



For  
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# LIBERTARIAN PARTY OF ILLINOIS

## LP ILLINOIS SUPPORTS PUT-BACK AMENDMENT

At a regular meeting of its State Organizing Committee held on January 17, 2010, the Libertarian Party of Illinois (“LP Illinois”) voted to support the Bambenek Put-Back Amendment, which would amend Article IV of the Illinois Constitution and which is named for John Bambenek of Champaign, political director of Main Street Campaigns and the principal author of the amendment.

The amendment is a “good government” measure which would affect numerous reforms, such as:

- The legislature would become a unicameral body, consisting of 59 senate districts, each with three senators.
- We would return to bullet voting, in which a voter would have three votes which could all be given to one candidate or evenly divided among three candidates.
- Redistricting maps would be solicited from the public. To be chosen, a map’s districts must be compact, substantially equal in population, reflect minority voting strengths, promote competitive elections and consider political boundaries.
- Legislators would be limited to no more than four two-year terms. No legislator would be able to hold the same leadership position for more than two years.
- The requirements to be listed on the ballot for election as Senator would be the same regardless of political affiliation or non-affiliation. It would also be harder to be removed from the ballot for spurious reasons.
- All legislation must be available for public viewing at least seven days before the final vote.

“This is meant to put the people back in charge of Springfield by reducing the power of the legislative leaders and making legislators more independent and able to represent their districts”, said Dianna Visek, Chair of the Champaign County Libertarian Party, who researched the issue and presented it to the party for endorsement. “It is time we level the playing field for third-party candidates, independents and minorities,” she added.

Petitions for the amendment are currently circulating and approximately 280,000 signatures must be turned in by May 2, 2010 to be on the November, 2010 ballot. Bambenek is aiming for 500,000 signatures by April 1. For more information, please go to [www.putbackamendment.com](http://www.putbackamendment.com).

*The Libertarian Party of Illinois is a political home for those who value honesty, fairness, respect, responsibility and compassion.*