



The Libertarian Party

For over 40 years the Libertarian Party has been a champion of freedom and peace. The Party pioneered political positions on issues like the support of gun and equality rights, legalizing marijuana, and reducing government spending and its regulatory burden – issues Americans support in ever-increasing numbers¹.

The Libertarian Party is the fastest growing political party in the nation, at a time when voters are leaving the two old parties² and looking for a better alternative³. Outspoken libertarian celebrities and entertainers have helped bring awareness that the Libertarian Party can be that alternative⁴. More and more Americans are registering as Libertarians⁵, where they can, and announcing they are libertarians, including elected state representatives⁶.

During the previous two presidential campaigns, lifetime Libertarian Party member Ron Paul ignited interest in libertarian ideas. Now, for the first time in history, a Libertarian presidential candidate debate was broadcast on national television and the Libertarian nominee is polling in double digits in nationwide polls⁷.

Across the country, Libertarian candidates are running for office at all levels⁸. They speak of fiscal responsibility and social tolerance, and voters appreciate their sincerity about bringing transparency to government and their respect for the dignity and choices of each individual.

Illinois arguably needs elected Libertarians more than any other state. We are ranked as one of the worst run, with both a high tax burden and the lowest credit rating⁹. Tens of thousands of citizens, along with their businesses and tax dollars, are leaving the state every year¹⁰. Clearly, the two-party system is failing us and we need fresh solutions.

In the last gubernatorial election, over 100,000 Illinois citizens cast their votes for the Libertarian candidate. Several state-wide Libertarian vote records were broken, as taxpayers chose qualified and responsible libertarians over their politically-connected establishment opponents. With the recent growth of the Libertarian Party, we expect that success to accelerate, so more Libertarian officeholders can minimize government and maximize freedom, bringing peace and prosperity to the American people.

¹ <https://fee.org/articles/america-isnt-getting-more-liberal-its-getting-more-libertarian/>

² <http://www.gallup.com/poll/188096/democratic-republican-identification-near-historical-lows.aspx>

³ <http://datatargeting.com/POTUS/>

⁴ <http://www.ranker.com/list/libertarian-celebrities/mrporcupine>

⁵ <http://truthinmedia.com/libertarian-party-registrations-rising/>

⁶ <http://www.lp.org/news/press-releases/another-state-legislator-quits-gop-joins-libertarian-party>

⁷ <http://www.cnn.com/2016/06/09/politics/2016-fox-news-poll-clinton-trump-gary-johnson/>

⁸ <http://www.lp.org/candidates-16>

⁹ <http://247wallst.com/special-report/2015/12/03/the-best-and-worst-run-states-in-america-a-survey-of-all-50-4/>

¹⁰ <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-illinois-census-brookings-edit-0107-20150106-story.html>