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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Summary of Business - Tuesday

Bylaws Committee Meeting

[Tuesday](#)

[Wednesday](#)

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The Bylaws Committee met all day Tuesday to consider whether various [proposals](#) should be recommended to the full convention. The committee completed its review of the proposals on its agenda, and plans to meet Wednesday only to approve its [report](#).

The committee approved changes in the following areas:

- The position of chief executive officer would be separated from that of National Chair.
- The concept of "moving public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office" would be added to the list of purposes of the organization.
- Concerning convention delegates:
 - About 1500 delegate slots would be allocated to state parties for future conventions -- about 1050 according to membership, about 450 according to presidential vote.
 - LNC alternates would have ex officio delegate status.
 - States would send their delegate lists to the national office instead of the Secretary
- Concerning convention voting procedures:
 - It would take 5% of the delegates to call for a counted vote.
 - It would take 5% of the delegates to second a motion from the floor.
 - In the multi-winner voting for LNC at-large members and Judicial Committee members, delegates could cast more than one vote for the same candidate.
 - NOTA would not be counted as a valid vote in the election of LNC at-large members and Judicial Committee members.
- Concerning presidential nominations:
 - The presidential and vice-presidential candidates would be required to have been members for six months before being nominated.
 - A presidential candidate would need the support of 5% of the delegates in order to have nominating/seconding speeches.
 - There would be no speech for NOTA unless requested by 5% of the delegates.
 - The presidential candidate would get to propose the nominee for vice-president; only if that choice failed to receive majority approval would other candidates be considered.

Platform Committee Meeting

The Platform Committee met all day to consider what amendments to recommend to the full convention. The committee approved changes to a number of planks, mostly of a stylistic nature. Significant changes of a non-stylistic nature were:

- to delete support of the right to terminate a pregnancy
- to add a statement opposing capital punishment

The committee will consider additional changes on Wednesday.



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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Summary of Business - Wednesday

Bylaws Committee Meeting

[Tuesday](#)

[Wednesday](#)

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The Bylaws Committee met briefly Wednesday morning. It made minor revisions to some of the proposals approved Tuesday, decided on an order of presentation of the proposals, and approved its report.

Platform Committee Meeting

The Platform Committee met all day Wednesday, considering additional amendments.

The committee's final [report](#) includes proposed modifications to the following platform planks and sections:

- Statement of Principles
- II.1. The Economy
- I.22. Sexual Rights
- I.19. Freedom of Association and Government Discrimination
- III.15. Election Laws
- II.8. Health Care
- III.6. Transportation
- I.23. American Indian Rights
- II. Trade & The Economy
- I.2. Crime
- I.1. Freedom and Responsibility
- I.21. Family Life
- I.20. Women's Rights and Abortion
- III.5. Population
- I. Individual Rights & Civil Order
- I.18. Immigration
- I.6. Justice for the Individual
- I.8. Individual Sovereignty
- I.11. Freedom of Religion
- III.2. Pollution
- I.14. Government Secrecy
- I.5. Safeguards for the Criminally Accused
- I.15. Internal Security and Civil Liberties
- I.16. The Right to Keep and Bear Arms
- II.5. Government Debt

Credentials Committee Meeting

The Credentials Committee met to review the delegate lists submitted by the state affiliates.

State Chairs Meeting

About two dozen state chairs and several members of the Libertarian National Committee met in the morning for an informal review of party business.

The National Chair, the National Director, and the Office Manager presented information on the party's direct-mail recruiting program "Project Archimedes", fundraising, and other functions of the national office, and answered questions posed by the state chairs. Then about half of the chairs gave brief reports of party activity in their respective states.

After lunch, chairs from additional states gave such reports. This was followed by longer presentations on five specific topics, each given by a representative of a state which has had particular success in that area: "professionalism", "infrastructure", "outreach", "volunteers", and "political activity".

National Committee Meeting

The Libertarian National Committee met for about four hours in the afternoon. Most of the business consisted of review of past activities. No significant policy decisions were made. This was the last meeting of the current term of the LNC. The newly-elected LNC will have its first meeting on Sunday after the convention adjourns.



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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Summary of Business - Thursday

Morning Session

[Tuesday](#)

[Wednesday](#)

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Convention business began after introductory speeches and the keynote address, at about 11:30.

The Credentials Committee reported on its examination of the delegate lists. All 51 affiliates sent lists. The committee recommended inclusion of various individuals for whom addresses had not been sent but whose addresses had since been determined, and individuals whose addition had been requested by affiliate parties at the last minute. The committee reported that 387 delegates and 122 alternates had registered so far. The committee's report was accepted without objection. A separate motion by the state chair of California to add several alternates from that state was also approved.

The agenda was amended to allow 15 minutes Thursday afternoon for consideration of an amendment to the Statement of Principles, and to allow candidates for party officer positions five minutes each to address the convention during their nomination process.

The Treasurer presented a report which included highlights of recent financial statements plus information about the recent audit, FEC reporting, pre-funding of projects, and the year-2000 problem.

Ballots were distributed for the first platform plank retention vote.

Afternoon Session

The session began at about 14:50 with consideration of the proposal to amend the Statement of Principles. The proposal received 331 votes, short of the 392 required based on the delegate registration numbers reported at the beginning of the session. Business continued with consideration of the [Bylaws Committee report](#):

- The proposal to add to the "Purposes" article was approved.
- The proposal to have delegate lists sent to the headquarters passed.
- The proposal to give ex officio delegate status to LNC regional alternates was replaced by one to delete ex officio delegates entirely, which passed.
- The proposal to separate the function of chief executive officer from the position of Chair failed.

Consideration of the Bylaws report will continue on Friday morning.



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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Summary of Business - Friday

Morning Session

[Tuesday](#)

[Wednesday](#)

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[Friday](#)

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[Sunday](#)

It was announced that all Platform planks were retained as a result of the initial retention vote.

A number of changes to the delegate list were approved without objection.

Consideration of the [Bylaws report](#) continued:

- The proposal to change the delegate allocation formula was approved.
- The proposal to allow delegates to cast more than one vote for a single candidate, in the election of LNC at-large and Judicial Committee members, failed.
- The proposal that 5% of the delegates be required to call for a counted vote was replaced by one to require 20 delegates, which passed.
- The proposal that presidential candidates have the support of 5% of the delegates 24 hours in advance in order to be allowed time for nominating speeches was amended to require the support of 30 delegates, then approved.
- The proposal that 5% of the delegates be required to second a motion failed.

Afternoon Session

Several changes to the delegate list were approved without objection.

Consideration of the [Platform Committee report](#) began:

- Plank II.1 The Economy was amended as in the report with a minor change.
- Plank I.22 Sexual Rights was amended as in the report.
- Plank I.19 Freedom of Association and Government Discrimination was amended as in the report with minor changes.
- The proposal to amend Plank III.15 Election Laws was not adopted.

Consideration of the Platform report is scheduled to continue Saturday morning.



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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Summary of Business - Saturday

Morning Session

DAILY SUMMARIES

[Tuesday](#)

Consideration of the [Platform report](#) continued:

[Wednesday](#)

- Plank III.8 Health Care was amended as in the report with a minor change.
- Plank III.6 Transportation was amended as in the report.
- Plank I.23 American Indian Rights was amended as in the report.
- The introductory language of part II (Trade and the Economy) was amended to include a combination of language from the report and from the existing plank.
- Plank I.2 Crime was amended as in the report.
- Plank I.1 Freedom and Responsibility was amended as in the report.

[Thursday](#)

[Friday](#)

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[Sunday](#)

VOTE CHARTS

[Chair](#)

[Secretary](#)

[LNC At-Large](#)

Afternoon Session

Requests from several states to add to the delegate list were approved.

Nominations for **Chair** began with a speech for NOTA. Gene Cisewski was nominated by Steve Kubby and seconded by Janice Presser and Lorenzo Gastenaga. David Bergland was nominated by Harry Browne and seconded by David Nolan and Barbara Goushaw. Each candidate also gave a speech on his own behalf.

Vote: Bergland 350, Cisewski 241, NOTA 14, abstain 4, write-in Steve Dasbach 3. [\[state by state vote\]](#)

The election of officers will continue on Sunday morning.



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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Summary of Business - Sunday

Election of officers continued:

DAILY SUMMARIES

[Tuesday](#)

[Wednesday](#)

[Thursday](#)

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[Sunday](#)

VOTE CHARTS

[Chair](#)

[Secretary](#)

[LNC At-Large](#)

Hugh Butler was nominated for **Vice Chair** by David Bergland and seconded by Robert Franke and Jim Dexter. Gene Cisewski was offered in nomination but he declined. Butler gave a short speech on his own behalf and was elected on a voice vote.

Ben Bachrach was nominated for **Secretary** by Mary Ruwart and seconded by Tim O'Brien and Fred Collins. Carol Moore was nominated by Lorenzo Gastenaga and seconded by Natalie Lloyd and Jim McLaughlin. Steve Givot was nominated by Michael Cloud and seconded by Jo Jorgensen and Steve Dasbach. Each candidate spoke briefly on his or her own behalf.

Mark Tuniewicz was nominated for **Treasurer** by Jon Coon and seconded by Ken Krawchuk and Geoff Neale. Tuniewicz gave a short speech on his own behalf and was elected on a voice vote.

The results of the first ballot for Secretary were: Givot 186, Moore 156, Bachrach 76, NOTA 8, write-in for Howard Stern 1, abstain 1. [\[state by state vote\]](#) Because no candidate received a majority, a second vote was held between Givot and Moore. The results of the second vote were: Givot 209, Moore 182, NOTA 27, abstain 4, write-in Bachrach 1, write-in Tamara Millay 1. Givot was elected on a third vote conducted by standing count: Givot 192, NOTA 118.

In the election for **at-large members of the LNC**, Bill Hall was nominated by Barbara Goushaw, Mary Ruwart was nominated by Steve Dasbach, Don Gallick was nominated by Mark Tuniewicz, Mike Hihn was nominated by Jim Dexter, John Buttrick was nominated by Tom Rawles, Mike Dixon was nominated by John Brown, Jim Lark was nominated by Bill Redpath, Gary Johnson was nominated by Mary Gingell.

Seven people were nominated for the seven positions on the **Judicial Committee** and were elected together on a voice vote: Dean Ahmad, Bruce Baechler, Steve Dillon, Len Flynn, Bruce Lagasse, Eric Lund, David Nolan.

A resolution calling on the House of Representatives to begin impeachment proceedings against Clinton and Gore was adopted.

The at-large LNC members elected were: Lark, Ruwart, Hall, Buttrick, Dixon. [\[state by state vote\]](#)

The convention adjourned at about 14:20.



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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Vote for Chair

DAILY SUMMARIES

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VOTE CHARTS

[Chair](#)

[Secretary](#)

[LNC At-Large](#)

State	Bergland	Cisewski	NOTA	other
DC	0	5	1	
FL	18	4	1	
GA	23	2	0	
HI	1	1	0	
ID	0	6	0	
IL	13	9	0	
IN	22	0	0	
IA	0	0	0	
KS	0	3	0	
KY	5	0	1	
LA	3	1	0	
ME	6	0	0	
MD	0	26	0	
MA	24	3	2	
MI	39	0	0	
MN	10	7	0	
MS	3	0	0	
MO	2	8	0	
MT	0	1	0	
NE	1	0	0	
NV	4	1	0	
NH	1	5	0	
NJ	9	25	2	
NM	1	2	0	
NY	8	17	1	Dasbach 2, abstain 2
NC	15	1	0	
ND	1	0	0	
OH	19	7	1	
OK	3	0	2	

OR	2	1	0	
PA	1	41	0	
RI	0	1	0	
SC	7	0	0	
SD	0	0	0	
TN	9	1	0	
TX	8	2	0	
UT	6	1	0	
VT	5	0	0	
VA	19	14	0	Dasbach 1, abstain 1
WA	7	0	2	
WV	8	2	0	
WI	2	10	0	
WY	0	0	0	
AL	1	3	0	
AK	0	4	0	
AZ	0	8	1	
AR	2	0	0	
CA	32	13	0	abstain 1
CO	6	0	0	
CT	4	1	0	
DE	0	5	0	
Total:	350	241	14	Dasbach 3 abstain 4



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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Vote for Secretary

First Ballot

DAILY SUMMARIES

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VOTE CHARTS

[Chair](#)

[Secretary](#)

[LNC At-Large](#)

State	Bachrach	Moore	Givot	NOTA	other
AL	1	0	3	0	
AK	0	2	0	0	
AZ	0	8	1	0	
AK	0	0	1	0	
CA	5	9	18	0	
CO	1	2	2	0	
CT	0	0	2	0	
DE	2	3	0	0	
DC	0	6	0	0	
FL	1	0	10	0	
GA	0	5	10	0	
HI	0	2	0	0	
ID	2	2	0	0	
IL	2	1	12	0	
IN	7	1	7	0	
IA	0	0	0	0	
KS	0	2	0	0	
KY	2	0	2	0	
LA	1	2	1	0	
ME	1	0	3	0	
MD	1	19	1	0	
MA	1	2	19	0	
MI	27	0	3	0	
MN	1	5	6	0	
MS	0	0	2	0	
MO	0	2	1	5	
MT	1	0	0	0	

NE	0	0	0	0	
NV	0	1	4	0	
NH	1	2	0	0	
NJ	2	18	4	0	
NM	0	1	2	0	
NY	2	14	7	1	
NC	1	5	6	1	
ND	0	0	0	0	
OH	0	6	15	0	
OK	3	1	1	0	
OR	1	0	1	0	
PA	1	17	2	0	Howard Stern 1
RI	0	0	1	0	
SC	0	0	6	0	
SD	0	0	0	0	
TN	0	0	6	0	
TX	2	2	3	0	
UT	0	3	4	0	
VT	0	0	2	0	
VA	7	4	8	0	
WA	0	2	4	0	abstain 1
WV	0	1	5	1	
WI	0	6	1	0	
WY	0	0	0	0	
Total:	76	156	186	8	abstain 1 Howard Stern 1

Second Ballot

State	Moore	Givot	NOTA	other
AL	0	1	1	
AK	4	0	0	
AZ	7	1	0	
AR	0	1	0	
CA	12	19	0	abstain 1
CO	2	3	0	
CT	0	2	0	
DE	4	0	1	
DC	6	0	0	
FL	0	9	2	
GA	3	8	1	

HI	2	0	0	
ID	2	2	0	
IL	4	11	0	
IN	1	13	0	
KS	2	0	0	
KY	0	4	0	
LA	3	0	1	
ME	0	4	0	
MD	20	1	0	
MA	1	21	0	
MI	3	18	8	abstain 2
MN	6	6	0	
MS	0	1	0	
MO	2	3	5	Tamara Millay 1
MT	0	0	1	
NV	0	4	0	
NH	3	1	0	
NJ	25	3	1	
NM	1	1	0	
NY	15	5	2	
NC	5	9	0	
OH	5	16	0	
OK	2	2	1	
OR	0	1	0	Ben Bachrach 1
PA	20	0	1	
SC	0	6	0	
TN	0	4	0	
TX	3	3	0	
UT	2	4	0	
VT	0	2	0	
VA	8	10	1	
WA	2	4	0	
WV	2	5	1	abstain 1
WI	5	1	0	
Total:	182	209	27	Ben Bachrach 1 Tamara Millay 1 abstain 4



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THE LIBERTARIAN PARTY

The Party of Principle

1998 National LP Convention

Vote for LNC At-Large

DAILY SUMMARIES

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VOTE CHARTS

[Chair](#)

[Secretary](#)

[LNC At-Large](#)

State	Hall	Ruwart	Gallick	Hihn	Buttrick	Dixon	Lark	Johnson	NOTA	other
AL	2	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	
AK	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	writein Janice Presser 4
AZ	2	3	0	0	8	1	1	0	0	
AR	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	
CA	22	16	16	7	21	14	18	11	0	
CO	4	5	1	3	4	1	5	2	0	
CT	2	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	
DE	4	2	3	2	5	4	5	0	0	
DC	1	2	1	2	4	5	5	2	4	
FL	6	6	6	6	0	0	6	0	0	
GA	8	10	3	5	4	0	9	9	0	
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
ID	0	0	3	1	1	4	2	1	0	
IL	6	5	2	1	3	12	9	1	0	
IN	7	8	7	0	5	1	8	4	0	
IA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
KS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
KY	5	5	4	0	5	0	5	1	0	
LA	4	3	0	1	2	2	4	1	0	abstain 2
ME	2	1	0	2	3	0	3	2	0	
MD	1	5	0	0	2	21	20	1	0	
MA	9	9	12	2	4	5	9	6	0	
MI	30	29	25	0	7	10	25	4	0	
MN	11	13	1	3	10	4	8	4	0	
MS	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	
MO	2	4	0	5	2	9	5	1	0	
MT	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	
NE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

NV	4	4	4	0	0	4	4	0	0	
NH	0	2	1	0	2	2	3	2	0	
NJ	18	19	2	7	16	13	24	6	0	writein Starchild 1
NM	3	3	1	0	3	0	3	3	0	
NY	8	18	5	17	10	5	13	6	0	writein Carol Moore 1, abstain 1
NC	9	9	7	2	9	1	7	9	0	
ND	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
OH	7	10	14	2	3	3	3	1	0	
OK	1	1	4	3	5	1	5	3	0	writein Starchild 1
OR	1	2	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	
PA	0	16	1	6	11	15	11	1	0	writein Jim Wheelan 1
RI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
SC	4	4	2	2	2	0	3	1	0	
SD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TN	4	3	3	0	1	4	4	1	0	
TX	6	5	4	2	6	3	7	2	0	
UT	3	6	3	5	5	3	5	5	0	
VT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
VA	14	13	7	3	11	6	19	12	0	
WA	5	4	4	4	4	3	4	1	0	
WV	4	4	1	0	4	5	6	1	0	
WI	0	5	0	1	1	6	1	0	0	
WY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total:	221	265	148	97	191	170	277	109	4	writein Janice Presser 4 writein Starchild 2 writein Carol Moore 1 writein Jim Wheelan 1 abstain 3

