

Illinois Republican Representatives Who Fail to Openly Support Direct Election of the Party's State Central Committee

What is essential to being a **Republican**? **Answer:** believing that the government which best serves the people is most **directly tied to the Will of the people**, when that Will is expressed in democratic elections, where that will is consistent with the freedom of individuals to act as means to their own ends insofar as those ends do not intrude upon like freedom for others. Consider Madison's comment in the Federalist Papers:

"We may define a republic to be ... a government which derives all its powers **directly or indirectly** from the great body of the people." (Federalist no. 10. (1787))

Where Madison speaks of the "great body of the people," he means the great body of people who have the right of representation in a constitutional democracy. The more **removed** from **direct** representation, the more removed from the pure democracy. Republicans aspire to direct representation within a pure democracy. The **Republican Party** suffers from within; and this is no more in evidence than in the refusal of Republican representatives to take a stand supporting the **direct election** of State Central Committeemen and Committeewomen. This is not only a departure from Madisonian principles of republicanism but it obstructs the democratic reforms necessary, as we in Illinois continue to breath the contaminated atmosphere of political corruption.

Given the facts of recent days, it is self evident that **appointed positions invite corruption**, just as a **lack of transparency** in financial bailouts invites abuse. But the best argument against appointment of committeemen and committeewomen is supplied by those who argue forcibly against it. What is their best argument? Their best argument is that the Republican Party is an association of individuals which, like a corporation, is not obliged to conduct itself along democratic lines, even though democracy provides broader conditions within which a free institution may profit, in this case, politically. Moreover, the concern is that elements inimical to the Party's best interests might, by some conspiratorial means, succeed in undermining its foundations and that, as a consequence, the objectives of the association might, thereby, be thwarted. This is the argument I've been given; this is the argument to meet.

The relevant argument is in fact the obverse of this argument, and that is this: The Republican Party in Illinois **by rejecting direct elections** has undermined the institutional mechanisms that serve to guarantee legitimate evolution of the Party as new circumstances arise. This is **not an ideological issue**: I stand in **favor of a centrist social agenda**, while some with whom I am working side by side are to the right of center. Nevertheless, we **share a republican ideology** as enunciated by Madison; we believe in the people; and we are resolutely opposed to the conservancy of **any** of the **"special interests"** that serve political ambition and little else. I implore our representatives to react against the present conditions of corruption at the highest levels, and understand that our claims in behalf of honesty and good government can only be obstructed by a **refusal to accept direct elections**. Illinois is coming under scrutiny; the present system of **appointment** says to honest Republicans: "You are good enough to vote for membership in the legislature, but you are not good enough to be trusted with a fair opportunity to engage in the political process at the most local levels." Those who

cling to this outmoded arrangement out of self interest will discover that they will become vestigial of an outmoded corrupt past. The future lies with those who support this proposal. The dead wood of the past and the failures we have experienced over the last years will persist into the future, if the false reasoning that supports acceptance of the present arrangement is allowed to stand in the determination of who is right and who is wrong for this Party. This is for the people of this Party to decide, not county officials.

Here is the list! It is now Dec. 12th. Anyone who takes a stand, contact me at baynesrb@yahoo.com

Republican State Representatives who remain uncommitted:

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Mark Beaubien - (847) 487-5252

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Bob Biggins - (630) 941-1278

Bill Black - (217) 431-1986

Mike Bost - (618) 457-5787

Dan Brady - (309) 662-1100

Rich Brauer - (217) 782-0053

Franco Coladipietro - (630) 582-0045

Sandy Cole - (847) 543-0062

Elizabeth Coulson - (847) 724-3233

Joe Dunn - (630) 355-4113

Jim Durkin - (708) 352-7700

Roger Eddy - (618) 563-4128 or (618) 563-4912

Brent Hassert - (630) 739-7063

Renee Kosel - (708) 479-4200

David Leitch - (309) 685-3900

Sidney Mathias - (847) 222-0061

Michael McAuliffe - (773) 792-0749

Jim Meyer - (630) 717-7141

Bill Mitchell - (217) 876-1968

Jerry Mitchell - (815) 625-0820

Donald Moffitt - (309) 343-8000

Rosemary Mulligan - (847) 297-6533

Rich Myers - (309) 836-2707

JoAnn Osmond - (847) 838-6200

Sandra Pihos - (630) 858-8855

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Keith Sommer - (309) 263-9242

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