and seventh place be automatically elected as at-large alternates. Motion was seconded. The motion to suspend passed by voice vote. Debate was heard. A substitute motion was offered that delegates vote for seven (7), and the sixth and seventh

are elected as alternates. The substitute motion was seconded, and failed by voice vote. Debate on the original motion was closed, and the matter was put to a voice vote and failed.

The election on at-large regional representatives was conducted, and the result was as follows:

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Vote Total</u>
<b>Ted Brown</b>	60
<b>Daniel Wiener</b>	53
<b>M Carling</b>	48
<b>John Scott Ballard</b>	47
<b>Bruce Dovner</b>	46
Bruce Cohen	29
Eric Fine	27
Rick Nichol	25
Gene Trosper (as a write-in candidate)	9

[While ballots were counted, Daniel Wiener continued his presentation of the Bylaws Committee Report. The results of this continued presentation are reported above as part of Item 8: Bylaws Committee report.]

#### **b. At-Large Regional Alternates**

Aaron Starr solicited a motion to suspend the rules to consider a motion to elect the sixth and seventh place candidates as Alternates. The motion to suspend the rules failed. Nominating speeches were accepted from the floor, and the two new candidates had an opportunity to address the convention.

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Vote Total</u>
<b>Rick Nichol</b>	35
<b>Eric Fine</b>	32
Gene Trosper	24
Jason Gonella	8
Bruce Cohen	0*

\*Bruce Cohen respectfully declined the nomination to serve as at-large alternate, as he planned to seek his region's election as regional representative.

MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA (automatic suspension of rules): Daniel Wiener moved to amend the agenda for Monday morning so that the Bylaws Committee report would continue after the Judicial Committee election until 9:15 am, when the Platform Committee is scheduled to present its report. A vote was taken by voice, then raised hands, and the **motion passed**.



[*Recessed at 5:00 pm. Convention reconvened at 8:00 am Monday, February 17, 2003.*]

## **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2003**

**Credentials Committee Report:** 58 delegates, which met quorum requirements.

### **c. Judicial Committee**

Nominating speeches were accepted from the floor, and each candidate had an opportunity to address the convention. A vote was taken, and the ballot resulted as follows:

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Vote Total</u>
<b>Bob Weber</b>	55
<b>Rodney Austin</b>	54
<b>Sandi Webb</b>	52
<b>Ray Strong</b>	43
<b>Kristi Stone</b>	40
Kim Goldsworthy	39
BJ Wagener	12
Gail Lightfoot	0*

\*Gail Lightfoot respectfully declined the nomination.

[*While ballots were counted, Bylaws Committee report continued. The results are reported above as part of Item 8.*]

## **11. Platform Committee Report**

Ted Brown gave a report. Rule 14, Section 3 provides, “The Chair of the Platform Committee shall report the committee’s recommendations to the floor, plank by plank, and each recommendation shall be voted upon separately. After all recommendations of the Platform Committee have been considered, if time permits, any delegate may propose a new plank or amendment.”

- a. Motion to adopt the following proposed change to Platform Section V, paragraph 1 on Taxation to read as follows:

“Taxation is government's confiscation of property of its citizens. Because of its non-voluntary nature, cannot be justified, regardless of the purpose for which the proceeds are to be used.”

**Motion passed without dissent on voice vote.**

- b. Motion to adopt the following proposed change to Platform Section V, paragraph 10(H) on Transportation and Mass Transit to read as follows:

“The privatization of Amtrak and Conrail, and the return of America's railroad system to private ownership without government regulation or subsidies, and the end of government regulation of and subsidies to railroads.”

Mark Selzer moved to amend to “the sale of Amtrak to private owners”. Ted Brown ruled the amendment out of order. Mark Hinkle moved to suspend the rules to consider the amendment, failed for lack of a second. **The original motion passed on voice vote.**

MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA OF THE PLATFORM COMMITTEE REPORT: To move the death penalty recommendation to last on the agenda, and consider the committee's recommendation regarding the death penalty after all other recommendations have been considered. Seconded. **Passed on voice vote.**

- c. Motion to adopt the following proposed change to Platform Plank V, paragraph 5 on Welfare to delete paragraph C, which states:

“C. The repeal of the Americans with Disabilities Act.”

The repeal of the ADA is called for under other provisions of the Platform, Plank IV. **Motion passed without dissent on voice vote.**

- d. Motion to adopt the following proposed change to Platform Plank IV, paragraph 16 on Freedom of Religion as follows:

“We defend the rights of individuals to engage or not engage in any religious activities which do not violate the rights of others. In order to defend religious freedoms, we advocate a strict separation of church and state. We oppose government actions which ~~either~~ define, aid or attack any religion or define religious membership. We oppose taxation of church property for the same reason we oppose all taxation.”

Debate was heard. **Motion passed on voice vote.**

- e. Motion to adopt the following proposed change to Platform Plank III, on Implementation as follows:

~~“While recognizing that our society, shaped by government interventions, is complex and resistant to change, Unless otherwise stated, the actions called for in the planks that follow are to be taken as quickly and efficiently as possible without interruption or delay.”~~

Debate was heard. **The motion failed.**

- f. Motion to adopt the following proposed change to Platform Plank IV, paragraph 7 on Judicial as follows:

~~“There are no crimes against society, the State, or the people. There are only crimes against individuals, and these~~ The only crimes are crimes of violence or threat of violence, property loss, and fraud.”

Starchild proposed an amendment in the form of a new first sentence, as follows “Crimes against individuals are not crimes against the State or against society as a whole.” Standing ten percent seconded. Debate was heard on the proposed amendment.

An attempt to make a friendly amendment, “There are no crimes against society, only the people and their state, and these crimes are crimes of violence or threat of violence, property loss, and fraud.” Not accepted as a friendly, and thus withdrawn.

**The first amendment was put to a vote and failed. The original motion then passed on voice vote.** Time expired for this report.

MOTION TO CHANGE THE AGENDA: Susan Marie Weber requested that the convention change the agenda to consider an item on Election Reform on the Platform Committee report. Failed.

## **12. Program Committee Report**

Bruce Dovner presented the report for the Program Committee. Bylaw 15, Section 3 provides, “The Chair of the Program Committee shall report the committee’s recommendations to the floor, plank by plank, and each recommendation shall be voted upon separately. Consideration of the Program shall end once five planks have been adopted. After all recommendations of the Program Committee have been considered, and if less than five have been approved and if time permits, any delegate may propose a new plank or amendment.”

- a. Motion to adopt a Program Plank that reads as follows:

### **QUALITY, ACCESSIBLE, AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE**

To ensure that all citizens can access adequate, affordable health care, we must remove barriers to a free market and encourage competition. The Libertarian Party of California believes that enabling people to become more self-sufficient and secure will make quality, accessible, affordable health care more available to our families, children, and seniors. Therefore, the Libertarian Party of California supports the following measures to make quality, affordable health care accessible to all citizens.

#### **Medical Savings Accounts.**

When people have their own independent health plan, they are more secure and less dependent upon their employers. When people have more control over their own health care and are less dependent on a third party, like their employers, they become empowered to be assertive consumers of health care. This results in more competition that keeps health care affordable and high quality.

- Health insurance premiums and copayments shall be deductible from income.
- Medical Savings Account, to be used for medical purposes, up to 10% of income shall be deductible straight off the top, but without limitation on contributions.
- Educate students to assume personal responsibility for their own health care needs.
- Students in schools received state funds must receive instruction regarding:

- disease prevention, rather than encourage the current, more expensive culture of treatment
- health insurance, including types of health plans; insurance theory and terms; shopping for, purchasing and using health insurance
- medical savings and trust accounts.

**Flood the market with Quality, Accessible, Affordable Health Care**

The Libertarian Party supports the following measures to increase the supply of quality affordable health care by increasing the supply of medical professionals, facilities and medical non-profit and for-profit organizations.

- Medical regulations, licensing standards, which unnecessarily or unreasonably impede the supply of health care shall be amended or repealed.
- Create tax credits, exclusions and above-the-line deductions (without percentage of income limits) for medical education, educational savings accounts, charitable contributions to medical schools, facilities, service providers, medical research and construction of medical facilities.
- Require county governments to audit their provision of health care services to individuals on government aid programs, and request proposals for privatized provision of services on a contract basis.
- Exemptions to zoning provisions shall be granted and permit processes shall be reviewed and streamlined for construction of medical facilities and schools.

**Encourage Competition Among Pharmaceutical Companies for Prescription Medication**

- Amend existing patent laws to omit the ability to renew patents for proprietary drugs.
- Pharmaceuticals developed from state-funded research would be priced to return tax dollars to the citizens.
- Reclaim our Tenth Amendment right to control pharmaceuticals distributed within the state and reduce the function of the Food & Drug Association to a merely advisory capacity, rather than a licensing authority.

**Encourage Alternative Modalities of Health Care**

- Direct the California State Attorney General to Protect and Defend from Federal Prosecution patients who use Medical Marijuana.

Paul Studier moved to strike the entire section on Medical Savings Accounts. Standing ten percent seconded. Debate was heard, and the motion failed on voice vote. Debate returned to the original motion, a vote was had and **failed 38-19**. It had 2/3, but not 54 votes.

- b. Motion to adopt a Program Plank that reads as follows:

**QUALITY EDUCATION**

Our children deserve the best possible education, as they represent our hope for the future. Market competition and parental choice are the only ways to encourage educators to provide the highest quality education for our children. The State of California has historically demonstrated an inability to provide quality education, and has even taken action to harm the personal rights of parents in home-schooling their children. Therefore, the Libertarian Party of California supports the following measures to improve education for the children of California.

### **Public School Competition and Open Enrollment**

When public schools have to compete for your education dollar, they will provide more caring, quality education for our children.

- Parents shall have the choice of public schools, anywhere in the state, for their children.
- Government funding for a child's education shall follow the child.
- Tax money shall be distributed on a per pupil basis. Schools shall bill the student's district of residence for a per pupil fee.
- Expand charter schools. Local school districts shall issue charters to all qualified applicants with no limit to the number of charters issued.
- Contract with private schools to provide quality education.
- Review and streamline education regulations to allow more options and efficiencies.
- Teachers shall have autonomy over the portion of their union dues that is allocated to political activities.

### **Tax Credits and Deductions for Non-Government Education**

- Parents who send their children to non-government schools or who contribute to scholarship funds or educational savings accounts for non-government schooling shall be granted income and property tax credits, and income tax exclusion for the secular portion of the children's course of study at that school.
- All funds expended by parents in home-schooling their children shall be eligible for income tax exclusions.

### **Educational Savings Accounts for Non-Government Education**

- Investments in educational savings accounts for their children's education at a non-government school shall be eligible for income tax exclusion.
- All interest, dividends or capital gains in such account shall be tax-free.
- Funds may be withdrawn tax-free from such account to pay for the secular portion of one's children's or dependent's course of study at a non-government school.

Debate was heard. Ted Brown moved to amend by deleting "Tax money shall be distributed on a per pupil basis. Schools shall bill the student's district of residence for a per pupil fee." Standing ten percent seconded. Debate was heard, and a vote was taken. **The vote on the motion to amend failed on voice vote.**

Rick Nichol made a motion to amend the first bullet to read as follows, "Any individual or organization who sends children to non-government schools or who contribute to scholarship funds or educational savings accounts for non-government schooling shall be granted income and property tax credits, and income tax exclusion for the secular portion of the children's course of study at that school." Standing ten percent seconded. Debate was heard. A vote was had, and **the motion to amend failed. The original motion then failed 50-12, lacking a majority of all delegates.**

POINT OF INQUIRY: How can the convention reasonably conduct business with our current procedures for determining delegate counts? Delegates may have left without checking out, and it makes it unlikely that we will get anything passed. Other delegates may have left the room on purpose in light of existing rules. Ted Brown raised inquiry regarding Convention Rule 5.

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: Aaron Starr reversed a prior ruling regarding the number of votes needed for an item of Program business. The convention can suspend the rules so that a Program plank can be adopted by a 2/3 of those present, but not a majority of registered delegates. This motion would require 2/3 registered delegates to pass. Rodney Austin so moved, and the motion was seconded. An updated credentials report was received from the acting secretary, current delegate count is 104, as two people checked out. **The motion passed 69-14.**

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: Aaron Starr moved to suspend the rules to reconsider the prior item, which had 2/3 of those present, but not a majority of registered delegates. The motion was seconded, and the vote passed.

Motion to reconsider the prior motion to adopt a program plank on Quality Education. Seconded. A vote was had on the original motion. **The motion passed on voice vote.**

MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES: Rodney Austin moved to suspend the rules to reconsider the plank on Health Care, which had 2/3 of those present, but not a majority of registered delegates. Withdrawn.

- c. Motion to adopt a Program Plank that reads as follows:

**STIMULATING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CREATING ABUNDANCE**

Currently, the State of California is not business-friendly due to high taxes and overly-burdensome regulation. This forces businesses to relocate outside the state and reduces employment opportunities for Californians. To encourage prosperity for our families and the people of California, the Libertarian Party of California supports the following measures:

**Reduce tax burdens.**

- Reducing the state income and sales taxes will stimulate consumer spending thereby creating more jobs and more productivity.
- Eliminate the triple taxation that results from corporate income tax, individual income tax on stock dividends, and sales tax.

**Foster savings and investment.**

- Private savings empower individuals and reduce reliance on government, and should be encouraged.
- People could save and invest more of their hard-earned income for retirement, education and recessionary periods if California were to reduce or eliminate taxes on interest, dividends and capital gains.
- People starting businesses create long-term job opportunities and more abundance for everyone. Savings for the purpose of starting a business shall be tax free or deductible from income.

**Review all business regulations.**

- Encourage private consumer groups and industry associations to take an active role in monitoring businesses and reporting on practices in lieu of government regulation. All state business and industrial regulations shall be reviewed, amended or repealed to retain only those provisions which materially protect personal safety and the environment.
- Regulations and licensing laws that unreasonably impede entry into any market or

industry shall be amended or repealed.

- Anti-trust regulations shall be reviewed to determine if they actually improve the competitiveness of the market. Any anti-trust regulation that is not proven to increase competitiveness shall be amended or repealed.

**Reduce and eventually eliminate all state subsidies for business.**

- Ending subsidies will encourage businesses to be more productive because they will not be shielded from market competition.
- For every dollar of social welfare that is cut from the state budget, a dollar-for-dollar cut shall be made from corporate welfare.
- Publicly disclose all business entities that receive corporate welfare or subsidies.
- Taxpayers should not subsidize polluters. Government subsidies shall be forfeited if a business is found to be in violation of state environmental laws.

Debate was heard. **The motion passed on voice vote.**

POINT OF ORDER: Mark Hinkle would like to suspend the rules to reconsider the plank on Health Care, but with an amendment. It would have to be someone on the prevailing side. Someone on the prevailing side moved to reconsider the plank on Quality, Affordable, Accessible Health Care. **The motion to reconsider passed on voice vote.**

MOTION TO AMEND by striking the following language: "Students in schools received state funds must receive instruction regarding:

- disease prevention, rather than encourage the current, more expensive culture of treatment
- health insurance, including types of health plans; insurance theory and terms; shopping for, purchasing and using health insurance
- medical savings and trust accounts."

Standing ten percent seconded. Debate was heard, and the **motion to amend passed on voice vote.**  
**Motion to adopt the plank as amended passed on voice vote.**

- d. Motion to adopt a Program Plank that reads as follows:

**DEMANDING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY**

The government has evolved into an entity with its own instinct of self-preservation and expansion. Voters must assert the proper role of government as one that respects and protects the rights of individuals. In addition, the government must be held accountable for the actions it takes, as it is the people that it ultimately serves.

**Budgets and Fiscal Responsibility**

The State of California is facing a scandalous budget deficit for the year 2003 due to the fiscal irresponsibility of legislators.

- In the event of a state budget deficit, the most recent spending plan that is less than or equal to current projected state revenues shall be used as a preliminary spending plan for the current year.
- There shall be no salary increases for top-level and managerial state and local government employees during times of budgetary hardship. State legislators shall forfeit their salary for any period of time during which the passage of a balanced budget is overdue.

- Reduce perquisites and benefits (including paid holidays, vacation time, CalPERS, medical and dental benefits) provisioned to government employees to parallel those available in private industry.
- To prevent undue influence over the democratic process, government unions and associations shall not lobby the legislature or support political candidates, this right is reserved to the individual.

#### **Taxation**

- Before new taxes and bond measures are placed on the ballot, a material need must be demonstrated.
- Institute a 2/3 vote requirement for the passage of bonds, increase or imposition of taxes; and a majority vote to reduce or eliminate tax burdens.
- All new tax legislation shall include a sunset provision.

#### **Voting and Electoral Process**

- If the state chooses to adopt an electronic voting process, it must be supported by anonymous paper evidence of individual vote results.
- Implement Instant Runoff Voting to enable the electorate to express its true preferences.

#### **Enforcement and Defense of Medical Marijuana Laws (Prop. 215)**

In recent elections, voters have approved the use of medical marijuana, and the State of California has refused to defend the law against Federal encroachment. The Attorney General of California is charged with the responsibility to enforce and defend the law as passed by the electorate, and to seek injunctions, as necessary, against Federal interference with state law.

Edward Teysier moved to amend a sentence of plank to read as follows: “Institute a minimum 2/3 vote requirement for the passage of bonds, increase or imposition of taxes; and a majority vote to reduce or eliminate tax burdens.” Debate was heard, and **the motion to amend passed on voice vote**. The plank as amended was put to a vote, and **the motion passed on voice vote**.

- e. Motion to adopt a Program Plank that reads as follows:

#### **HELPING PEOPLE**

Libertarians believe in compassionate assistance during times of genuine need. Ideally, this assistance should be provided by families and private charities. However, until we can eliminate dependence on government for these services, the Libertarian Party of California supports the following measures to better care for and help people:

#### **Solving social probate, rather than maintaining or creating them.**

- Students in all secondary schools receiving state subsidy shall be required to complete life skills courses including family planning & childrearing, personal budgeting, career planning, insurance (health, disability), retirement planning, savings and investment accounts.
- There should be financial disincentives within welfare programs for having children whom the parents can not support emotionally and financially.
- Instead of providing ongoing financial subsistence to maintain people, use tax dollars to improve their ability to provide for themselves through job training and cooperative childcare programs; provide welfare on a diminishing, sliding scale over



- a shorter period of time.
- Fatherly influence on a child's upbringing tends to prevent criminality, unprepared pregnancy, and dependence on government. In situations of non-marital childbirth, the parents shall have equal responsibility to provide for the child's best interest.
- Redefine "disability" to exclude alcoholism and drug addiction, thus making government benefits unavailable to individuals on that basis.

**Using tax dollars more effectively.**

- By taxing individuals, government coerces financial support on ineffective and inefficient social welfare programs. Because government has the legal authority to tax income to support these programs, it will receive tax dollars whether or not it is responsive and efficient. On the other hand, charitable organizations have to compete for voluntary private contributions, they are therefore motivated to provide efficient, beneficial and caring services.
- To encourage charitable provision of human services and reduce dependence on government, utilize tax credits, rather than deductions, for voluntary contributions to charitable organizations that provide health, welfare and human services.
- Offer cash incentives to government employees who successfully remove individuals from the welfare rolls in a way that will be sustainable.

Discussion was had. Ray Strong moved to delete the following language:

- “• Students in all secondary schools receiving state subsidy shall be required to complete life skills courses including family planning & childrearing, personal budgeting, career planning, insurance (health, disability), retirement planning, savings and investment accounts.”

Seconded. Aaron Starr made an alternate motion to amend as follows: “Students in all public schools receiving state subsidy shall be offered . . . .” Standing ten percent seconded. Debate was heard. **The alternate motion failed on voice vote. The original motion to amend then passed on voice vote.**

Ted Brown made motion to amend entire first section. Standing ten percent seconded. Debate was heard. A vote was taken on the proposed amendment, and the **motion failed**. The main motion was then put to a vote, which **failed 40-30**.

### **13. Endorsements of Candidates**

Aaron Starr solicited requests for candidate endorsements for 2003 campaigns.

- a. BJ Wagener moved to endorse Art Olivier for Governor should the recall effort succeed, and should Mr. Olivier be agreeable to running. Daniel Wiener argued that there is no office up for election currently, and it is out of order to consider a candidate endorsement when there is no office up for election. Chair ruled that out of order. Gail Lightfoot challenged the ruling of the chair. Chair explained that he ruled Daniel Wiener out of order because a second was in order. Ted Brown made a speech seconding the endorsement of Art Olivier.
- b. Daniel Wiener nominated NOTA, giving the argument that its too early to endorse a

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candidate since we do not have all the information that will be available closer to the time of the potential election.

Debate was heard. Vote was had, and the convention voted by voice not to endorse a candidate at this time.

**14. Resolutions**

- a. Susan Marie Weber (R-33) moved to adopt the following Resolution:

WHEREAS computers are subject to fraud and manipulation;

RESOLVED the Libertarian Party of California opposes any computer, internet or direct recording electronic voting system that does not use a voter verified paper ballot as the ballot of count, recount, audit and record.

Debate was heard. The motion came to a vote. **The motion passed 54-14.**

**15. Style Committee Appointment**

This item was not addressed, as the orders of the day were called, and time had expired.

**16. Adjourn**

The convention was adjourned at 12:00 pm.