

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.

"To be good, and do good, is the whole duty of man comprised in a few words." Abigail Adams

State and National Party News

The Prohibition Party continues to move forward on the state and national level. On the national level, the Prohibition Party has been working on various preparations for its upcoming 2023 national conference and the 2024 elections. The Prohibition Party has also been working to revitalize and expand its social media messaging. The party's new social media committee has been working to increase party engagement on social media. In Wisconsin, National Chairman Phil Collins is running for a seat on the DePere City Council.

On the state level, the Prohibition Party of New York continues to work on legislative activism. We've been working to promote bills in areas including improving support for prevention and addiction recovery programs, stronger laws against drunk driving, stronger restrictions on tobacco sales, and seeking to repeal the anti-democratic 2020 ballot access law changes.

Legislative Activities

The Prohibition Party of New York continues to work on legislative activism. With a new legislative session having begun, there are various opportunities to advocate for positive policies and to oppose negative policies. Towards this end, we will highlight some notable bills in the state legislature.

State Senator Comrie has reintroduced the Addiction Prevention and Recovery Act in the State Senate. The bill, if passed, would significantly increase funding for prevention and addiction treatment programs for alcohol and other drugs. The bill has been introduced in this year's legislative session as Bill S1546. We have still not yet found a member of the State Assembly to reintroduce the bill in that chamber of the legislature. So, we will need to continue to reach out to state assembly members to try to find one that can be convinced.

There is a new effort to stronger laws against drunk driving. State Assemblywoman Jo Anne Simon and State Senator John Liu have introduced Bill A01627/S0776. The bill would lower the minimal blood alcohol concentration for a DUI offense from 0.8% BAC to 0.5% BAC and would lower the BAC required for aggravated DWI from 0.18% BAC to 0.12% BAC. This would work to discourage drunk driving and reduce the number of deaths from drunk driving. This is backed by both scientific research showing that at 0.5% BAC alcohol has already begun to cause notable physical and mental impairments that affect driving, the fact that the state of Utah has seen a 20% reduction in drunk driving fatalities since it enacted its own 0.5 BAC standard, and research that indicates that New York state could reduce drunk driving deaths by roughly 10% through passing this bill. The bill has been cosponsored by 10 other members of the State Senate and 13 other



members of the State Assembly. It has gained the support of various groups seeking to reduce drunk driving, such as MADD. While there appears to be growing momentum in favor of this bill, more work will need to be done in order to ensure that the state legislature moves forward with passing this bill.

There have been some anti-smoking bills that have been introduced in the legislature. State Senator Addabbo and State Assemblyman Dinowitz have introduced Bill A00699/S4477. The bill would ban the sale of flavored smokeless tobacco within 500 feet of a school. The bill has been referred to the State Assembly's committee on health and the State Senate's committee on health. State Assemblywoman Glick has introduced Bill A01918, which would ban smoking and vaping on the grounds of public colleges and universities. The bill has been referred to the Assembly committee on health. Assemblywoman Rosenthal has introduced Bill A00083 (which would ban the sale of any electronic cigarette or vape product that does not have FDA authorization) and Bill A00044 (which would require electronic cigarette manufacturers to include a warning on their products that they may pose an explosion hazard). Both bills have been referred to the Assembly's committee on health. The fact that each of these bills have been referred to the State Assembly and/or State Senate committees on health, indicates that the members of these committees would be people to

convince in order to help advance stronger policies against tobacco sales.

We have some positive news in regards to ballot access bills. In the 2021-2022 legislative session, then-Assemblyman John Salka had introduced a bill that would repeal many of the anti-democratic changes to state ballot access laws that were made back in 2020 and would restore more achievable standards for independent candidates and minor parties to participate in state elections. Following Salka's retirement from the state legislature, the Prohibition Party of New York has been seeking to find a member of the state legislature to take up the task of reintroducing the bill for this year's legislative session.

State Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush has now introduced Bill A03312. This bill would change the number of signatures required for independent and minor party candidates to get on ballot for statewide office back to 15,000 signatures (from its current 45,000), would change the number of votes required for a minor party to acquire or retain statewide party status back to 50,000 (from the current 130,000 votes or 2% of the total vote, whichever is higher), and change the period for petitioning to get on the ballot from 6 weeks to 12 weeks. The bill has been co-sponsored by Assemblymembers Angelino, DeStefano, Miller, and Tague. The bill has been referred to the Assembly committee on election law. Now that the bill has been reintroduced, we can work to encourage members of the state legislature to support its passage.

In the state senate, Senators Robert Jackson and James Sanders have introduced Bill S1031. This bill would repeal part of the 2020 ballot access law changes, by restoring the old standard for determining statewide party status. It would restore the old standard that any party that received 50,000 votes for its candidate for governor would have official state party recognition and statewide ballot access for the next four years. This will would have the benefit of fully restoring the old standard for gaining state party status. Though, it does not address fixing the required number of signatures that a party would need to collect in order to get their candidate on the ballot for governor in order to try to

get the votes they would need for state party status. Hopefully, they or some other member of the State Senate could be convinced to introduce an accompanying bill to either restore the old 15,000 signature requirement or set an even lower number.

In other election-related matters, Assemblymember Paulin has introduced bill A01218. The bill, if passed, would establish a ranked choice voting system for presidential elections in New York state. In a ranked choice voting system, voters would rank their preference for each candidate. Voters' first choice of candidates would be tabulated first. If no candidate received the majority of votes, then a set of instant runoff tabulations are done, where the candidate with the least votes is eliminated, and citizens' votes go to the next candidate they ranked in order of preference. This is done until a candidate reaches a majority of votes. This method of voting has the function of allowing for voters casting their ballot in an election with three or more candidates to vote for the candidate that they most prefer without having to worry about the so-called 'spoiler effect', since if the candidate the most prefer doesn't get enough votes in the first round, then their vote would go to their next most preferred candidate. This system of voting can be useful for independent and minor party candidates seeking to convince voters to support them and, in some cases, can help them to get elected. Bill A01218 has been referred to the Assembly committee on election law.

On the economic front, State Senator Sanders and State Assemblymember Hunter have introduced Bill A03352/S1754, known as the New York public banking act. This bill would allow local governments to form and control public banks for the purposes of serving the financial needs of communities and fostering economic development. The bill has been cosponsored by nearly half of all members of the State Senate and over one-third of all members of the State Assembly. It has been referred to the State Assembly committee on banks and the State Senate committee on Banks. State Senator Sanders and State Assemblywoman Peoples-Stokes have introduced Bill A02536/S1756, which would establish a State of New York Public

Bank. The bill has been referred to the State Assembly committee of banks and the State Senate committee on finance.

On the more negative side of things, we have seen various pro-alcohol bills that have been introduced in the state legislature. The most dangerous of these bills is Bill A02446/S3484, introduced by State Senator Skoufis and State Assemblymember Bronson. This bill would remove the ability of towns and cities to vote to enact their own local restrictions and bans on the sale of alcohol. If passed, it would eliminate all of the dry and partially dry communities in our state and make it so that local communities would not be able to enact local prohibition in the future. If this bill were to pass, it would undermine the health and wellbeing of numerous communities in our state and would cut the ability of local communities to address alcohol as a social and public health problem in their communities. It would allow alcohol communities to spread their toxic products into more communities, inflicting additional damages to the social and economic condition of communities, while forcing the residents of those communities to bear the costs of those damages. This bill must be rejected and defeated for the good of New Yorkers. The bill has been referred to the State Assembly's committee on economic development and the State Senate's committee on Investigations and Government Operations. Sensible New Yorkers should contact their state legislators, as well as the state legislators that hold positions on the two committees, and urge them to reject Bill A02446/S3484.

There are several other pro-alcohol bills that have been introduced in this year's legislative session. These include Bill A01947/S3496 (which would give additional special tax breaks to the alcohol industry), Bill A03415 (which would allow alcohol to be given as prizes in any game of chance), Bill A00353/S3460 (which would make it easier for alcohol sellers to make joint purchases of alcohol), Bill A01465 (which authorize retail licenses to sell alcohol for on-premise consumption in airport lounges), Bill A01580 (which would expand the ability of establishments that sell alcohol to be able to hold recreational contests, which may include wagers

among participants), Bill A03071 (which would expand the ability of companies to that sell alcohol for on-premise consumption to buy wine from ones that sell alcohol for off-premise consumption), Bill A03356 (which would create a category of licenses to allow sale wholesalers to sell alcohol), Bill A03397 (which would allow individuals to hold for that one seven day liquor license at a time, as well as creating a fund for marketing and promoting wine and distilled spirits paid for by tax payers), Bill S03386 (which would allow grocery stores and drug stores to sell wine), Bill A02326 (which would designate part of the state highway system as the North Country Craft Beer Trail), Bill S02722 (which would create another form of temporary permit for selling craft alcoholic beverages), Bill A03704 (which would make it easier to sell alcohol in movie theaters), Bill A03844 (which would make it easier for alcohol companies to transport alcohol within the state, from other states into the state, and from the state to other states), A04082 (which would waive liquor license renewal fees for the year), Bill A02961/S4412 (which would create licenses to sell alcohol in cigar lounges, and Bill S03567 (which would permit alcohol companies to sell or gift certain complementary products for wine and spirits). These bills work towards the end of weakening state restrictions on alcohol sales, misusing state resources to promote the alcohol industry, and undermining the health and wellbeing of New Yorkers. As such, they should be opposed and will hopefully be rejected by the state legislature.

Those who are looking for more information on bills, information on which legislators are on which committees, or information on how to message members of the state legislature can find information on the State Assembly and State Senate websites.

State Assembly: <https://nyassembly.gov/>

State Senate: <https://www.nysenate.gov/>

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Governor Puts out State Budget Proposal

Governor Kathy Hochul has put out her proposal for the 2024 state budget. Her proposed budget includes a variety of proposed changes to funding, taxation, tax-credits, and certain policies. Her budget proposal has been outlined in a 164-page document that her administration has released.

Those who would like to read the full document can access it via this link: <https://www.budget.ny.gov/pubs/archive/fy24/ex/book/briefingbook.pdf>

With the Governor's proposed budget, there are various positive aspects, negative aspects, and controversies that can be highlighted.

The governor's proposal includes a proposed law to ban the sale of flavored tobacco in the state. If this element makes it into the final budget and passes, then it would be a victory for public health.

There are various proposals in the budget outline that appear to be positive. These include some proposals for investing in some areas of education, some investments in environmental protection, some investments into economic development for small towns, some investments into developing aspects of the state's infrastructure, funding to expand clean water systems, funding

updates to state electrical systems, programs to clean up areas contaminated by hazardous chemicals, funding various efforts to expand accessibility, housing access, and job opportunities for disabled New Yorkers, efforts to address food deserts in parts of the state, funding programs to expand access to mental healthcare in the state, supporting increased efforts by law enforcement to combat fentanyl, and supporting efforts by the state's human rights department to investigate and address cases of illegal discrimination in the state.

The budget proposal also includes some increased funding for programs to address opioids, including prevention, addiction treatment, and recovery programs. Though there is some concern that the Governor's planned allocations do not include enough support for cessation programs and that the apparent overall strategy that the governor's administration is pursuing may neglect efforts to help people achieve full recovery.

There are some notably negative things in the budget proposal. This includes using state agencies to promote the marijuana industry, spending hundreds of millions in state money to support the gambling industry, and weakening restrictions on the sale of lottery tickets.

Governor Hochul's proposed budget has faced criticism for proposing tax breaks for certain industries that would benefit some of her corporate donors. There has particular criticism of proposed tax breaks for real estate developers that would financially benefit at least a dozen real-estate developers who collectively donated \$564,000 to her campaign.

The Governor's budget plan has received criticism for some of its proposed changes to Medicaid funding. There are those who claim the governor's plan would shift too much of the cost of the state's Medicaid funding onto local governments. There have also been those who claim that this plan would reappropriate federal funds from the Affordable Care Act that are supposed to go to local governments and have those funds to kept by the state government instead.

On the matter of education funding, there have been some contentions. The state has long had a problem with the state government systemically underfunding many schools in our state, particularly schools in upstate, rural, and low-income urban parts of the state. This problem has gone on for two decades after a 2003 court ruling that states that the state's underfunding of schools violated the state constitution. In 2006, a plan was developed to try to fix disparities in school funding, but the state legislature did follow through with it. Following yet another court case in 2021, the governor and state legislature promised to increase foundation aid spending for schools in 2023-2024 to try to make up for funding disparities. The governor's proposed budget does include a notable increase in foundation aid spending towards that end. Though some advocates have pointed out that the planned foundation aid is using a formula for calculating aid based on old demographic data from the 2000 census. Advocates and scholars from Columbia University have stated that the state government should update its formulas for calculating aid to reflect contemporary demographic, economic, and educational conditions and have proposed that the state should create a commission that would help with developing plans for equitable school funding in future years.

Additionally, there are those who have criticized the education section of the governor's budget plan for cutting funding to specialized schools that focus on students with special medical needs, attempting to change the cap on charter schools in New York City, increasing tuition rates for SUNY and CUNY colleges, and not including funding for universal free school lunches.

There are those that criticize the parts of the proposed budget involved with Governor Hochul's planned effort to construct 800,000 new houses in the state. Various local government leaders have criticized the Governor's proposed housing plan as being misguided in its approach and threatening the ability of local communities to make decisions over zoning and development. New York Conference of Mayors Executive Director Peter Baynes has stated that,

"Abandoning local governments, as this budget largely does, will only make New York a less attractive place to live and work...To make matters even worse, the Governor also mistakenly lays New York's housing shortage problem at the feet of local officials and proposes to allow the State to override local zoning and land use decisions. Holding municipalities solely responsible for housing growth ignores the fact that not every community has the developable land or buildings, necessary infrastructure, sufficient demand or builder appetite to meet an arbitrary housing growth threshold set by a state government that cannot possibly know the needs and conditions of individual communities."

The Governor's budget plan includes some proposed changes to New York State's bail laws. These proposed changes would include giving judges increased discretion to be able to detain people awaiting trial who are considered to pose a flight risk or danger to others. These proposed changes will likely attract contention and debate among legislators and activists on various sides of the bail reform issue.

The Governor's budget plan also includes some proposed changes to the concealed carry gun law that she had passed last year, which banned the carrying of guns in many public spaces, and faces multiple legal challenges in court. The proposed changes would include language that would exempt large parks, like the Adirondack and Catskill parks from the ban on carrying guns in parks, and allow for the use of guns for filmmaking sets, historical reenactments, and military funeral ceremonies.

The state budget process will move forward over the following months and will undoubtedly involve discussion, debate, and negotiation over various aspects of the state budget. The state legislature will review and potentially amend some aspects of the proposed budget. A finalized version of the budget will be developed and voted on by the legislature. The deadline for completing and passing the 2024 state budget is April 1st. Though, if legislators can't reach an agreement for passing the budget on time, the budget might not pass until after the deadline.

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"To befool the unholy alliance between corrupt business and corrupt politics is the first task of the statesmanship of today." ~ Theodore Roosevelt

Majority of Americans Support Widespread Ban on Tobacco Products

A majority of Americans support a widespread ban on the sale of tobacco products, according to a new CDC study. The study surveyed over 6,400 U.S. adults on whether they would support policies restricting tobacco sales. They found that 62.3% supported enacting a policy to ban the sale of menthol cigarettes and 57.3% supported enacting a policy to ban the sale of all tobacco products. It found that a majority supported enacting retail policies aiming to prevent initial use, help people quit tobacco, and reduce health disparities.

The study found that enacting a ban on the sale of menthol cigarettes was supported by 59.5% of men, 65% of women, 57.4% of those with a high school education or less, and 68.7% of those with a college degree or higher. It was supported by about two-thirds of those who do not use tobacco products and around one-third of current tobacco users.

They found that enacting a ban on all tobacco products was supported by 52.2% of men, 62.2% of women, 57.7% of those aged 60 or older, 61.7% of those ages 18-29, 56.3% of those with a high school education or less, 60.6% of those with a college degree or higher, 54.4% of white

adults, 60.5% of Hispanic adults, 63.4% of African-American adults, and 67.4% of adults from other racial and ethnic backgrounds. It was supported by about 61% of those who do not use tobacco products and around one-fourth of those who do use tobacco products.

The results of this study indicate a significant and growing support for policies against the sale of tobacco products, especially among women, those who are college-educated, and people of color. While this study has served to highlight significant support for stronger policies against tobacco sales, there is still additional research that can be done to help better gauge public support. As the study points out, some areas for future research include the level of support for bans on tobacco sales in localities that already have local bans versus those that do not, the relative support for restrictions on tobacco sales by different levels of government (federal, state, local), and support for restrictions on tobacco sales by members of the LGBTQ+ community. Though in the meantime, this study can help to inform efforts to promote the passage of stronger policies against the sale of tobacco.

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"Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives." James Madison



Judge Upholds Block on Marijuana Dispensary Licenses in Several Parts of New York State

A federal judge in the Northern District of New York had upheld an injunction that temporarily blocks the issuing of marijuana dispensary licenses in several parts of New York State. The injunction was issued by a federal district judge back in November and blocks the issuing of licenses for marijuana dispensaries in Western New York, the Finger Lakes, Central New York, the Mid-Hudson, and Brooklyn.

This action stems from a lawsuit challenging licensing rules made by New York State's Office of Cannabis management. After the state legislature made the misguided decision to legalize marijuana recreational sales, the Office of Cannabis Management was tasked with setting up various aspects of the state's regulatory system for marijuana sales. The office had made the decision that it would give to give its first round of dispensary licenses to businesses where a principal owner was previously convicted of a marijuana offense in the state. One marijuana company decided to sue in federal district court, after their request for a license was rejected because one of their principal owner's marijuana conviction was in a different state. They challenged, claiming that the state rules violate their constitutional rights under the commerce clause. In November, A federal district judge issued an injunction blocking the state from issuing licenses in several parts of the state, while the case makes its way through the court.

Following the issuing of the injunction, the New York State's Attorney General's office attempted to challenge both the injunction and the case. Its lawyers tried to make a motion for the judge to alter the injunction to allow for marijuana license dispensary licenses to be issued. They also made a motion requesting for the judge to dismiss or stay the case pending appeal. The judge rejected both motions and ruled the injunction will continue to block the issuing of dispensary licenses in parts of the state, while this case moves forward.

While this case provides the temporary benefit of keeping marijuana dispensaries

out of parts of the state for the time being, it also displays a level of absurdity in the situation. Here we have a marijuana company making the ludicrous argument that the commerce clause of the constitution gives them the right to acquire a license from the state to sell a substance that is federally illegal under interstate commerce. Along with that is the ridiculous underlying idea that the state should be required to furnish a market for them. Neither this company, nor any other, has the right to sell products that are harmful to the public wellbeing. And more broadly, the state is not obligated to provide anyone with a market for any product. While the state government made a poor decision legalizing recreational marijuana sales in the first place, and its decisions regarding the regulation of marijuana sales are questionable in various ways, the state government still has the general power to set regulations for businesses and set standards for who qualifies for the privilege of acquiring a commercial license created by the state. Hopefully, this court case will not produce any poorly conceived decisions that would imply any sort of 'right' for businesses to sell marijuana.

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"These words are addressed to the prohibitionists who believe in the principles here enunciated, and propose to support those principles at the ballot box. We are enlisted for the war, and the struggle will be a long and desperate one before our principles can be fully engrafted upon the laws of the land."

- John N. Stearns

"I love agitation and investigation and glory in defending unpopular truth against popular error." James A. Garfield

The Prohibition Party of New York Response to Governor Kathy Hochul's 2023 State of the State Address

January 18, 2023

On January 10th, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul delivered her annual state of the state address, laying forth her own understanding of the condition of the state, and her proposals of what he would like to see in the coming year. In the interest of advancing a productive discourse as to the condition and future of the state of New York, we of the Prohibition Party of New York will put forward a response to Governor Hochul's address; in which, we will evaluate his statements and proposals, and counter by articulating our own vision and proposals for the state.

The beginning segment of Governor Hochul's address serves to show the governor's cognitive dissonance. Governor Hochul claims to believe that the fight to do what is right is always worth pursuing and quotes Francis Perkins' statement that "government should aim to give all the people under its jurisdiction the best possible life". Though before this, she starts off with a joke about her extending alcohol-to-go sales. She fails to acknowledge that her efforts to weaken state restrictions on alcohol sales and promote the alcohol industry is the opposite of the ideals she claims to support. That she has been fighting for what is wrong, rather than what is right. That making it easier for companies to exploit and harm consumers through the sale of alcohol and other harmful products damages public health and makes the lives of New Yorkers worse. If Governor Hochul truly wishes to make the lives of New Yorkers better, then she should realize the error of her ways and stop her misguided support of the alcohol industry. As should the members of the state legislature.

Sensible New Yorkers must continue to stand up and speak out to our elected officials. To send them the message that they should stand for public health and

wellbeing instead of greed, that they should stand for honest businesses rather than businesses that sell toxic products, and that they should treat alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs as the social and public health problems that they are.

On a brighter note, Governor Hochul devoted a section of her speech to the topic of addressing mental illness. The governor put forward several proposals for addressing the need for mental healthcare, including expanding access to inpatient and outpatient treatment, expanding mental healthcare for children in schools, expanding mental healthcare for those seeking to overcome addiction, and programs to help those dealing with both mental health to have access to housing. Her comments on the matter appear to express an understanding of the importance of focusing on the needs and interests of those seeking mental healthcare. Hopefully, the governor and legislature will make good on working to improve mental healthcare in the state.

Governor Hochul has stated that her administration intends to work with federal law enforcement to take greater action against the traffic of fentanyl and other illicit drugs. She also stated that the state would aim to further advance the development and implementation of drug detection technologies. It is good to see that the state government intends to take some actions to address the opioid crisis and illicit drug trafficking.

Governor Hochul stated her intention to address housing issues by expanding the construction of new houses in the state. She stated her intention to enact policies and projects to help construct 800,000 houses over the following decade. She claimed that the state would provide additional funding to communities for the construction of schools, roads, sewers, and other things to support new residents. On this matter, we would point out that it is important that development efforts take into account the needs and interests of communities, the development of institutions and services to meet the needs of the public, environmental wellbeing, and the interests of public health. In addition, the state should keep in mind both the challenges faced by many small communities in our state that

have been affected by population loss and the many opportunities there can be to foster the revitalization of these communities. And on the matter of housing in this state, it should be acknowledged that the difficulties faced by those trying to become homeowners is not merely due to a lack of supply. That rising housing prices have in part been driven by corporations buying up houses, to remove them from the market and profit off driving up prices for regular home buyers. These dynamics and the ways in which the state government seeks to address them will affect the degree to which the administration will be able to succeed in its stated goal of increasing the availability of affordable housing.

In her speech, Governor Hochul did not make any mention of addressing the anti-democratic changes to state ballot access laws that were made in 2020. In 2020, then-Governor Cuomo and his coconspirators in the state legislature passed a set of blatantly anti-democratic changes to state ballot access laws, which have made it vastly harder for minor party and independent candidates to get on the ballot for statewide offices and made it almost impossible for minor parties to gain and retain statewide ballot access recognition. These changes infringe on the ability of minor parties and independent candidates to participate in elections and reduce the ability of New Yorkers to vote for the candidate of their choice. Governor Hochul has been silent on this matter and has done nothing to help restore fairer ballot access standards, despite being in a position where she could encourage the legislature to take action. The failure of the legislature to take action has resulted in four parties losing their statewide ballot access and in the 2022 election being the first election with only two candidates on ballot for Governor since 1946. The Prohibition Party of New York calls for these ballot access changes to be repealed and for every party that had its statewide ballot status unjustly stripped from them restored.

Overall, the Governor's speech is of mixed quality. While the Governor's speech contains some positive proposals, which will hopefully be advanced, the Governor is still affected by the ongoing issues. She continues to fail to recognize

the contradiction between her professed ideals and her support of regressive policies that are detrimental to New Yorkers. She continues to remain silent on important matters and fails to stand up against anti-democratic elements that worked to erode free electoral participation in our state. Hopefully, citizen activism and legislative action will help to advance the positive proposals, while the negative proposals are rejected, and sensible members of the legislature will take up the cause of addressing the matters that the governor has overlooked.

Having responded to the governor's statements, let us turn to our own vision and proposals.

The Prohibition Party of New York puts forward a vision of good government, based in moral principle, ethical public service, and advancing the public wellbeing. To this end, we put forward the following proposals.

We must work to address alcohol and other drugs as the social and public health problems that they are. We should work to end any and all state support for the alcohol industry and other such harmful industries. That includes prohibiting state agencies from being used to support the alcohol industry or its products, eliminating all special tax cuts that were given to the alcohol industry, prohibiting state money from being used to support any alcohol manufacturing or selling business, and restrengthen state restrictions on the alcohol industry. We should adopt a comprehensive approach to address the harm of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. This includes developing and expanding education programs, to educate the public on the harms of alcohol and drugs, spread awareness of the benefits of teetotalism, and help prevent people from using alcohol and other drugs in the first place. It includes expanding addiction treatment programs to help those seeking to overcome addiction, as well as developing and expanding cessation programs to help users in general who are seeking help to quit alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. It involves working to expand supports that help to deal with problems that exacerbate and/or are exacerbated by the use of alcohol and other drugs. Such as working to improve mental healthcare. It

also involves addressing the commercial aspect of this problem. We should work to enact policies that will increase restrictions on the sale of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. We should enact policies that will work to transition communities and businesses away from the sale of intoxicants and towards products and services that do not harm public health. We should work to build a culture of sobriety and work towards dismantling the alcohol, tobacco, and other recreational drug industries. By embracing a comprehensive approach, our state could make great progress

New York should stand for the principles of democracy and free participation in our elections. We urge the state legislature to repeal the anti-democratic changes to state ballot access laws passed in 2020, so that we may help to heal the damage done to our electoral system. And even after those damages our fixed, we must continue to move towards further progress. Our state should move in the direction of establishing fair ballot access rules, which would better allow for New Yorkers of all affiliations to participate in the electoral process and vote for the candidates of their choice.

In order for our state to progress, we must work to further advance the principles of equality, justice, and the protection of public wellbeing in our society. We should work to enact stronger state ethics laws and increase anticorruption efforts. We should work to improve our system of law enforcement so that it may better provide equal justice for all New Yorkers. We should work to reform our state's institutions to be more effective and better serve the public.

Our state should work to take stronger actions to combat sexual predators. We should work towards abolishing the statute of limitations for rape and the sexual abuse of children. We should also enact policies to take stronger actions to prevent and combat domestic violence and child abuse.

Our state should adopt a sensible and holistic approach to economics. We should work to rebuild our economy in a sensible way, that deals with the challenges imposed by the pandemic and

international inflation, meets the needs of New Yorkers, and that supports honest productive businesses. The state government should not fall into misguided efforts to support greedy companies at the expense of the public wellbeing or promote social ills in the name of revenue, as they have done in the past. Rather the state should pursue opportunities for positive economic growth. Whether that be through expanding our physical and digital infrastructure, further developing our green energy industries, expanding education and job training opportunities, or various other efforts.

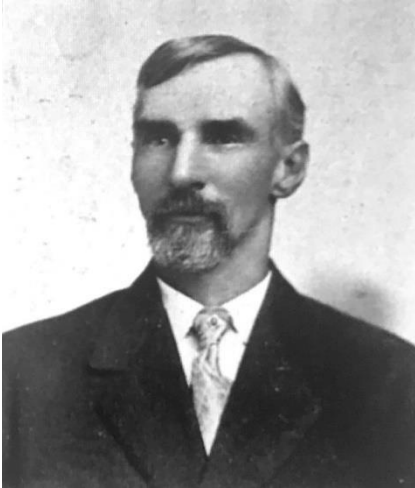
We should take further actions to protect the environment and advance renewable energy.

We should work to expand opportunities and improve services for those in the state living with disabilities.

We should reform our education system to improve the quality of education and ensure adequate funding for all schools. We should work to tackle the education gap created during the pandemic, to restrengthen the teaching of key subjects in schools, and advance informational literacy, critical thinking, and civic engagement. We should further expand TAP and other financial aid efforts, and work towards a system where all New Yorkers have a reasonable opportunity to a debt-free education at any of the state's public and non-profit independent colleges, universities, and vocational schools.

We welcome those who wish to help build a better future for New York to join us in our effort to seek positive reforms for our state, and to stand for moral principle, public wellbeing, and progress, against the regressive forces of greed and permissivism, who seek to drag down our state for their own selfish gain. As William Jennings Bryan had said, "The humblest citizen of all the land, when clad in the armor of a righteous cause, is stronger than all the hosts of error." Today, we may not have a large army of torchbearers, but we will light a torch that will burn on as we come together and march towards our destination. Let us work to build a better future for the people of New York state.

New York Prohibition Party History



F.S. Place

Frederick Sherman "F.S." Place was a teacher, professor, agriculturalist, craftsman, and local Prohibition Party politician in Alfred, New York. He served a term as town supervisor of Alfred, New York, in 1898.

F.S. Place was born on August 15, 1858, in Wirt, New York. He was the son of Alvin Ayers "Alva" Place (1821-1898) and Ruth (Sherman) Place (1827-1895). His father was a pastor for the Seventh Day Baptist church in Scio. In 1859, the family moved to the hamlet of Nile, in Friendship, New York. He spent his childhood growing up in Nile and attended a local district school. When he was eleven, he was baptized as a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, by Rev. L. A. Platts in Nile. He is said to have learned a love for reading and metalworking from his father, and at some point, developed an interest in agriculture.

In 1875, F.S. Place moved to live with his sister Jane and her husband Charles Stillman, in Alfred, New York. He would stay with them until 1880, doing chores and going to school. He spent four years studying agriculture at Alfred Academy; graduating in 1879. He then spent three years studying at Alfred University and received a Bachelors of Arts degree in 1882. Place then completed the main part of his higher education by studying at Alfred Theological Seminary for three years and received a Bachelors of Divinity Degree in 1885.

F.S. Place got married to Martha Ann Burdick in 1882. They would go on to have four children: Bertha Jane (1883-1975), George A. (1886-1973), Margaret Eola (1891-1983), and Mildred Frederica (1895-1973). Place would construct his family home in Alfred in 1887. He and his family were involved in the local Seventh Day Baptist church in Alfred. He would 45 years serving as a deacon for the church and would spend 54 years singing in the church choir.

After finishing college, Place began his career as an educator. In 1886, he started working as a tutor at Alfred University. In 1888, he was made a professor of industrial mechanics at the university. By 1896, he was in charge of the teaching of industrial mechanics and astronomy at Alfred University. He would continue in this position until 1897.

Place was also involved in the study and teaching of agriculture and nature. By the latter half of the 1890's, he was highly involved with local agricultural groups, such as the Allegany County Farmer's club. From 1895 to 1914, Place delivered numerous lectures to farmers and other community members in Allegany County. The subjects of his talks included birds, insects, plants, how plants grow, the role of birds in balancing insect and plant life, soil, horseshoeing, and bacteriology. With birds being a favorite and common topic of his lectures. While working to impart knowledge, he also worked to keep up to date with advances in his areas of study. In 1897, he took special courses at Chicago University on subjects including comparative anatomy, bacteriology, methods in histology, and botany. Place was a trusted local expert on agricultural and natural topics. In 1896, he wrote the chapter on the natural history of Allegany County for John Minard's book *Allegany County and its People: A Centennial Memorial History of Allegany County, New York*. His knowledge of birds was so well known, that when a local farmer shot down a bald eagle in 1904, they had Place examine the body to evaluate the quality of the specimen. Place had established himself as a prominent local scholar and educator in the late 19th and 20th centuries.

F.S. Place became involved with the temperance movement and the

Prohibition Party by the late 1890's. At an 1896 meeting of the Allegany County Farmers Club, Place put forward a resolution that the farmer's club endorse the bill to make temperance education required in common schools. The resolution was unanimously adopted by the club. By 1898, F.S. Place was a member of the Prohibition Party and was involved with local Prohibition Party activism.

In 1898, the local Prohibition Party nominated F.S. Place as their candidate for Town Supervisor of Alfred. The Alfred Democratic Party decided that they would also nominate Place as their candidate for Town Supervisor. The Republicans nominated incumbent Town Supervisor D.S. Burdick. Place received 204 votes (51.78%) to 190 votes (48.22%) for Burdick and was elected as the new Town Supervisor of Alfred.

From looking at the election results for all local offices in Alfred in 1898, we can gain some sense of where Place gained his support from. Most candidates that were nominated just by the Prohibition Party received votes in the high 80s, with the highest performers receiving 91 votes. Most candidates nominated just by Democratic Parties tended to receive votes in the high 70s, with their highest performer receiving 87 votes. Most candidates that were nominated just by the Republican Party received votes in the 210-230 range. Two other candidates that were nominated by both the Prohibition and Democratic Parties received 158 and 187 votes, while a candidate nominated by the Prohibition and Republican Parties received 313 votes, a candidate nominated by the Democratic and Republican Parties received 309 votes, and a candidate nominated by all three parties received 387 votes. With these details taken together, it can be inferred that Place likely received the main share of his votes from Prohibition Party voters, received his second largest share of votes from Democratic voters, and received a couple dozen votes from people that mainly voted for Republican candidates. By combining the support of both the town's Prohibition Party and Democratic Party voters and attracting the support of some of the typically Republican voters, F.S. Place was able to acquire the support needed to get elected Town Supervisor.

After winning the election, Place served a one-year term as Town Supervisor. As Town Supervisor, Place was the head of the town government, tasked with managing various aspects of the town government's services and activities. As Town Supervisor, Place was also a member of Allegany County's Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors was the legislative body of the county government at the time, whose functions included creating county laws, managing finances, and overseeing the operations of county departments. Place was initially appointed to the committee on United States Deposit Fund and the committee on Town Accounts. But Place ended up contracting typhoid fever and missed much of the annual session of the Board of Supervisors.

In 1899, Place was nominated for reelection by the local Prohibition and Democratic Parties. He again faced Republican candidate D.S. Burdick. Burdick won the election and regained the position of town Supervisor.

In 1898, F.S. Place shifted his career from teaching college to becoming a public school educator. He left his position at Alfred University to become the principal of the Alfred Grammar School. He would serve in that position until 1905.

On the political front, F.S. Place would continue to be involved with the Prohibition Party and run as a candidate for local offices. In 1905, the local Prohibition and Democratic Parties in Alfred came together to nominate a joint fusion ticket of candidates for town offices. F.S. Place was nominated as the Prohibition and Democratic candidate for Town Commissioner of Highways. He ran against Republican candidate E.P. Hamilton. Place received 103 votes (31.12%) and came in 2nd place to Hamilton.

In 1908, the Allegany County Prohibition held its convention in Wellsville. F.S. Place was selected as one of the delegates from the county to attend the 1908 Prohibition Party State convention in Syracuse. Place was one of over 700 delegates at the convention that worked to select the party's 1908 candidates for state offices and approve its 1908 state party platform.

F.S. Place ran for multiple offices in the early 1910's. In 1910, the Alfred Prohibition Party nominated F.S. Place and E.P. Saunders as its candidates for Town School Directors. They ran against Republican candidates F.L. Greene and William G. Whitwood. Place received 41 votes (13.16%) and Saunders received 40 votes (12.84%), to 271 votes for Greene and Whitwood. In 1911, Place was nominated by the Prohibition Party for Town Supervisor of Alfred. He ran against Republican incumbent W.H. Crandall. Crandall was reelected with a plurality of 131 votes. In 1913, the local Prohibition, Democratic, and Progressive Parties nominate F.S. Place as its candidates for Town Justices of the Peace. They ran against Republican candidates Edward F. Smith and W.H.H. Kellar. Place received 126 votes (34.01%) and Champlin received 132 votes (35.62%), to 242 votes for Smith and 241 votes for Kellar. While Place did not manage to get elected in any of these races, he still managed to be a significant contender and at times manages to attract multi-party support in his campaigns.

In the same decade, F.S. Place entered into the next phase of his career. In 1910, Place began working at the New York State School of Agriculture at Alfred University. The State School of Agriculture was a state-funded agricultural school that was initially established as a subdivision of Alfred University in 1910. This school would grow over the following decades and expand to include various polytechnic programs. After 1948, the school would split off from Alfred University to become its own separate college in the State University of New York system, now known as Alfred State College. Place worked as a teacher for the State School of Agriculture from 1910 to 1924. He then become the head person in charge of running the school's greenhouse; which he ran for at least the next six years. While running the greenhouse, he also turned his interest in metalwork into a profitable hobby. He built his own shop at his house for creating ornamental ironwork. Place would spend the later years of his life focusing on his greenhouse work, metal crafting, his other hobbies, and his family.

Frederick Sherman Place died on May 4th, 1936. His funeral services were held at

his home and the village church by his pastor and former Alfred University President John Nelson Norwood. In his life, Place had been a teacher, professor, agriculturalist, and craftsman who pursued his interests and shared his knowledge with others. He was a husband and father. He was a local Prohibition Party activist and politician, who promoted the cause of temperance and Prohibition on the local level. By harnessing local Prohibition Party activism and appealing to voters from a variety of partisan affiliations, he managed to get elected to a term as Alfred Town Supervisor and spend that time helping to lead his community.

Source: https://615c4beb-b241-4f4a-a6b4-a074dc02ce34.filesusr.com/ugd/2cc7be_96bb639d92ee4fd588260cf404146908.pdf

Broader History

The following historical article was written and submitted to us by Michael Wood. Mr. Wood is a member of the Prohibition National Committee and the party's Executive Committee, as well as one of the figures seeking the party's 2024 presidential nomination.

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

Colonel Alexander Farrow - An Early Prohibitionist

By Michael Wood

It runs in the family! My 4th Great-Grandfather, born in Kentucky in 1794, was an early prohibitionist and politician.

A devout Methodist, he is known to have thrown the whiskey jug from his house and boldly informed his neighbors that he would no longer furnish them liquor at his log-rollings and husking-bees, "*let the consequences be what they would*". He firmly adhered to this determination until many of his neighbors joined him in the temperance cause.

Alexander Farrow was born near Grassy Lick, Kentucky on April 21, 1794. As a young man, he joined his father William, a Kentucky State Representative and later Senator, in tending the family farm. When war was declared against Britain in 1812, Alexander was among the three regiments of volunteer Infantry who marched in August for the relief of Detroit. The men suffered from long days, bitter cold and

near starvation. In a later reminiscence, Alexander related *"At one time we went seventeen days without a mouthful of bread, subsisting on fat pork alone. When the horses died of exhaustion or became useless from starvation, the sleds carrying their baggage were drawn by the soldiers themselves; six men being harnessed in the place of one horse"*. At the Battle of Frenchtown in January of 1813, the Americans lost against far superior British and Indian forces, and many were taken prisoner. Alexander and the others were force-marched 280 miles through southern Canada to Fort George on the Niagara River where they were paroled. The use of parole was common in the War of 1812, particularly for militiamen; in exchange for their release, POWs were required to sign a pledge they would not take further part in the war.

Shortly after he returned from the war, in December 1814, Alexander Farrow was married to Elizabeth Ringgold Taylor. They settled near his father's homestead and began farming the land. He remained active in the militia and in 1815 was commissioned by Gov. Shelby as Adjutant of the Thirty-first Regiment of the Kentucky Militia. In 1820, Governor Adair appointed him Brigade Inspector of the Fifth Brigade.

In 1820 Alexander became a candidate for the Kentucky Legislature. Politically he was an enthusiastic disciple of the Whig Party's Henry Clay, one of America's great conservative thinkers and statesmen. Through a series of articulate and effective speeches, Alexander was elected to one term in the House of Representatives from Montgomery County.

Alexander and his family were members of the Methodist church. Due to the early efforts of the Methodist circuit riders, the idea of prohibition was introduced into the Ohio River Valley settlements as early as 1825. As time passed Methodist ministers and local Class Leaders became more and more earnest in their temperance measures. In his 1883 book, the Reverend Aaron Wood recounts the story of these earliest temperance societies. Members of these *"total abstinence societies"* pledged themselves not to furnish whiskey at *"raisings and log-rollings"*. These grass-

roots societies were said to have been *"composed of the best class of people, most of whom seem to have been members of various churches, chief of which was the Methodist"*.

Barn raisings and log-rollings were early opportunities for settlers to come together to work and socialize. When neighbors helped each other to clear land or erect a building, the family benefiting from that community support would offer a "log-rolling" or "barn raising" party in which all those who assisted were invited. It was traditional to provide free-flowing alcohol; many drams of whiskey being shared as a reward for the hard work. Sometimes a "bed-quilting" or "corn-husking-bees" would be added to the festivities and *"to which all the women folk were invited and attended. This was frequently the occasion of much merriment and real enjoyment, winding up with a jolly dance. Thus for several years, as new settlers would come in and purchase pieces of heavily timbered land, went on this routine of house raisings, log-rollings, quiltings and dances."*

In 1830 Alexander moved his wife and eight children to Indiana. He arrived in Putnam County in the autumn of that year, and settled nine miles north of Greencastle. He immediately took an active and leading role in the opening and development of the county. Feeling a want of religion in his new state, he organized in his own home, with the aid of a few of his neighbors, the first church association ever held in that part of the country; the organization consisting of nine members. Alexander was a well-known and outspoken community leader; on March 15, 1832 Governor Nobel commissioned him Colonel of the 56th Regiment of Militia.

Colonel Farrow returned to politics in 1850. In that year he was elected as one of 150 men to serve as a member of the Constitutional Convention; tasked with rewriting the Indiana State Constitution. Of these men, 95 were Democrats and 55 were Whigs. 42 percent were farmers, 25 percent were lawyers, and 12 percent were physicians. Seventy-nine of the men had had previous experience as lawmakers – Alexander Farrow being one of these. The delegates met in Indianapolis on October 7, 1850 and

deliberated for 127 days before completing their work in early 1851.

He did not return to politics, but remained a supporter of temperance his entire life. His retirement years were spent with family in Greencastle; he died there at the home of his daughter at the age of eighty-three. When his obituary appeared in the *Greencastle Banner* on April 12, 1877, it read:

"Colonel Farrow took an early interest in the cause of temperance and the suppression of the liquor traffic. Though accustomed to the "antifogmatic" practices and dram-drinkings of the people of his native State, he soon abolished the custom in his own family. He boldly informed his neighbors that he would no longer furnish them liquor at his log-rollings and husking-bees, "let the consequences be what they would". He firmly adhered to this determination until many of his neighbors were likewise induced to dispense with this practice and joined him in the temperance cause."

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