



Region 8 Report

Submitted on 11.25.2018 by Regional Representative Justin O'Donnell

Regional Representative: Justin O'Donnell

Regional Alternate: Jeff Lyons

Since the September, Libertarians across Region 8 finished up their campaigns and began looking forward to what's to come in 2019. With a shift in status for ballot access in a number of states, planning has already begun to tackle the challenges of 2020 head-on.

-Justin O'Donnell

Massachusetts:

The Libertarian Association of Massachusetts hosted its annual convention in October at the brand new MGM Casino in Springfield, Ma. The key piece of business for the convention was the election of a new state committee. Cris Crawford, while re-elected to the state committee, stepped down and endorsed Jeff Lyons as the new Chair of The Libertarian Association of Massachusetts. The convention also voted overwhelmingly to endorse the FairVote organizations efforts to implement Ranked Choice Voting in Massachusetts via Ballot Referendum.

Dan Fishman's Campaign for Auditor secured the necessary threshold to achieve automatic ballot access for the LP's 2020 Presidential Campaign.

New Hampshire:

Following the Election, The Libertarian party of New Hampshire failed to achieve 4% in the Governor's race, thus losing ballot access for the 2020 campaign. The LPNH has already begun holding regular meetings between Leadership and core activists to plan a full calendar of 2019 activities preparing to reclaim ballot access in 2020.

Maine:

Since Convention, LPME has continued its grassroots fundraising efforts through hosting a series of raffles and public outreach. Information is available on the LPME Website about their ongoing raffles and fundraising efforts to help re-secure ballot access for 2020. They are also in early planning stages for a 2019 Voter Registration drive and working with key members of LPNH to arrange cross-border support and joint activities. Given the difficulty of ballot access in Maine for 2020, a 2019 Voter Registration drive should be a focus of LNC planning, to eliminate the issue of the drive in 2020.

Connecticut:

Connecticut had some shakeups regarding their ballot access status.

Retained CD-2 (my race - 1.1%), Comptroller (allowing people to register as L - 1%).
added Treasurer (2%).

Gained General Assembly Districts 9 (14% of the vote there), 65 (1%), 83 (1%) and 91 (8% of the vote).

Lost US Senate and did not make governor or Secretary of State for ballot access. These were casualties of high turnout.

LPCT's focus for 2019 is building their local infrastructure by chartering town committees and enabling their volunteers to act locally and recruit and grow the party.

We are trying to put together a survey and promote it among regular voters to ascertain the motivations and behaviors to see what advertising worked and why people voted the way they did.

The LPCT State Central Committee has also passed a measure to pursue a measure for a dues sharing program with the LNC. I plan to make a motion regarding a potential solution to this issue, which will allow the LNC and state parties to share in collecting membership enrollments on each other's behalfs,

New Jersey:

Murray Sabrin's campaign for US Senate received less than 1% in the election, and thus LPNJ will have to petition on for 2020 Presidential ticket and LPNJ Candidates.

Vermont:

No Information submitted for this report from LPVT.

New York:

NY Achieved Ballot access thanks to the results of the Sharpe Campaign. The big concern is the new requirements that LPNY will have to follow as a recognized major party in NY. The state party will need to restructure the organization in compliance with state law, and notably,

cannot charge dues for membership any longer, and will need to investigate alternative avenues of fundraising going forward.

Rhode Island:

The Libertarian Party of Rhode Island is continuing to focus on local growth and development of their party. They ran several candidates for the state legislature this past year, and candidates for local office in Providence, but are still not recognized as a major political party by the state.