

New York Prohibitionist



Think NY Vote Dry

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A Vision for the Future

In these trying times, the Prohibition Party of New York continues its work to advocate for positive policies and advance social reform. We offer a vision for a better future for New York. A vision for a new approach to governance focused on moral principle, public service, and advancing the public wellbeing. A vision of a state filled with healthy, prospering communities, and greater opportunity for all New Yorkers. If you are interested in helping to make a positive impact on your state and your community, consider joining the Prohibition Party of New York.

"Always vote for principle, though you may vote alone, and you may cherish the sweetest reflection that you vote is never lost." John Quincy Adams

Prohibition Party Holds National Conference Call

On October 16, the Prohibition National Committee held a national party conference call, to discuss party efforts going forward into the coming year.

Here is a summary of the meeting:

The national committee discussed filling openings in the party's national committee. They will look to follow up with those who may be interested and vote on whether to appoint them at some future meeting.

They discussed looking to run candidates for local offices. Phil Collins of Wisconsin stated that he plans to run for a position on the De Pere school board next year. Jonathan Makeley on New York is considering running for a position on the Sweet Home school board. There was some discussion of Richard Swift's intention to run for senate in Illinois. For that, further investigation needs to be done on the petitioning process.

There was some discussion of ways to further promote the party in news and

online. The party will look into doing a series of online informational events, where those interested in the party can hear from speakers talking about topics that would be of interest to the party.

There was a discussion on looking to find someone who could act as press secretary for the party. The search is ongoing and party members who think they could make a good press secretary are welcome to make their interest known.

A vote was had on whether to disband the party's headquarters committee. For context, the headquarters committee was formed a number of years ago, to look into finding a possible building for a new party national headquarters. The effort did not pan out and the committee has been inactive for some time. The vote to disband the committee was passed by a unanimous vote.

After these matters were discussed, the meeting was adjourned.



New York Prohibition Party to Hold State Conference Call

The Prohibition Party of New York will be holding a statewide conference call to discuss state party efforts going forward into the coming year. The conference call will be on November 6th at 6pm.

Information for accessing the conference call was emailed to state party members earlier. Those who are interested in participating but did not receive an email or who need a reminder of what the call number/ access code are can email newyorkprohibition@aol.com



Some Local Communities Can Vote to Opt-Out of Marijuana Sales

This communing Tuesday is an election day. In various communities, New Yorkers will be voting on whether to opt-out of having recreational marijuana sales in their communities. We would urge voters in all of these communities to vote to opt-out.

Marijuana is an intoxicating drug, which negatively affects the mind and body. Its use can result in negative effects, including brain damage, psychosis, damage to the heart and circulatory system, damage to the lungs if smoked, and decreased work productivity.

Allowing the sale of recreational drugs damages the health and wellbeing of the community. It will inflict increased costs from the social, medical, and economic damages caused by the negative effects of the substance. If you live in one of these communities, you have the chance to help insulate your community from some of the damaging effects that will come from the state legislature's misguided decision to legalize recreational marijuana sales. For the good of your community, you should vote to opt-out.

"Voting is the expression of our commitment to ourselves, one another, this country and this world." – Sharon Salzberg

More Local Communities Move to Opt-Out of Marijuana Sales

More communities in New York have been taking local action against marijuana. As we have mentioned, local communities have until the end of the year to vote to enact local bans on the sale of recreational marijuana. Last month, we had reported that over 100 communities have moved to opt-out of recreational marijuana sales. Since then, the number of local communities opting out has grown to over 220. Hopefully, even more communities will take action before the end of the year.

Sources: https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_89040042b5144f0bf79edbc22d392a.pdf

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Five Statewide Proposals on the Ballot

On this coming election day, voters in New York will be able to vote on five statewide ballot proposals, to decide whether these proposals will be accepted or denied. Here is a summary of the five ballot proposals.

Proposal 1: New York Redistricting Changes Amendment

The proposal would amend the state constitution to change how the state handles its redistricting process.

Under the current process, there is a 10-person redistricting commission consisting of 8 members selected by majority and minority leaders in the state legislators (resulting in 4 Democratic and Republican commissioners), and two commissioners not registered with either major party selected by the others. The commission is the initial designer for plans on how to redraw congressional and state legislative districts following the census. In order for the commission to pass a redistricting plan, it needs at least 7 votes, with votes from at least one commissioner

appointed by each of the legislative leaders. Redistricting plans that go on the be voted on by both houses of the state legislature. It requires a majority vote in both houses if the state senate and assembly if the senate majority and assembly majority are different parties, and requires a two-thirds vote if the majorities in the senate and assembly are from the same party.

The proposal would change the requirements so that the redistricting commission only needs the votes of at least 7 commissioners regardless of which commissioners they are. In the event that the commission can't get 7 votes for a plan, the plan with the most votes goes to be considered by the legislature. The plan would only need to receive a majority vote in both the senate and assembly in order to pass.

It would also change the process for selecting the co-executive leaders of the redistricting commission so that they would be selected based on a simple majority vote of the commission members, remove the requirement that the co-leaders be from different parties, and eliminate an alternative procedure where the state legislature could select the co-executive leaders if the commission members failed to make a decision.

It would freeze the number of state senators at the current number of 63. Currently, under the state constitution, the number of state senators was set at a minimum of 50 and increased over time to 63 to reflect changes in population.

It would require that state senate and assembly districts would be set based on total resident population, including non-citizens and Native Americans. It would also require that incarcerated New Yorkers be counted at their last place of residence rather than place of incarceration. It would remove the block on border rule for designing state senate districts. And it would move up the timeline for the redistricting process.

This proposal has drawn controversy over the fact that it would shift the balance of power so that the majority party in the state legislature would have more power to decide how legislative districts are drawn and give the legislative minority less power in the decision-making process. There has also been

criticism over the fact that all of these proposed changes were lumped together into a signal proposal, instead of having several ballot proposals and allowing New Yorkers to vote on the merits of each proposal.

The Democratic and Republican Parties have traded accusations of the other wanting to grab a disproportionate amount of power and attempt to gerrymander the process. Though both are basing their stances based on what would give their own party greater power over designing the districts. Both the current redistricting system and the proposed redistricting system give the leadership of the two major parties an almost total monopoly on deciding who will be on the redistricting commission and in designing districts that are gerrymandered to support one or both of the major parties. It would be preferable if our state had a redistricting commission that was substantively independent from major party leadership and operated on the principle of establishing districts that were fair for voters of all affiliations. Hopefully, one day we may be able to make substantive changes towards a fairer redistricting system. The primary function of this ballot proposal would be to make it easier for the dominant faction of the state legislature to create a redistricting plan more favorable to their wishes, while reducing the amount of influence the legislative minority has.

Proposal 2: Create a state constitutional right to clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment

The proposal would amend the state constitution to add the section to the state bill of rights declaring the right to clean water, clean air, and a healthy environment for New Yorkers.

The purpose of this amendment would be to expand state constitutional standards for protecting the environment and protecting public health in relation to the environment. The bill's proponents have tended to argue in favor of the amendment as a means of better protecting the environment and public health. While major objections from opponents have tended to focus on concerns over ambiguity and the possibility of increased lawsuits against companies for personal injury or pollution.

If this amendment were to be passed, it could help to advance some of our party's core goals/ Namely, advancing protections for public health and working to improve our state's environment.

Proposal 3: Amendment to Enable the Possibility of Establishing Same Day Voter Registration

The proposal would amend the state constitution to remove a requirement that voters have to register at least 10 days before an election. If this change were made, it would then be possible for the state legislature to pass legislation allowing for same day voter registration.

Proponents of the proposal hope that by passing the amendment that it would enable the state to establish same day voter registration, and hope that by establishing a system of same day voter registration that it could help to increase voter participation rates. Opponents are concerned about whether a system of same day registration could be established in a way that accurately verifies eligible voters and want to prevent it from being attempted.

Proposal 4: Authorizes the legislature to pass a law for no-excuse absentee voting

The proposal would remove existing requirements for requesting an absentee ballot and allow the legislature to be able to enact no excuse absentee voting. Under current rules, a person is generally only able to request an absentee ballot if they know they will be outside of their county of residence on election day, they are affected by an illness, or have a physical disability. If this change were passed, the legislature could enact rules which expand the list of reasons that a person could request an absentee ballot or could establish rules which allow voters in general to request an absentee ballot be sent to them without having to provide a specific reason for absence.

Similar to Proposition 3, the proponents of this change tend to argue that it could help with increasing voter participation. While opponents express concern over how it may affect the election verification process.

Proposal 5: Increase the NYC Civil Court's jurisdiction from civil cases involving \$25,000 to \$50,000

This proposal would amend the state constitution in order to expand the New York City Civil Courts jurisdiction for deciding civil lawsuits. Currently, the court can decide civil lawsuits up to \$25,000 in value. This proposal would allow them to decide civil lawsuits up to \$50,000 in value.

This proposal was placed on the ballot with unanimous support from all Democratic, Republican, and Independent members of the state legislature. Proponents of the change contend that this expansion would help to account for decades of inflation since the \$25,000 jurisdiction limit was set, and that expanding the court's jurisdiction would help to reduce the backlog of cases in New York City courts.

Sources:https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_2024_ballot_measures?fbclid=IwAR1RinErzPKIAHhEr5f5M6dAMhA866ur3CagDH7ahm2uM0zWwGdIk
[https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_1_Redistricting_Changes_Amendment_\(2021\)](https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_1_Redistricting_Changes_Amendment_(2021))
<https://www.elections.ny.gov/2021BallotProposals.html>
[https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_2_Environmental_Rights_Amendment_\(2021\)](https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_2_Environmental_Rights_Amendment_(2021))
[https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_3_Remove_10-Day_Absentee_Voter_Registration_Requirement_Amendment_\(2021\)](https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_3_Remove_10-Day_Absentee_Voter_Registration_Requirement_Amendment_(2021))
[https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_4_Allow_For_No-Excuse_Absentee_Voting_Amendment_\(2021\)](https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_4_Allow_For_No-Excuse_Absentee_Voting_Amendment_(2021))
[https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_5_NYC_Civil_Court_Jurisdiction_Amendment_\(2021\)](https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_5_NYC_Civil_Court_Jurisdiction_Amendment_(2021))

New York State Cut Losses with \$200 million in Equipment for Buffalo Billion

The State Government has moved to cut its losses with \$200 million worth of equipment that it had purchased as part of its Buffalo Billion economic development efforts.

As part of the Buffalo Billion, the state government had agreed to construct the RiverBend manufacturing facility in South Buffalo for businesses including Tesla and Panasonic and had purchased hundreds of millions worth of equipment for manufacturing solar panels. Much of this equipment was purchased in 2015 and early 2016, before Tesla had purchased Solar City. In addition, after Panasonic left the facility in 2020, they left behind \$127 million in equipment. The state-associated non-profit involved with managing RiverBend has moved towards selling off and scrapping equipment originally valued at \$207 million.

This instance reflects the mixed results that our state has had with its economic development efforts over the past decade. Going forward, our state needs to reform its approach to economic

development to be more holistic and effective.

Source:https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/rochester/politics/2021/10/18/ny-cutting-its-losses-on-high-tech-equipment-purchased-with-buffalo-billion?cid=id-app15_m-share_s-web_cmp-app_launch_august2020_c-producer_posts_po-organic

Viewing Redistricting Plans

New York State is in the process of working to design its congressional and state legislative districts. The New York Independent Restricting Commission has designed at least two plans for possible district outlines. In order to help inform voters, Steven Romalewski of the CUNY Center for Urban Research has created an online interactive map that allows users to see the details of proposed congressional, state senate, and state assembly districts under each plan.

The website can be found via this link:
https://newyork.redistrictingandyou.org/?districtType=cd&propA=current_2012&propB=nyircnamed_20210915#%26map=5.5/42.957/-75.332

Sources:https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/buffalo/ny-state-of-politics/2021/10/18/how-voters-can-see-how-redistricting-affects-them?cid=id-app15_m-share_s-web_cmp-app_launch_august2020_c-producer_posts_po-organic
https://newyork.redistrictingandyou.org/?districtType=cd&propA=current_2012&propB=nyircnamed_20210915#%26map=5.5/42.957/-75.332

New York Prohibition Party History

James H. Rand

James Henry Rand I was born on May 29, 1859, in North Tonawanda, New York. He was the son of Calvin Gordon Rand (b.1832-d.1872) and Almira Hershe (Long) Rand. He was the 3rd of 9 children. He spent the early part of his life growing up in Wheatfield, New York, and had attended the local public school. His father died in 1872. His mother married her second husband, Henry W. Kimball, and they moved to Sweden, New York. Rand studied at the State Normal School in Brockport. At the age of 18, he started his first job as a railroad telegraph operator. In 1880, he moved in with his brother Benjamin in Tonawanda, New York.

After moving to Tonawanda, Rand started a career in banking. He became a clerk at the banking house of Evans, Schwinger & Co. He then worked for the State Bank of North Tonawanda, as a clerk and later a teller. In 1882, Rand had served as the clerk for the North Tonawanda Board of Education. Rand married Mary Jameson (Scribner) Rand (b.1863-d.1934) in 1884. They had five children: Adelaide Almira Rand (b.1884-d.1963), James Henry Rand II (b.1886-

d.1968), Mary Scribner (Rand) Rich (b.1889), Mabel Scribner Rand (b.1893-d.1971), and Phillip Scribner Rand (b.1906).

In 1886, Rand had become a cashier at the Lumber Exchange Bank in North Tonawanda. By 1888, he had moved to the neighboring town of Wheatfield. In 1888, he became an excise commissioner in Wheatfield. He lived in Wheatfield, until at least 1892 and had moved to North Tonawanda sometime between 1892 and 1900. In 1894, he left his position at the Lumber Exchange Bank in North Tonawanda, to open his own private banking business. He also became president of the Buffalo, Niagara Falls, and Tonawanda Electric Railroad Company. In 1897, William Pool described Rand as having been eminently successful as a banker and as one of the most prominent businessmen in North Tonawanda.

During his time as a Banker in the 1880s and 1890s, Rand had turned his attention to organizing and innovating the banking process. In the 1880s, American banking was expanding and many people had begun opening bank accounts. This expansion of banking made it difficult for banks to keep track of a larger number of accounts and records. While working as a banker, Rand looked for ways to better organize bank records. He created a system of folders, tabs, and index cards, to keep track of records for each account. This system improved the efficiency of the banks he worked at. He came to recognize that the system he created could be commercially valuable. By 1897, he had founded the Rand Ledger company.

Rand had founded the Rand Ledger Company, as a company that would sell his systems of records organization and office supplies that would be involved. He acted as president of the company and headed up efforts to invent and develop new products, while he brought in his brother Benjamin as vice-president and head of manufacturing. Rand continued to produce a variety of new products for the company, including bank index files for deposits, tickets, and checks, stop payment registers, and sorters. The company would eventually expand to produce office products for a variety of businesses. In the process, Rand helped to revolutionize the organization and equipment of American banks and business offices.

By 1910, Rand had moved to the state of Massachusetts, where he appears to have lived for the remainder of his life.

James H. Rand I's business continued to develop over time. In 1908, his son James H. Rand II had graduated from Harvard and joined his company. His son quickly rose through the ranks of management. In 1910, a period of illness caused James H. Rand I to temporarily step down as head of the Rand Ledger Company. His son took over as head of the company, until he recovered and returned in 1914. There was some tension between Rand and his son, due to differing views on how to expand the company, and Rand's tendency to overrule his son eventually led his son to leave the company.

In 1915, James H. Rand II, created his own office supply company, American Kardex. Within five years, the company had grown into a major office supply company, which could compete with Rand Ledger. The two companies continued to compete with each other until Mary Jameson Rand convinced James Rand I and James Rand II to end their competition with each other. The companies were merged to form Rand Kardex Bureau. While his son headed the new company, James H. Rand I remained involved in the company for the next two years. He worked to develop products and expand the company. In 1927, the company merged with Remington Typewriter to form the Remington Rand Company. His son, James H. Rand II would continue to head the company until 1958.

James H. Rand I died on September 15, 1944, in Boston, Massachusetts. He was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Falmouth, Barnstable County, Massachusetts.

Source: https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_b4f96ee113a24dfbaeafe0223fb7a03c.pdf

Join the Positive Alternative

Join the Prohibition Party

A party that stands for good governance and protecting the lives and wellbeing of the people



"The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter." – Dwight D. Eisenhower

Charles T. Potter



Charles Tripp Potter was born on August 14, 1842, in Hector, New York. He was the son of John Avery Potter (b.1805-d.1878) and Rebekah (Tripp) Potter (b.1810-d.1891), who were originally from Massachusetts and had come to live in the town of Hector. Charles Potter had grown up in Hector and spent his life living in the town. He worked as a dry goods clerk in his youth and made a living as a farmer for much of his life. He married his first wife Eunice Ann (Stillman) Potter on January 30, 1867, and had two children: their adopted son William Henry (Houghtailing) Potter (b.1871-d.1951) and their daughter Jennie Sue (Potter) Updike (b.1876-d.1969).

Charles T. Potter was an active supporter of the cause of temperance. In 1887, he was nominated as the Prohibition Party candidate for Town Supervisor of Hector. He also received the endorsement of local democrats. He won the election with a majority of the vote.

After his time as Town Supervisor, Potter continued to make a living as a farmer. He lost his first wife in 1906. In 1908, he married his second wife, Tirzah L. (Cooper) Potter, who was also entering into her second marriage. On June 28th, 1913, Charles T. Potter died in his home in Mecklenburg hamlet, Hector, New York, as a result of a shock of paralysis. He was buried in Jones Cemetery Hector, Schuyler County, New York.

Source: https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_b4f96ee113a24dfbaeafe0223fb7a03c.pdf