### LNC's 2004 Ballot Access Plan

At its September 13, 2003, meeting in Denver, Colorado, the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) approved the following ballot access plan.

# **ASSUMPTIONS:**

- 1. The final goal of this plan, and all subsequent ballot access plans, is to transfer ballot access responsibilities from the LNC to state parties.
- 2. We must assume limited resources. As such, in the interim we must prioritize which states to assist, and how much to assist. In effect, this means determining which states will not get LNC assistance in the absence of sufficient funding.
- 3. We will not spend a single cent in any single state until we have achieved the financial means to complete the state. Money spent on unsuccessful Ballot Access measures is wasted.
- 4. Our intent is to assist states in achieving ballot access, not to do it for them.
- 5. States must submit written plans for their individual ballot access, including their estimates and commitments of performance, timelines, and milestones.
- 6. Our actual expenditures of support will depend upon states performing or exceeding their written plans.

### PRIORITIZATION:

It will be the LNC's job to prioritize the states that receive our assistance. We have attempted to do this in a manner consistent with the Strategic Plan.

Some of the factors included in the prioritization algorithm are as follows:

- 1. Party access versus candidate access. States where the LP gets status for all candidates should receive priority over states where only the candidate does.
- 2. Party label on ballot: If the LP is listed on the ballot, as opposed to independent, that should be a factor.
- 3. Ballot retention possibility. Whether or not ballot access through election results is achievable should be a factor.

- 4. Demographics. We need to factor in how many voters we're enabling to vote for a Libertarian candidate.
- 5. Past candidate history. States that have historically run lots of LP candidates should receive priority.

## **DIFFICULTY FACTORS:**

Estimating costs depends upon more factors than just count of signatures. Difficulty needs to be factored into estimates of costs for petitioning.

- 1. Length of petitioning window. We feel it is completely in order to expect states with very long petitioning windows to gather more signatures than states with small windows. Likewise, states with very short windows will need to muster more support in a shorter time to achieve ballot access.
- 2. Primary screenout provides an additional burden on petitioning, increasing effort and costs, and reducing yields.
- 3. Demographics. We need to factor in how many voters we're enabling to vote for a Libertarian candidate.
- 4. Past candidate history. States that have historically run lots of LP candidates should receive priority.

### BUILDING A WORKING PRIORITY LIST

A chart beginning on page 5 attempts to prioritize the states requiring assistance. The following are the parameters and factors used:

#### Determining the assistance threshold

The base signature obligation is 40 per member in the state as of 6/30/2003. The membership number does not include subscribers to LP News. Although earlier numbers of 35 signatures per member were discussed in the SPT, our membership is down since, then and resources are more limited. The following factors adjust that number based upon difficulty factors.

A factor is applied based upon the length of the petitioning window, calculated as length in days / 120. The minimum factor is 0.8 and the maximum is 1.2.

If the state has a primary screenout, a primary screenout factor of 0.8 is used. Otherwise, the factor is 1.

The net member signature obligation is determined by multiplying the base obligation by the petitioning length factor and the primary screenout factor.

The assistance threshold is determined by multiplying the number of members times the net signature obligation.

The LNC share of costs is determined by multiplying the LNC Share signatures by \$1.50 per signature (the assumed cost per signature) then dividing the interim cost by the primary screenout factor. It should be assumed that petition gathering with a primary screenout is more expensive.

#### **Assigning the group code**

- If a state already has ballot access, it will be group 4.
- If a states assistance threshold is higher than the number of raw signatures needed, it is group 3, and is not eligible for LNC assistance.
- If a state is eligible for assistance, but feels it can obtain ballot access without LNC approval, it is group 2.
- Only states in group 1 are prioritized.

### Assigning priorities within group 1

In order to assign relative priority within group 1, the priority is calculated as the result of multiple rankings and a factor.

Total cost ranking, from 1 to 11.

Ranking of ballot access cost to LNC per Congressional seat within the state.

Ranking of total Congressional delegation for the state.

Ranking of ballot access cost to LNC per member within state.

Ranking of percent of total ballot access cost provided by LNC.

The total of above rankings is multiplied by a factor of either 1 or 2, dependent upon whether or not the ballot access provides only the Presidential candidate or the LP ballot access.

The resultant weighted ranking provides a measure of priority, but is subject to feedback and modification.

#### CONCLUSIONS:

According to the above criteria and from information contained in the spreadsheet, only 11 states qualify for assistance in ballot access.

The relative priority within this group of 11 is not necessarily fixed. Since we estimate that Oklahoma will cost approximately \$120,000, and that the total cost will be \$350,000, and that the agreed stricture is that the LNC will expend no funds until enough funds to finish the drive are assured, Oklahoma would only be funded if we achieve our fundraising goal. Therefore, if we raised \$250,000, Oklahoma would be dropped, even though it is NOT priority 11. Likewise, even though Texas is priority four, it would be the second state to be dropped in absence of sufficient fundraising.

Every state can improve its priorities by committing to be responsible for more than the assistance threshold we've already determined. Ohio is a good example of this: The Ohio LP has recently estimated that it will only need \$5,000 to \$8,000 of assistance, even though it has qualified for \$30,000.

	Group		Members in		Window	Length	Used Window Length	Primary	Primary Screenout												
State	9 5	@ 7/31/03	Delegation	Obligation	(Days)	Factor	Factor	Screenout?	Factor	Obligation	Threshhold	<<<<<<<		arty >>>>>> Reg.Voters		<<<<<<< Net Sigs.	<<<<< Carrell	andidat Fee	te >>>>>>> LNC Share Party Label?	Drive	Status
Connecticut	1 .	1 245	5	40	219	1.83	1.20		1.00	48	11,760	•	•	•		7,500	12,525		765 YES	CAND	can't start
Kentucky	1 2	2 131	6	40	238	1.98	1.20		1.00	48	6,288					5,000	8,350		2,062 YES	CAND	can't start
Ohio	1 :	3 704	18	40	184	1.53	1.20		1.00	48	33,792	32,290	53,924		20,132	5,000	8,350			PARTY	In process
Texas	1 4	4 1,108	32	40	75	0.63	0.80	YES	0.80	26	28,365	45,540	76,052		47,687	64,077	107,009		78,644	PARTY	can't start
Illinois	1 :	5 737	19	40	98	0.82	0.82		1.00	33	24,174					25,000	41,750		17,576 YES	CAND	can't start
South Dakota	1 :	5 34	1	40	368	3.07	1.20		1.00	48	1,632	8,364	13,968		12,336	3,346	5,588		3,956 YES	PARTY	In process
North Dakota	1 7	7 27	1	40	367	3.06			1.00	48	1,296	7,000	11,690		10,394	4,000	6,680		5,384 YES	PARTY	
Oklahoma	1 8	8 148	5	40		2.28			1.00	48	7,104	51,781	86,474		79,370	37,027	61,835		54,731	PARTY	In process
Maine	1 9	9 120	2	40	70	0.58	0.80		1.00	32	3,840	25,260	42,184		38,344	4,000	6,680		2,840 YES	CAND	·
D.C.	1 10			40		1.91	1.20		1.00	48	3,168					3,600	6,012		2,844 YES	CAND	can't start
West Va.	1 1	1 71	3	40	367	3.06	1.20	YES	0.80	38	2,726					12,963	21,648		18,922 YES	CAND	In process
Maryland	2	342	8	40	367	3.06	1.20		1.00	48	16,416	10,000	16,700		284	28,000	46,760		30,344	PARTY	In process
Alabama	3	251	7	40	488	4.07	1.20		1.00	48	12,048	41,012	68,490		56,442	5,000	8,350			CAND	In process
Arkansas	3	101	4	40	459	3.83	1.20		1.00	48	4,848	10,000	16,700		11,852	1,000	1,670			CAND	
Iowa	3	204	5	40	225	1.88	1.20		1.00	48	9,792					1,500	2,505		YES	CAND	
Louisiana	3	142	7	40	495	4.13	1.20		1.00	48	6,816			140,000	133,184		?	????		CAND	In process
Minnesota	3	300	8	40	106	0.88	0.88		1.00	35	10,560	112,557	187,970		177,410	2,000	3,340		YES	CAND	
New Hamp.	3	223	2	40	72	0.60	0.80		1.00	32	7,136	13,260	22,144		15,008	3,000	5,010		YES	CAND	can't start
New Jersey	3	488	13	40	56	0.47	0.80		1.00	32	15,616					800	1,336		YES	CAND	
New York	3	701	29	40	229	1.91	1.20		1.00	48	33,648					15,000	25,050		YES	CAND	can't start
Penn.	3	801	19	40	168	1.40	1.20		1.00	48	38,448					23,000	38,410			CAND	can't start
Rhode Island	3	45	2	40	246	2.05	1.20		1.00	48	2,160	16,592	27,709		25,549	1,000	1,670		YES	CAND	can't start
Tennessee	3	334	9	40	476	3.97	1.20		1.00	48	16,032	41,322	69,008		52,976	25	42			CAND	
Virginia	3	664	11	40	232	1.93	1.20		1.00	48	31,872					10,000	16,700		YES	CAND	can't start
Alaska	4	106	1											6,937		2,845			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Arizona	4	397	8									16,348				10,000			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
California	4	3,642	53											77,389		153,035				PARTY	On Ballot
Colorado	4	586	7											1,000			?	????		PARTY	On Ballot
Delaware	4	64	1											270		5,400				PARTY	On Ballot
Florida	4	1,072	25									be organized				93,024				PARTY	On Ballot
Georgia	4	1,037	13									37,153				37,153			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Hawaii	4	87	2									677				3,711				PARTY	On Ballot
Idaho	4	119	2									10,033				5,017				PARTY	On Ballot
Indiana	4	560	9													29,553			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Kansas	4	177	4									16,714				5,000				PARTY	On Ballot
Mass.	4	599	10											38,000		10,000			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Michigan	4	915	15									31,776				31,776				PARTY	On Ballot
Mississippi	4	71										be organized				1,000			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Missouri	4	311	9									10,000				10,000				PARTY	On Ballot
Montana	4	86	1									5,000				5,000			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Nebraska	4	73	3									4,810				2,500				PARTY	On Ballot
Nevada	4	249										4,805				4,805				PARTY	On Ballot
New Mexico	4	179	3									2,422				14,527				PARTY	On Ballot
No. Carolina	4	494	13									58,842				100,000				PARTY	On Ballot
Oregon	4	393	5									18,864				15,306				PARTY	On Ballot
So. Carolina	4	221	6									10,000				10,000				PARTY	On Ballot
Utah	4	150	3									2,000				1,000			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Vermont	4	80	1									be organized				1,000			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Washington	4	713	9									•				200			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Wisconsin	4	278	8									10,000				2,000			YES	PARTY	On Ballot
Wyoming	4	58	1									3,644				3,644				PARTY	On Ballot
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Group 1 - Ballot Access Assistance Eligible & Required
Group 2 - Ballot Access Assistance Eligible (hopefully not needed - stretch)
Group 3 - Ballot Access Assistance Ineligible - not yet on Ballot

Group 4 - On the Ballot

Part									Cost per	Cost per		Cost per	Congressional	Cost Per	% of Total		No Party		Ordinal
Manualsy	State	Collected	Start	Deadline															
Chicago	Connecticut		1/1/2004	8/7/2004	12.525	765	6.11%	\$1.147.50	\$229.50	\$4.68	1	1 1		i 1	1	1 9	) 2	18	3 1
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Section   Sect	Ohio	35,100	5/1/2003	11/1/2003	53,924	20,132	37.33%	\$30,198.00	\$1,677.67	\$42.89	9	9 4	1 3	3 5	5	3 24	1	24	2
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Idaho         8/31/2004           Indiana         3/15/2003         7/1/2004           Kansas         anytime         8/2/2004           Mass.         current         7/27/2004           Mississippi         7/4/2004         9/3/2004           Missouri         7/26/2004           Mortana         7/28/2004           Nebraska         8/24/2004           New Mexico         5/31/2004         9/7/2004           No. Carolina         7/12/2004         6/25/2004           Oregon         current         8/24/2004           Vor         current         8/24/2004           Vitah         3/9/2004         7/15/2004           Vermont         9/16/2004           Washington         1/2/2004           Wisconsin         current         9/14/2004																			
Indiana     3/15/2003     7/1/2004       Kansas     anytime     8/2/2004       Mass.     current     7/27/2004       Missingipi     7/15/2004     9/3/2004       Mississuri     7/26/2004       Montana     7/28/2004       Nebraska     8/24/2004       Nevada     7/3/2004       New Mexico     5/31/2004       Oregon     current     8/24/2004       So. Carolina     1/1/2004     6/3/2004       Vermont     9/16/2004       Washington     1/2/2004     8/25/2004       Wisconsin     current     9/14/2004																			
Kansas anytime 8/2/2004 Mass. current 7/27/2004 Mississippi 7/4/2004 Missouri 7/28/2004 Montana 7/28/2004 Methaska 8/24/2004 Nevada 7/28/2004 New Mexico 5/31/2004 No. Carolina 7/12/2004 Oregon current So. Carolina 11/1/2004 Utah 3/9/2004 Vermont 9/16/2004 Vashington 1/2/2004 Washington 1/2/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004			3/15/2003																
Mass. current 7/27/2004 Mississippi 7/4/2004 Missouri 7/28/2004 Montana 7/28/2004 Nebraska 8/24/2004 Newada 7/9/2004 New Mexico 5/31/2004 No. Carolina 7/1/2/2004 Oregon current 8/24/2004 Oregon current 8/24/2004 Vermont 9/16/2004 Washington 1/2/2004 Washington 1/2/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004																			
Mississippi     7/4/2004     3/2/2004       Missouri     7/26/2004       Montana     7/26/2004       Nebraska     8/24/2004       Nevada     7/9/2004       No. Carolina     7/12/2004       No. Carolina     7/12/2004       So. Carolina     1/1/2004       Utah     3/9/2004       Vermont     9/16/2004       Washington     1/2/2004       Wisconsin     current       9/14/2004																			
Missouri 7/26/2004 Montana 7/28/2004 Nebraska 8/24/2004 Nevada 7/8/2004 New Mexico 5/31/2004 No. Carolina 7/12/2004 Oregon current 8/24/2004 So. Carolina 1/1/2004 Utah 3/9/2004 Vermont 9/16/2004 Washington 1/2/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004	Michigan																		
Montana         7/28/2004           Nebraska         8/24/2004           Nevada         7/9/2004           New Mexico         5/31/204         9/7/2004           No. Carolina         7/12/204         6/52/2004           Oregon         current         8/24/2004           So. Carolina         11/1/2004         7/15/2004           Utah         3/9/2004         9/16/2004           Vermont         9/16/2004           Washington         1/2/204         8/25/2004           Wisconsin         current         9/14/2004	Mississippi		7/4/2004																
Nebraska     8/24/2004       Nevada     7/9/2004       New Mexico     5/31/2004       No. Carolina     7/12/2004       Oregon     current       So. Carolina     1/1/2004       Utah     3/9/2004       Vermont     9/16/2004       Washington     1/2/2004       Wisconsin     current       9/14/2004																			
Nevada 7/9/2004 New Mexico 5/31/2004 No. Carolina 7/1/2/2004 Oregon current 8/24/2004 So. Carolina 1/1/2004 Vermont 9/16/2004 Washington 1/2/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004																			
New Mexico 5/31/2004 9/7/2004 No. Carolina 7/12/2004 6/25/2004 Oregon current 8/24/2004 So. Carolina 1/1/2004 7/15/2004 Utah 3/9/2004 Vermont 9/16/2004 Washington 1/2/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004																			
No. Carolina 7/12/2004 6/25/2004 Oregon current 8/24/2004 So. Carolina 1/1/200 7/15/2004 Utah 3/9/2004 9/3/2004 Vermont 9/16/2004 Washington 1/2/2004 Wisconsin current 9/14/2004			E /04 /00C *																
Oregon         current         8/24/2004           So. Carolina         1/1/2004         7/15/2004           Utah         3/9/2004         9/3/2004           Vermont         9/16/2004           Washington         1/2/2004           Wisconsin         current         9/14/2004																			
So. Carolina     1/1/2004     7/15/2004       Utah     3/9/2004     9/3/2004       Vermont     9/16/2004       Washington     1/2/2004     8/25/2004       Wisconsin     current     9/14/2004																			
Utah     3/9/2004     9/3/2004       Vermont     9/16/2004       Washington     1/2/2004       Wisconsin     current     9/14/2004																			
Vermont         9/16/2004           Washington         1/2/2004           Wisconsin         current         9/14/2004																			
Washington         1/2/2004         8/25/2004           Wisconsin         current         9/14/2004																			
			1/2/2004																
Wyoming 8/17/2004	Wisconsin		current	9/14/2004															
	Wyoming			8/17/2004															

Group 1 - Ballot Access Assistance Eligible & Required Group 2 - Ballot Access Assistance Eligible (hopefully not needed - stretch) Group 3 - Ballot Access Assistance Ineligible - not yet on Ballot Group 4 - On the Ballot

State	Priority	Start	Deadline	Raw Signatures	LNC Share Signatures	Assistance % of Total	Estimated Cost	Sep-03	Oct-03	Nov-03	Dec-03
	Filority			J	•			Sep-us	OCI-03	1404-03	Dec-03
Connecticut	1	1/1/2004	8/7/2004	12,525	765	6.11%	\$1,147.50				
Kentucky	2	1/1/2004	8/26/2004	8,350	2,062	24.69%	\$3,093.00				
Ohio	2	5/1/2003	11/1/2003	53,924	20,132	37.33%	\$30,198.00	\$15,100.00	\$15,098.00		
Texas	4	3/3/2004	5/17/2004	76,052	47,687	62.70%	\$89,413.40				
Illinois	5	3/15/2004	6/21/2004	41,750	17,576	42.10%	\$26,364.00				
South Dakota	5	8/1/2003	8/3/2004	13,968	12,336	88.32%	\$18,504.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00
North Dakota	7	9/2/2003	9/3/2004	11,690	10,394	88.91%	\$15,591.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
Oklahoma	8	8/1/2003	5/1/2004	86,474	79,370	91.78%	\$119,055.00		\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Maine	9	5/31/2004	8/9/2004	6,680	2,840	42.51%	\$4,260.00				
D.C.	10	1/1/2004	8/17/2004	6,012	2,844	47.31%	\$4,266.00				
West Va.	11	8/1/2003	8/2/2004	21,648	18,922	87.41%	\$35,478.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00
							\$347,369.90	\$20,200.00	\$35,198.00	\$20,100.00	\$20,100.00

State	Jan-04	Feb-04	Mar-04	Apr-04	May-04	Jun-04	Jul-04	Aug-04 Total	
Connecticut						\$600.00	\$547.50	\$1,147.50	1
Kentucky					\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$693.00	\$3,093.00	1
Ohio								\$30,198.00	1
Texas			\$36,000.00	\$36,000.00	\$17,413.40			\$89,413.40	1
Illinois			\$5,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$3,364.00		\$26,364.00	1
South Dakota	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00	\$1,504.00	\$18,504.00	1
North Dakota	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,291.00 \$15,591.00	1
Oklahoma	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$14,055.00			\$119,055.00	i
Maine						\$2,260.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,260.00	1
D.C.						\$2,166.00	\$2,100.00	\$4,266.00	1
West Va.	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$1,706.40	\$22,706.40	
	\$20,100.00	\$20,100.00	\$61,100.00	\$65,100.00	\$46,768.40	\$14,690.00	\$9,850.90	\$1,291.00 \$334,598.30	ı