

# **The Virginia Reform Party** 2 24 PM '97

aka **The Virginia Independent Party**

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May 21, 1997

AOR 1997-07

Mr. N. Bradley Litchfield  
Associate General Counsel  
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
999 East Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION

Dear Mr. Litchfield:

The Virginia Reform Party, aka The Virginia Independent Party, hereby requests a determination from the Federal Election Commission that The Virginia Reform Party be recognized as a State Committee of a political party for purposes of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act").

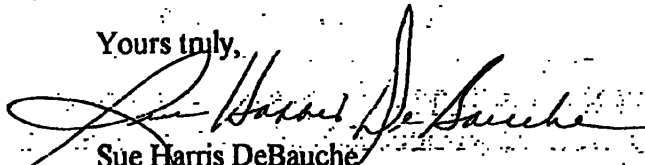
In support of our request, we supply the following information:

1. A copy of the "Plan of Organization" (Party Plan or Bylaws) of The Virginia Reform Party, aka The Virginia Independent Party.
2. A copy of the "Statement of Organization dated February 1, 1996, Amended May 31, 1996, and a copy of the "Statement of Organization" as amended April 24, 1997. The statement Registration Number is VA-96-0124.
3. A copy of the Statement of Organization For A Committee dated April 24, 1997.
4. The Virginia Reform Party, aka The Virginia Independent Party is incorporated in Virginia under the Corporate Identification Number 0396936-7. The President and Registered Agent is Sue Harris DeBauche as per Change of Registered Agent filed March 3, 1997.
5. Ballot access in Virginia was given to The Virginia Independent Party in January, 1996, pursuant to the election rules of Virginia. A copy of a newspaper article is attached which gives background for certification. The party ran Marshall Coleman for the United States Senate in 1994 with Mr. Coleman receiving more than the required ten percent (10%) of the Virginia vote.

6. The Virginia Independent Party received approval from the State Election Commission to do business as The Virginia Reform Party in August, 1996, and a Fictitious Name Certificate dated August 21, 1996, was filed (copy attached).
7. The Virginia Reform Party is organized on a Congressional District basis with a State Central Committee composed of three (3) duly-elected members from each of the eleven (11) Congressional Districts which includes the District Chairperson and two others. Offices of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer serve on the State Central Committee. The Executive Committee is made up of the eleven District Chairpersons plus the State Officers. The Board of Directors of the corporation are the eleven District Chairpersons plus the State Officers as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. All persons are volunteers.
8. Candidates who ran in 1996 for House of Representatives as The Virginia Reform Party candidates were George R. "Tex" Wood, Fifth District; Ward R. Edmonds, 8th District, and Tom Roberts, Ninth District. These candidates were nominated by their respective Districts and endorsed by the State Party at its State Convention held July 20, 1996. (Minutes attached)
9. At The Virginia Reform Party State Convention held July 20, 1996, in Charlottesville, Virginia, Ross Perot was nominated the choice of Virginia for The Reform Party Presidential Candidate (See Minutes).
10. Ross Perot and Pat Choate appeared on all 1996 Virginia ballots as The Reform Party candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, a matter of public record. They received at least 6.7% of the Virginia vote. Some 159,000 Virginians voted for The Reform Party candidates in 1996, which is also public record.
11. We submit that The Virginia Reform Party meets the criteria set out in the Federal Election Commission's Decision in AOR 1996-51 for The Reform Party of Arkansas, pursuant to 11 CFR 112.5(a), and for purposes of the Act, The Virginia Reform Party herein asks to be recognized as a State Committee of a political party.

We look forward to receiving your reply, and thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



Sue Harris DeBauche  
State Chair

cc: State Central Committee

All disclosure of the party program and its committee and participants in organized by the party are provided by the party and its members and are not to be used for any other purpose without the written consent of the party.

VIP Conference File # 70  
0396936-7

**PLAN OF ORGANIZATION**

**VIRGINIA INDEPENDENT PARTY**

**PREAMBLE**

The following articles are adopted for the governance of our party. As of the time of the adoption of this plan, we recognize that we do not have active organized units of our party in all political subdivisions of the Commonwealth. This plan is adopted in recognition of that fact and with the understanding that it must be expanded and modified as our party grows and as local units are formed and organized. The State Central Committee is, therefore authorized to adopt resolutions modifying ARTICLE V and ARTICLE VI and those portions of ARTICLES VII and ARTICLE VIII which relate to Legislative Districts and Units on a year to year basis at its first meeting in the fourth calendar quarter of any year as may be necessary to accommodate the status of the Party membership and organization at that time. If not so modified, the above referenced articles will have full force and affect as adopted.

**ARTICLE I**

**SECTION A. QUALIFICATIONS**

1. All persons qualified to vote under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia who express in open meeting their intent to support those candidates nominated at that meeting and, if they later find themselves unable to do so, pledge that they will not openly support or work for any candidates other than its nominees for public office in the ensuing general election, may participate in the Mass Meetings, conventions or other organized gatherings of the members sponsored by the party.
2. A person who has made application for registration and meets all other requirements of Section A, but whose name does not appear on the local registration books solely because of the books having been closed in connection with a local election, will nevertheless be deemed a legal and qualified voter.

**Section B. PARTICIPATION**

All officers of the party, delegates to its conventions and participants in other organized gatherings sponsored by the party shall be members of the party as defined in the preceding paragraph and be qualified to vote in the political unit they represent or in which they hold office.

## ARTICLE II

### DEFINITIONS

1. "State Party" or "Party" means the Virginia Independent Party.
2. "State Party Plan" means the Plan of Organization of the Virginia Independent Party. It shall also be the By-Laws of the corporation.
3. "State Central Committee" means State Central Committee of the Virginia Independent Party. This Committee shall also be known as the Board of Directors and perform the duties of Directors for the purpose of complying with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.
4. "Election District" means the City, County, ward of a City, magisterial district of a County, precinct, or portions or combinations of such political subdivisions which comprise the area defined by law in which an election is to be held.
5. "Congressional District" means the Election District for a member of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress.
6. "District" means Congressional District unless otherwise designated.
7. "Unit" means County or City.
8. "Quadrennial State Convention" means the State Convention held in Presidential election years for the purposes of nominating electors-at-large to the Electoral College.
9. "Quadrennial District Convention" means the District Convention held in Presidential election years for the purposes of nominating an elector to the Electoral College.
10. "Biennial District Convention" means the District Convention held in Congressional election years and is the same as the Quadrennial District Convention in Presidential election years.
11. "Official Committees" are the State Central Committee, each District Committee, and committees for such smaller political subdivisions as may be established.

12. "Chairman", "Chairmen", "he", and "his" shall not be construed to denote gender.

13. "Ex-Officio" means the person holding the office and shall not be construed to mean with or without vote.

14. "Mass Meeting" is as defined in the then current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, subject to the provisions of the State Party Plan.

15. "Convention" is as defined in the then current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order*, subject to the provisions of the State Party Plan.

16. "Corporation" or "the Corporation" shall mean Virginia Independent Party.

### ARTICLE III

#### STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

##### Section A. MEMBERSHIP

Since the "Party" is incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and therefore has certain officers and directors, the following officers of the corporation shall also be the members of the "State Central Committee."

1. The President and Vice President of the corporation who, for the purposes of this plan shall also be known as the State Chairman and State Vice Chairman.

2. The members of the Board of Directors, who for the purposes of this plan, may also be called members of the State Central Committee.

3. Such additional members from each District as may be hereafter provided for.

##### Section B. ELECTION AND TERM

1. The State Chairman shall be elected at each Quadrennial Convention, except as provided in Section C of this Article.

2. The Vice Chairman and other officers of the Party shall be the same persons who hold the respective offices in the corporation and shall be

elected at the first meeting of the State Central Committee held during the fourth calendar quarter in each year.

3. The Board of Directors, also known as the State Central Committee, shall be elected at the Quadrennial Conventions of their respective Districts. There shall be 3 Directors elected from each District, one of whom shall be the District Chairman.

### Section C. VACANCIES

1. A vacancy in the office of State Chairman shall be filled by the State Central Committee until the next regular convention, which shall then elect a State Chairman.

2. A vacancy in the office of Vice Chairman, State Secretary or State Treasurer shall be filled by the State Central Committee.

3. A vacancy in the office "Member of the Committee" shall be filled by vote of the remaining members of the "Committee" in accordance with this Party Plan.

### Section D. Duties

#### 1. State Central Committee

a. The State Central Committee shall formulate and provide for the execution of such policies, plans and measures as it may deem conducive to the best interest of the Party and in conformity with the State Party Plan.

b. It shall determine the method of nominating candidates for statewide public office. It may nominate candidates for statewide or national offices if, in its sole discretion, it determines that time constraints or other factors make it impractical to nominate by convention or primary election.

c. It shall call all regular and special State Conventions and make arrangements therefor, including the basis of representation, the time and the place.

d. It shall have general supervision of all statewide campaigns. Neither the State Party nor the State Central Committee, however, shall be responsible for the financing of, or any

financial obligations resulting from such campaign, except to the extent that any such obligations may be approved and assumed in writing, in advance, by the State Central Committee.

e. It shall prescribe such additional duties of the State officers and appoint special State Central subcommittees as it deems appropriate.

## 2. State Chairman

a. The State Chairman shall be Chairman of the State Central Committee and of its Executive Committee.

b. He shall issue calls for State Conventions and shall preside until a temporary organization is effected.

c. He shall convene the State Central Committee when the needs of the Party so demand, but in no event less than once during each calendar quarter and he shall preside at the meetings of the committee. He shall be responsible for sending written notice of the call for a State Central Committee meeting to all members of the Committee and to Unit Chairmen, which shall include the agenda for the meeting.

## 3. Vice Chairman

He shall assist the Chairman in such areas or tasks which may be assigned by the Chairman, act on behalf of the Chairman whenever so authorized by the Chairman when he is unable to act because of absence from his office, vacation, etc., and be Acting Chairman should a vacancy in the office of Chairman occur.

## 4. State Secretary

The State Secretary shall keep the minutes and records of State Central Committee meetings, which shall be the property of the Committee, and he shall mail a copy of the minutes of the preceding meeting, including attendance, to all members of the State Central Committee within 10 days after the adjournment of the meeting.

## 5. State Treasurer

The State Treasurer shall be the custodian of Party funds.

## **SECTION E. SUBCOMMITTEES**

### **1. Executive Committee**

a. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the 11 District Chairmen.

b. The Executive Committee shall act for the State Central Committee when the latter is not in session and shall be subject to the direction of the State Central Committee.

c. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called at the pleasure of the Chairman and shall be held not less than once every 3 months.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **District Committees**

#### **SECTION A. MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of each District Committee shall consist of the following:

1. District Chairman.
2. Unit Chairman of each Unit wholly or partially within the District.

#### **SECTION B. ELECTION AND TERM**

1. The District Chairmen, who are also members of the State Central Committee, shall be elected at the Quadrennial Conventions as provided in the By Laws of the Corporation and this Party Plan.

#### **SECTION C. VACANCIES**

1. A vacancy in the office of District Chairman shall be filled in accordance with By Laws of the Corporation.

2. Vacancies in other District offices shall be filled by the District Committees.



## **SECTION D. DUTIES**

### **1. District Committee**

a. It shall have general supervision over all District Campaigns and shall cooperate with the State Central Committee in conducting statewide campaigns.

### **2. District Chairman**

a. The District Chairman shall be Chairman of the District Committee.

b. He shall convene the District Committee not less frequently than once during any 3 month period and shall preside at its meetings.

c. He shall take such action within his District as he may deem necessary to promote the welfare of the Party.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

#### **SECTION A. MEMBERSHIP**

1. The membership of each Legislative District Committee shall consist of the Unit Chairman of each Unit wholly or partially in the Legislative District, subject to the provisions of Article VI, Section D-1-d.

2. Each Unit Chairman's vote within the Committee shall be weighted in proportion to the number of registered voters in his Unit within the District as reported by the Registrar of his Unit at the next preceding general election.

#### **SECTION B. ESTABLISHMENT OF LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT COMMITTEES**

Legislative District Committees are not mandatory and need not be established until such time as the Congressional District Committee or Committees in which a Legislative District is located vote to establish it. Upon petition of a majority of the Unit Chairmen in a Legislative District that a Committee for the District be established, the Congressional District Committee or Committees

having jurisdiction shall call a Legislative District Convention or Mass Meeting and designate a person to preside at that Convention or Meeting.

### **SECTION C. ELECTION AND TERM OF CHAIRMAN**

The Legislative District Chairman shall be elected by the Legislative District Committee at the meeting called to determine the method of nominating candidates for the Legislative District office. The Chairman of a State Senate District shall serve for 4 years, and the Chairman of a House of Delegates District shall serve for 2 years, or until the respective successors to these offices are elected. He may be one of the Unit Chairmen and shall have no right to vote except in his capacity as a Unit Chairman.

### **SECTION D. VACANCIES**

A vacancy in the office of Legislative District Chairman shall be filled by the Legislative District Committee for the remaining unexpired portion of the term.

### **SECTION E. DUTIES**

#### **1. Legislative District Chairman**

a. The Legislative District Chairman shall be the Chairman of the Legislative District Committee.

b. He shall issue calls for Legislative District Mass Meetings or Conventions and shall preside until a temporary organization is established.

c. He shall convene the Legislative District Committee when required and shall preside at meetings of the Committee. He shall be responsible for sending written notice of the Call for a Committee Meeting to all members of the Committee, which shall include the agenda for the meeting.

#### **2. Legislative District Committee**

a. The Legislative District Committee shall determine whether candidates for Legislative District elective office shall be nominated by Mass Meeting or Convention.

b. It shall call regular or special Mass Meetings and Conventions and make arrangements for them, including the time and place and, if a Convention, the basis for representation.

## ARTICLE VI

### COUNTY AND CITY COMMITTEES

**SECTION A. The membership of each Unit Committee shall consist of**

1. Unit Chairman.
2. Precinct Members. There shall be a minimum of one member from each precinct, if practical.
3. Elected Public Officials. All elected public officials who are members of Virginia Independent Party shall be ex-officio member of the Unit Committee in the city or county in which they were elected to public office.
4. The Unit Committee may elect such other officers as it may consider necessary. They shall not have the right to vote unless they are otherwise entitled to a vote.

### B. ELECTION AND TERM

1. The Chairman and other members of the Committee shall be elected by the Mass Meeting or Convention called for the purpose of electing delegates to the Biennial District Convention for a term of 2 years or until their successors are elected.
2. Other officers of the Unit Committee shall be elected in such manner and for such terms as the Unit Committee shall determine.

### SECTION C. VACANCIES

A vacancy in the office of Unit Chairman and vacancies in all other offices, including members of the Committee, shall be filled by the Unit Committee for the remaining unexpired portion of their term upon notice of the intent to fill such vacancies in the call for the meeting where this is to be done.

## SECTION D. DUTIES

### 1. Unit Chairman

- a. The Unit Chairman shall be the Chairman of the Unit Committee.
- b. He shall issue calls for Unit Mass Meetings or Conventions and shall preside until a temporary organization has been established.
- c. He shall convene the Unit Committee when required, but not less frequently than once each calendar quarter, and shall preside at its meetings. He shall be responsible for sending written notice of the call for a Committee meeting to all its members, which notice shall include the agenda for the meeting.
- d. Whenever a Unit is divided between 2 or more Congressional or Legislative Districts, the Chairman of such Unit Committee shall serve as the Unit representative on the Congressional or Legislative District Committee for the District in which he resides. The Unit Committee shall designate one of its members who resides in the other District to serve as its representative to that District Committee and he shall exercise all the powers of a Unit Chairman in conducting the business of that District Committee.

### 2. Unit Committee

- a. The Unit Committee shall determine whether candidates for local and constitutional public offices in that Unit shall be nominated by Mass Meeting or Convention and whether the Unit Chairman and Committee members shall be elected by Mass Meeting or Convention.
- b. It shall call all regular and special Mass Meetings and Conventions and make arrangements for them and, if a Convention, the basis for representation. Authority to make such arrangements (other than the date and time and the matters set out in subparagraph (a) above) may be delegated to the Unit Chairman.
- c. It shall be responsible for implementing the policies of the State Central Committee and the District Committee for the District in which it is located.

## ARTICLE VII

### OFFICIAL COMMITTEES

#### SECTION A. NOTICE AND QUORUM

Meetings of Official Committees shall be held upon written notice of not less than 2 weeks for the State Central Committee and District Committees and not less than one week for the Executive Committee, Legislative District and Unit Committees on the Call of the appropriate Chairman or the call of not less than one-third of the members of the Committee which is to meet and the call shall include the agenda for the meeting.

#### SECTION B. PROXIES

1. Proxies shall not be allowed for meetings of the State Central Committee.
2. Members of the Executive Committee may be represented by proxy at its meetings, provided the holder of the proxy is a member of the State Central Committee.
3. Members of all other Committees may be represented by proxy.
4. A member of a Committee who holds a proxy from another member may cast only one vote.
5. All proxies shall be in writing and shall be signed by the maker.

#### SECTION C. ABSENCES

A member of the State Central Committee shall automatically lose his position on that committee if he fails to attend at least 50 percent of its regular meeting in any calendar year. A member of any other committee, except an ex-officio member, shall automatically lose his position on that committee if he is absent from 3 consecutive meetings, either in person or by proxy or if he fails to attend at least 50 percent of its meetings in person during any calendar year. A vacancy created by such removal shall be filled in accordance with the State Party Plan.

#### SECTION D. REMOVAL

Any Chairman, other than the State Chairman, or any member of an Official Committee may be removed from office by the vote of two-thirds of the other members of the committee, after being furnished with notice in writing that such removal will be sought, together with the reasons for such removal, signed by not less than one-third of the members of the committee. A meeting to accomplish such removal shall not be held less than 21 days from the date on which the required written notice is posted to him at his mailing address as shown in the records of the committee. The State Chairman may be removed by a two-thirds vote of a State Convention or by a three-fourths vote of the State Central Committee, after being furnished with notice in the manner specified above, except that the meeting at which such removal is sought shall not be less than 30 days after posting of the notice.

#### SECTION E. NOMINATIONS BY COMMITTEE

Whenever an Election District fails to nominate a candidate for public office, in the absence of an instruction to the contrary by a Convention or Mass Meeting held for the purpose of making such a nomination, the Official Committee of that Election District is authorized to nominate such candidate or candidates by the vote of a majority of the voting members of the Committee after notice of the intent to make such nomination has been included in the Call for the meeting. Such a nomination shall have the same force and effect as if such nomination were made by a Mass Meeting or Convention.

#### SECTION F. FILLING VACANCIES

Whenever candidates, electors, delegates or alternates have been duly elected by a Mass Meeting or Convention and a vacancy occurs, the appropriate Official Committee is authorized to fill such vacancy in formal meeting by majority vote after due notice of such intent has been included in the Call for the meeting. Such a meeting shall require at least 24 hours notice, either in writing or orally which, in the case of written notice, shall be presumed to have been given if it is posted to the address of the member as shown in the official records prior to 5:00 p.m. of the second day prior to the meeting.

#### SECTION G. RULES

All Official Committee meetings shall be governed by and conducted in accordance with the State Party Plan and, if appropriate, the District or Unit Plan or Bylaws, and in accordance with standard parliamentary procedure.

## ARTICLE VIII

### MASS MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS

#### SECTION A. CALL REQUIREMENTS

1. All calls for State, Congressional District and Legislative District Conventions shall be issued by the appropriate Chairman to the included Unit Chairmen not less than 30 Days prior to the Convention, except those calls for special elections. For any political unit where there is not a chairman, the District Chairman may mail a copy of the call for the District Convention to any party member of whom he has knowledge in that unit and invite him and all other members in that unit to participate in a mass meeting scheduled for another unit in the vicinity. Each call shall include:

- a. The qualifications for membership in the Virginia Independent Party as stated in Article 1.
- b. The time, place and purpose of the Convention.
- c. The basis of representation to the Convention.
- d. The number of Delegate votes to which all participating Election Districts are entitled.
- e. The amount of the registration fee, if any.

2. All calls for Mass Meetings shall be published in not less than one newspaper of general circulation in the Election District not less than 7 days prior to the Mass Meeting, except those calls for special elections. Each call should include the same information as a call for a convention. If financial considerations dictate that the published call for a Mass Meeting be abbreviated, the call may eliminate the information set out in paragraphs a, c and d of Article VIII, Section A.

3. The responsible Chairman shall use the most effective means available, including news media, to publicize the Mass Meeting or Convention for the purpose of encouraging involvement in the process by the maximum number of people.

4. In the event that the publication of a call for a Mass Meeting or Convention shall differ in any respect from the call authorized by the

Official Committee or the provisions of this Plan, the requirement for a published call shall be considered to have been met unless the adequacy of the notice shall have been contested prior to the adjournment of the Mass Meeting or Convention and the adequacy of such publication may not thereafter be contested.

## SECTION B. GENERAL POLICY RELATING TO ALL CONVENTIONS

The policy of the Party is to convene Conventions at all levels throughout the State in the manner provided in the following paragraphs. In consideration of the fact that the Party has only been in existence for a short period of time, the State Central Committee may authorize deviations from the provisions of this plan as provided in the Preamble and, more specifically but not limited to the manner set out below.

1. Congressional District Conventions. If, in the opinion of the Central Committee, there are not a sufficient number of political units in the Congressional District organized to the extent that they can hold Mass Meetings or Conventions in a proper manner, the District may hold a lesser number of Mass Meetings or Conventions, each to be for the residents of specified cities and counties. The number of such Mass Meetings or Conventions shall not be less than 3, except that the 2nd, 8th, and 11th Congressional Districts may have a lesser number. The calls for such Mass Meetings shall be issued by the appropriate Unit Chairmen, if such exist, or by the District Chairman in the absence of a Unit Chairman.

2. Legislative District Conventions. Each Congressional District Committee shall make diligent inquiry in years when members of the General Assembly are to be elected as to whether there are potential candidates for the Party in each Legislative District within the District that year. If a District Committee finds that there are not any potential candidates, it may dispense with a Mass Meeting or Convention in such Legislative Districts.

## SECTION C. STATE CONVENTIONS

A State Convention, which may be the Quadrennial State Convention, shall be held in each year in which there is to be an election for Governor or United States Senator for the purpose of nominating candidates for the applicable office and for any other proper purpose.



**SECTION D. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CONVENTIONS:**

A District Convention, which may be the Quaddrennial or Biennial District Convention, shall be held in each year in which there is to be an election for Congressman for the purpose of nominating a candidate and for any other proper purpose.

**SECTION E. LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT MASS MEETINGS OR CONVENTIONS**

A Legislative District Mass Meeting or Convention shall be held in each year in which there is to be an election for members of the General Assembly from the Legislative District for the purpose of nominating a candidate and for any other proper purpose, subject to the provisions of Article VIII, Section B.

**SECTION D. UNIT MASS MEETINGS OR CONVENTIONS**

A Unit Mass Meeting or Convention shall be held in any year in which there is to be an election for local or constitutional offices for the purpose of nominating candidates for the applicable offices and for any other proper purpose.

**SECTION F. UNIT REPRESENTATION**

Representation in all State and District Conventions shall be by Units based upon the number of registered voters in each Unit as reported by the local Registrar for the most recent general election.

**SECTION G. UNIFORM RATIO**

Representation in Legislative District and Unit Conventions shall be by either Units, Wards, Magisterial Districts or Precincts on a uniform ratio established by the appropriate Official Committee, but each political subdivision shall be entitled to a least one vote.

**SECTION H. DELEGATES**

**1. Certification**

a. Delegates and Alternates to a Convention shall be certified to that Convention by the permanent Chairman and Secretary of the Mass Meeting or Convention which selected the Delegates and Alternates. The certifications shall be delivered to the Chairman of the Official Committee which called the Convention prior to the convening of the Convention. Except in the case of

the State Central Committee, a copy of the certification shall also be delivered to the secretary of the Official Committee which is called the Mass Meeting or Convention. Such Chairman shall be responsible for the preparation of a roll of such certifications, which roll shall thereafter govern the procedures of the Convention, unless and until changed by the Convention.

b. In the case of a State Convention, copies of Unit certifications shall also be delivered to their District Chairmen.

c. In the case of a District Convention, Unit certifications must be delivered to the appropriate District Chairman 7 days prior to the convening of said Convention. In the case of a State Convention, the certifications must be posted not less than 16 days prior to the convening of the Convention or delivered in person not less than 14 days prior to the convening of said Convention. After the filing deadline for the certifications, no changes may be made except that a certified Alternate may be made a Delegate. A copy of the call for the Mass Meeting or Convention at which the Delegates and Alternates were selected must accompany the certifications along with a copy of the published notice which shall show the date of publication.

d. A Delegate or Alternate who is not certified in accordance with the above requirements shall be seated only by a majority vote of the Convention Credentials Committee, or in the event the Credentials Committee fails to seat that person, by a vote of the Convention.

2. A delegation to a Convention may not have less than one Delegate and one Alternate per delegate vote.

3. The certification of Delegates and Alternates should state how the Delegated shall vote; i. e., whether those present will be voting full vote or non-full vote. A delegation shall vote full vote unless otherwise instructed by its electing body.

a. Full vote means that the Delegates present and voting at the Convention shall cast the full vote of the delegation with proportionate weight being given to the majority and minority votes; all to a vote adequate, but equally essential, provided that a

b. Non-full vote shall mean that each Delegate will only be entitled to the vote to which he is certified.

c. The vote of a delegation shall be reported to the nearest hundredth.

4. No delegation shall vote under a unit rule at any Convention, however, the Mass Meeting or Convention electing the Delegates may instruct its Delegates on candidates or specific issues. An instruction shall be deemed to be limited to the first Convention ballot on the candidate or issue covered by the instruction.

5. The Delegates present in a given delegation shall designate which Alternate shall vote in the place of an absent Delegate, except where the body electing Delegates and Alternates has determined that another method shall be used.

#### SECTION I. RULES

1. The Official Committee shall prepare the rules and order of business for the conduct of a Convention in advance thereof. Said rules and order of business shall then be submitted to the Rules Committee of such Convention for its consideration and report to the Convention.

2. The Official committee shall prepare the rules for the conduct of a Mass Meeting subject to the provisions of the State Party Plan.

3. All Mass Meetings and Conventions shall, to the extent applicable, be governed by and conducted in accordance with the State Party Plan, District or Unit Plan or By laws, in that order, and otherwise in accordance with customary parliamentary procedure.

#### SECTION J. PUBLIC MEETINGS

Every Mass Meeting or Convention shall be held in a building appropriate for public use and shall be open to the public. If after a call for a Mass Meeting or Convention, it shall be determined the the size of the meeting place may be inadequate for the anticipated number of participants or the building shall not be available, the location may be changed by the Chairman who issued the call to a more adequate, but equally accessible building, provided that written notice of the new location is posted at the location originally announced, and further provided that sufficient time is allowed for those attending to travel from the announced to the actual location of the Mass Meeting or Convention.

## SECTION K. SPECIAL ELECTIONS

Special Mass Meetings and Conventions may be held to nominate candidates for public office in Special Elections. Notice of such meetings shall be as far in advance as is practical within the time available to make the nomination.

## SECTION L. DIVIDED UNITS

1. No participant in a Mass Meeting or Delegate to a Convention shall vote for Delegates to a Convention of a District of which he is not a resident.
2. When a Mass Meeting or Convention has divided in order to choose Delegates to different Election District Conventions, such resulting divisions may vote to adopt their own rules and they shall otherwise be conducted in accordance with ARTICLE VIII, SECTION I, subsection 3 of the State Party Plan.

## ARTICLE X

The primary responsibility of the Central Committee shall be to encourage and facilitate the establishment of committees of the party in all electoral districts of the Commonwealth. Each District Committee shall consider it its primary responsibility to achieve its objective. In order to accomplish this, each District Chairman shall recommend to the Central Committee persons whom he considers qualified to perform the duties of a unit chairman in any unit in which there is not an elected chairman. Upon the recommendation of the District Chairman, the Central Committee shall appoint persons to be Acting Chairmen in such units. The term of office of these Acting Chairmen shall be six months. In any situation where a qualified person who is a resident of an election district and who is willing to undertake the responsibilities of a Unit Chairman cannot be found, the Central Committee may appoint a person from an adjoining election district to serve as Acting Chairman in that unit.

## ARTICLE XI

### RULINGS AND APPEALS

#### SECTION A. RULINGS

- The State Central Committee shall have the following powers:
1. Any Chairman of an Official Committee or 20 percent of the members of an Official Committee may request a ruling or interpretation of the

State Party Plan from the Party General Counsel. The General Counsel's determination shall be binding unless and until overturned on appeal, either to the Appeals Committee or directly to the State Central Committee.

2. The Appeals Committee shall consist of the State Chairman, all of the State Vice Chairmen and 2 members of the State Central Committee elected to the position by at the first meeting in the fourth calendar quarter of the State Central Committee in each year.

3. In the event of an appeal to the Appeals Committee and a concurrence by a majority of that Committee with the ruling or interpretation of the General Counsel, it may be further appealed to the State Central Committee, whose decision shall be binding.

#### SECTION B. CONTESTS

1. Each Unit Committee shall decide all controversies and contests within its jurisdiction, but those persons deemed adversely affected shall have the right to appeal to the appropriate District Committee. In the case of a split Unit, if the controversy or contest specifically involves the operations or affairs of a single Congressional or Legislative District, the appeal shall be taken to that Committee and, if not, the appeal shall be taken to the District Committee of the District wherein the person appealing resides.

2. Each Congressional District Committee shall decide all controversies and contests arising within its jurisdiction. It shall also hear and decide all timely filed appeals taken from the units within the District. Persons deemed adversely effected by a decision of the District Committee shall have the right to appeal to the State Central Committee.

3. All appeals under sub-sections 1 and 2 of this Section shall be made in writing within 21 days after the decision appealed from and the appeal must be accompanied by a petition signed by at least 20 Party members of the Unit or District affected.

#### SECTION C. FINALITY

The State Central Committee shall make the final decision, upon timely appeal, on all Party controversies and contests in any Election District of the State, rulings of the General Counsel, and on all other matters deemed to affect the operations of the Party organization.

# STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION

(See reverse side for instructions)

1. (a) NAME OF COMMITTEE IN FULL <input type="checkbox"/> (Check if name is changed) <b>VIRGINIA INDEPENDENT PARTY</b> (also dba Virginia Reform Party)	2. DATE <b>FEB. 1, 1996</b> Amended 5/31/96 & amended this date <b>April 24, 1997</b>
(b) Number and Street Address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Check if address is changed) <b>3809 Dillon's Fork Road</b>	3. FEC Identification Number <b>000317206</b>
(c) City, State and ZIP Code <b>Fieldale, Virginia 24089</b>	4. Is This Report An Amendment? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

**5. TYPE OF COMMITTEE (Check one)**

- (a) This committee is a principal campaign committee. (Complete the candidate information below.)
  - (b) This committee is an authorized committee, and is NOT a principal campaign committee. (Complete the candidate information below.)
- | Name of Candidate | Candidate Party Affiliation | Office Sought | State/District |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|
|                   |                             |               |                |
- (c) This committee supports/opposes only one candidate \_\_\_\_\_ and is NOT an authorized committee. (name of candidate)
  - (d) This committee is a \_\_\_\_\_ committee of the \_\_\_\_\_ Party. (National, State or subordinate) (Democratic, Republican, etc.)
  - (e) This committee is a separate segregated fund.
  - (f) This committee supports/opposes more than one Federal candidate and is NOT a separate segregated fund or a party committee.

6. Name of Any Connected Organization or Affiliated Committee	Mailing Address and ZIP Code	Relationship

Type of Connected Organization  
 Corporation  Corporation w/o Capital Stock  Labor Organization  Membership Organization  Trade Association  Cooperative

**7. Custodian of Records:** Identify by name, address (phone number -- optional) and position of the person in possession of committee books and records.

Full Name	Mailing Address	Title or Position
<b>Sue Harris DeBauche,</b>	<b>3809 Dillon's Fork Rd., Fieldale, VA24089</b>	<b>STATE CHAIRPERSON</b>

**8. Treasurer:** List the name and address (phone number -- optional) of the treasurer of the committee; and the name and address of any designated agent (e.g., assistant treasurer).

Full Name	Mailing Address	Title or Position
<b>No change</b>		

**9. Banks or Other Depositories:** List all banks or other depositories in which the committee deposits funds, holds accounts, rents safety deposit boxes or maintains funds.

Name of Bank, Depository, etc.	Mailing Address and ZIP Code
<b>No Change</b>	

I certify that I have examined this Statement and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct and complete.

TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF TREASURER <b>Maurice J. Laurier</b>	SIGNATURE OF TREASURER <i>Maurice J. Laurier</i>	DATE <b>April 24, 1997</b>
--	---	-------------------------------

NOTE: Submission of false, erroneous, or incomplete information may subject the person signing this Statement to the penalties of 2 U.S.C. §437g. ANY CHANGE IN INFORMATION SHOULD BE REPORTED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

For further information contact: **FE6AN053**  
 Federal Election Commission  
 Toll-free 800-424-9530  
 Local 202-219-3420

**FEC FORM 1**  
(revised 4/87)

# STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION

(See reverse side for instructions)

(a) NAME OF COMMITTEE IN FULL <input type="checkbox"/> (Check if name is changed) <b>Virginia Independent Party</b>	2. DATE <b>February 1, 1996</b> Amended <b>May 31, 1996</b>
(b) Number and Street Address <input type="checkbox"/> (Check if address is changed) <b>P. O. Box</b>	3. FEC Identification Number <b>C00317206</b>
(c) City, State and ZIP Code <b>King George, VA 22485</b>	4. Is This Report An Amendment? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

**5. TYPE OF COMMITTEE (Check one)**

- (a) This committee is a principal campaign committee. (Complete the candidate information below.)
  - (b) This committee is an authorized committee, and is NOT a principal campaign committee. (Complete the candidate information below.)
- |                   |                             |               |                |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Name of Candidate | Candidate Party Affiliation | Office Sought | State/District |
|                   |                             |               |                |
- (c) This committee supports/opposes only one candidate \_\_\_\_\_ and is NOT an authorized committee.  
(name of candidate)
  - (d) This committee is a \_\_\_\_\_ committee of the \_\_\_\_\_ Party.  
(National, State or subordinate) (Democratic, Republican, etc.)
  - (e) This committee is a separate segregated fund.
  - (f) This committee supports/opposes more than one Federal candidate and is NOT a separate segregated fund or a party committee.

6. Name of Any Connected Organization or Affiliated Committee	Mailing Address and ZIP Code	Relationship

Type of Connected Organization

- Corporation 
  Corporation w/o Capital Stock 
  Labor Organization 
  Membership Organization 
  Trade Association 
  Cooperative

**7. Custodian of Records:** Identify by name, address (phone number -- optional) and position of the person in possession of committee books and records.

Full Name	Mailing Address	Title or Position
TREASURER		

**8. Treasurer:** List the name and address (phone number -- optional) of the treasurer of the committee; and the name and address of any designated agent (e.g., assistant treasurer).

Full Name <b>Maurice J. Laurier</b>	Mailing Address <b>7504 Matoaka Avenue, Gloucester Point, VA 23062</b>	Title or Position <b>Treasurer</b>
Tel: (804) 642-6084	Mailing Address <b>Ivan J. Ely, 3 Hampton Key, Williamsburg, VA 23185</b>	Title or Position <b>Asst. Treasurer</b>
Tel: (804) 229-5972	Mailing Address <b>(Branch 72) Route 17, Gloucester Point, VA 23062</b>	Title or Position <b>(Chair, Finance Comm.)</b>

**9. Banks or Other Depositories:** List all banks or other depositories in which the committee deposits funds, holds accounts, rents safety deposit boxes or maintains funds.

Name of Bank, Depository, etc. <b>CRESTAR BANK</b>	Mailing Address and ZIP Code <b>(Branch 72) Route 17, P. O. Box 40, Gloucester Point, VA 23062</b>
---	---

I certify that I have examined this Statement and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is true, correct and complete.

TYPE OR PRINT NAME OF TREASURER <b>Maurice J. Laurier</b>	SIGNATURE OF TREASURER 	DATE <b>May 31, 1996</b>
--	----------------------------	-----------------------------

NOTE: Submission of false, erroneous, or incomplete information may subject the person signing this Statement to the penalties of 2 U.S.C. §437g. ANY CHANGE IN INFORMATION SHOULD BE REPORTED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

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For further information contact:  
 Federal Election Commission  
 Toll-free 800-424-9530  
 Local 202-219-3420

FEBAN053

FEC FORM 1

(revised 4/87)

Encl (5)

April 11, 1996

Virginia Independent Party  
PO Box 880  
King George, VA 22485

We acknowledge receipt of your new 1996 *Statement of Organization* filed pursuant to § 24.2-908 of the Code of Virginia. For items one and two below, please refer to the enclosed 1993 version of the *Campaign Finance Disclosure Act Summary* (currently being revised).

1. **Registration Number** [See Page 13]

This number is assigned and provided to you by this Board upon receipt of your first *Statement of Organization*. It must appear on any writing distributed by your committee which concerns a candidate or any issue that appears on a ballot. Your registration number is **VA-96-0124**

2. **Authority Statement** [See Pages 18 and 19].

This provides required language that must appear on any *campaign writing*.

Based on the information showed on your 1996 *Statement of Organization*, future reports are due: [see the attached schedule].

Reports are required to be filed on the established schedule until a final report with its Termination Statement completed is filed. If no activity occurred during the reporting period, file only the *Report of No Activity* by the required deadline. A supply of forms for each report is enclosed for your use.

You are reminded that a maximum civil penalty of \$300 may be assessed for either the failure to file your report on time or the failure to provide any required information. Reports must be postmarked *on or before the due date* and cannot be filed before the date through which they must be complete.

The reporting form reflects the current penalties required by law for either the late filing of any report or failing to provide required information in any report. Each report must include the information required by each column heading.

Should you have questions, please call Monica Booker at the number listed below.

Sincerely,

*M. Bruce Meadows*

M. Bruce Meadows  
Secretary

MBM/mmb  
Enclosures

200 N. 9th Street, Suite 101, Richmond, Virginia 23219-3497

TELEPHONE: 804-786-6551 OR

TOLL-FREE WITHIN VIRGINIA: VOICE 800-552-9745 / TDD 800-260-3466



# STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION FOR A COMMITTEE<sup>1</sup>

Calendar Year 1997

New Statement

Statement Amendment

Check here if additional information for any item is continued on Page 4.

1. VIRGINIA INDEPENDENT PARTY (also dba VIRGINIA REFORM PARTY)

FULL NAME OF POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEE, POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE OR OTHER COMMITTEE

3809 Dillon's Fork Road

MAILING ADDRESS FOR RECEIPT OF ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, FORMS OR OTHER CORRESPONDENCE

Fieldale, Virginia 24089

(540) 673-2577

CITY/TOWN

ZIP

(AREA CODE) DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER

This committee  is an inaugural fund committee; or

will support or oppose candidates for state or local offices to be voted on in:

[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

- May elections [CITY/TOWN COUNCILS AND SCHOOL BOARDS]
- June primaries and/or November elections
- Special election held at time other than May or November
- None of the above at this time

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE ACT DO NOT APPLY TO FEDERAL ELECTIONS. CALL THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION AT 800-424-9530 TO OBTAIN REGISTRATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ACTIVITY RELATING TO CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT, U. S. SENATE AND U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

CATEGORIES CHECKED WILL DETERMINE FILING SCHEDULE THAT YOUR COMMITTEE MUST FOLLOW. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU ACCURATELY INDICATE THE ELECTIONS IN WHICH YOU INTEND TO PARTICIPATE. YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY AMEND AND REFILE THIS DOCUMENT IF CHANGES OCCUR.

2. Affiliated or connected organizations:

Name of affiliated or connected organization	Mailing address and ZIP	Relationship
None at this time		

3. Area, scope and jurisdiction of the committee [PLEASE ANSWER EACH QUESTION]:

- a) Will this committee operate in more than one city or county?  YES  NO
- b) Will it operate in more than one state senate or state house district?  YES  NO
- c) Will it operate on a statewide basis in Virginia?  YES  NO
- d) Will it primarily support candidates seeking state or local office?  STATE  LOCAL

<sup>1</sup> This form must be filed (i) within ten days after the committee is organized or (ii) if later, within ten days of becoming aware that it will receive or spend more than \$200 and (iii) when any information provided on the original statement changes and (iv) each January 15.

It is required to be filed by all committees except a candidate's campaign committee and any political party committee for (i) a state senate or house district, (ii) a county or city local election district, or (iii) a locality having a population of 100,000 or less that does not accept contributions totaling more than \$10,000 or make contributions and expenditures totaling more than \$10,000 during the calendar year.

<p><b>Full name/Business Address and ZIP:</b>                  Maurice Josef Laurier                  7504 Matoaka Avenue                  Gloucester Point,                  Virginia 23062</p>	<p><b>Residence Address and ZIP: *</b>                  7504 Matoaka Avenue                  Gloucester Point,                  Virginia 23062</p>	<p><b>Committee Title or Position:</b>                  TREASURER</p> <p>Office telephone no: (804) 642-6084</p> <p>Home telephone no: 804 642-6084                  (Both include FAX)</p>
--	--	---

5. Other Principal Officers of Committee (SEE INSTRUCTIONS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE PLAN)

<p><b>Full Name/Business Address and ZIP:</b>                  Sue Harris DeBauche                  3809 Dillon's Fork Road                  Fieldale, VA 24089</p> <p>Arlene W. Smith                  3113 North Inglewood St.                  Arlington, VA 22207</p> <p>Donald R. Mott                  307 Meadow Lake Road                  Yorktown, VA 23693</p>	<p><b>Residence Address and ZIP: *</b>                  3809 Dillon's Fork Road                  Fieldale, VA 24089</p> <p>3113 North Inglewood St.                  Arlington, VA 22207</p> <p>307 Meadow Lake Road                  Yorktown, VA 23693</p>	<p><b>Committee Title or Position:</b>                  STATE CHAIRPERSON</p> <p>SECRETARY</p> <p>STATE VICE CHAIRPERSON</p>
---	--	--

6. For each individual supported or opposed for nomination or election, enter:

Full name and mailing address of candidate:	Office Sought	Party	For	Against
		Various - to be determined		

If supporting the entire ticket of a party, give name of party:

7. If an Inaugural fund committee, enter:

**Full name of officer-elect, mailing address and office to which elected:**

\* Residence address must identify the physical location in which the person lives; post offices boxes are not legally acceptable.

8. Does this committee plan to stay in existence beyond the current calendar year?	Yes
If so, how long? Indefinitely	
9. In the event of dissolution, what disposition will be made of residual funds? <sup>3</sup> Returned to contributors	
10. List all banks, safety deposit boxes or other repositories in which the committee deposits funds, holds accounts, rents safety deposit boxes or maintains funds:	
Name of Bank, Repository, etc. CRESTAR BANK (Account No. 201639351)	Mailing Address and ZIP Branch 72 Route 17, P. O. Box 40 Gloucester Point, Va 23062
11. Funds expended in support of, or opposition to, candidates (check one)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARE <sup>4</sup> solicited from individuals or other groups.	
<input type="checkbox"/> ARE NOT <sup>5</sup>	

**STATEMENT OF TREASURER OR OTHER COMMITTEE OFFICER**

I, Maurice J. Laurier hereby state that the information in this *Statement of Organization*  
FULL NAME OF TREASURER OR OTHER COMMITTEE OFFICER  
 is complete, true and correct.

Maurice J. Laurier TREASURER  
SIGNATURE OF TREASURER OR OTHER COMMITTEE OFFICER

Date Signed: April 24, 1997

KNOWINGLY MAKING ANY UNTRUE STATEMENT OR ENTRY IN THIS DOCUMENT IS A FELONY UNDER VIRGINIA LAW. THE PUNISHMENT IS A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$2500 AND/OR CONFINEMENT FOR UP TO TEN YEARS - ALSO, YOU LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE.

**RETURN THIS ORIGINAL DOCUMENT INTACT - DO NOT SEPARATE PAGES.**  
 Make a copy for your records.

<sup>1</sup> If this committee disbands or determines that it will no longer receive contributions or spend monies, it must notify the State Board of Elections.

<sup>2</sup> If funds ARE collected from other individuals or groups, reports of contributions and expenditures must be filed on the schedule established by Virginia law.

<sup>3</sup> If funds ARE NOT solicited from other sources but are paid from the organization's general operating fund no further filings or reports are required.

None

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

1. PROJECT TITLE: ...  
2. PROJECT NUMBER: ...  
3. PROJECT STATUS: ...

4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: ...  
5. PROJECT OBJECTIVES: ...  
6. PROJECT BUDGET: ...

7. PROJECT CONTACTS: ...

8. PROJECT DOCUMENTS: ...

9. PROJECT EVALUATION: ...

10. PROJECT REPORTS: ...

11. PROJECT REVISIONS: ...

12. PROJECT APPROVALS: ...

13. PROJECT SIGNATURES: ...

14. PROJECT NOTES: ...

Check here if additional information for any item is continued on separate sheets.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF CHANGE OF REGISTERED OFFICE/REGISTERED AGENT  
(Please read instructions on reverse side of form before filling out form)

1. CORPORATION'S NAME: VIRGINIA INDEPENDENT PARTY CORPORATE ID: 0396936 - 7

2. REGISTERED AGENT'S NAME AND REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS ON RECORD:

LOUIS S. HERRINK  
11227 JAMES MADISON PARKWAY  
King George, VA 22485-0000

3. NEW REGISTERED AGENT'S NAME AND REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS:

Sue Harris DeBouche  
3809 Dillon's Fork Road, Fieldale, VA 24089

4. NEW REGISTERED AGENT IS (mark appropriate box or boxes):

(A) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A RESIDENT OF VIRGINIA AND

an officer of the corporation: President (title)  
 a director of the corporation  
 a member of the Virginia State Bar

OR

(B) ( ) A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION OR PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY OF ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW WHICH IS REGISTERED WITH THE VIRGINIA STATE BAR UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 54.1-3902 OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA

5. LOCALITY OF REGISTERED OFFICE:

(A) CURRENT REGISTERED OFFICE LOCALITY: KING GEORGE COUNTY

(B) NEW REGISTERED OFFICE LOCALITY:

CITY OF \_\_\_\_\_ OR COUNTY OF Henry

6. COMPLETE PART "A" IF A NEW REGISTERED AGENT IS BEING APPOINTED:

(A) The undersigned corporate officer executes this statement on behalf of the corporation as of:

DATE: 3-21, 1997.

Sue Harris DeBouche (Signature) Sue Harris DeBouche, President/Chairman (Printed Name & Corporate Title)

COMPLETE PART "B" IF THE REGISTERED AGENT IS REMAINING THE SAME BUT IS CHANGING HIS/HER BUSINESS ADDRESS:

(B) The undersigned agent declares that a copy of this statement has been mailed to the corporation named above.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_. (Signature of registered agent)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

*me.*  
*Resolution: 1*  
*2*

HULLIEN WILLIAMS MOORE  
CHAIRMAN

CLINTON MILLER  
COMMISSIONER

THEODORE V. MORRISON, JR.  
COMMISSIONER

# COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA



WILLIAM J. BRIDGE  
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION  
P.O. BOX 1197  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218-1197

## STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION

March 3, 1997

SUE HARRIS DEBAUCHE  
3809 DILLON'S FORK RD  
FIELDALE, VA 24089

RE: VIRGINIA INDEPENDENT PARTY  
ID: 0396936 - 7  
DCN: 97-03-03-1001

This is your acknowledgement for filing a statement of change of registered office / registered agent (SCC635/834) with this office.

The effective date of the change is March 3, 1997.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William J. Bridge".

William J. Bridge  
Clerk of the Commission

RAACCEPT  
CIS20436

# Board certifies new party

## Independent group seen as vehicle for Perot bid here

BY TYLER WHITLEY  
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

For the first time in decades the State Board of Elections has certified a new political party in Virginia, thanks in part to former Republican gubernatorial candidate and independent senatorial candidate J. Marshall Coleman.

The Virginia Independent Party likely will be the vehicle for a party affiliated with Texas billionaire Ross Perot to get on the Virginia presidential ballot this November.

"This is great news," James Haas, chairman of United We Stand in Virginia, said yesterday. "We have to work some things out, but this is one avenue we could use."

**VIRGINIA POLITICS**

### Petition drive planned

An affiliated Perot organization, the Reform Party, was planning to launch a petition drive to gather the necessary 15,168 signatures of registered voters to get on the ballot.

But a certified political party automatically qualifies for the ballot. It also gets a spot on the ballot ahead of the independent candidates.

Louis Herrink, a King George businessman who is chairman of the Virginia Independent Party, said "It is our intention to nominate a presidential candidate."

Herrink, one of the organizers of United We Stand in Virginia, said he hasn't had a chance to talk to the Perot people yet but planned to do so.

### Perot got 13.6 percent in Va.

Seven of the 11 district chairmen in the Virginia Independent Party were involved in Perot's presidential bid in Virginia in 1992, he said.

To qualify as a party, an organization must have received at least 10 percent of the total vote cast for any statewide office at either of the two preceding statewide general elections.

Perot received 13.6 percent of the vote in Virginia in the 1992 presidential election.

Herrink pushed after that to form the new Virginia Independent Party.

Running as an independent in the 1994 U.S. Senate race, Coleman sought to affiliate with the party. Party spokesmen said the organization qualified because Perot had received more than 10 percent of the vote. However, the state board denied the party's bid, saying it had not met other qualifications, including formation of a state central committee.

# Reform Party trying to get on Va. ballot

BY TYLER WHITLEY  
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

The Reform Party, an organization affiliated with Texas billionaire Ross Perot, will begin a petition drive in Virginia to get on the ballot for the presidential election this fall.

Citizens to Establish a Reform Party, most of whom also are members of United We Stand America, voted last weekend to try to get on the ballot in all 50 states.

James Haas, chairman of United We Stand in Virginia, said the two organizations are separate and distinct entities. The Reform Party is a political party, while United We Stand is a nonpartisan citizen action organization that cannot endorse or sponsor candidates, he said.

To get on the ballot in Virginia, a presidential candidate who is not a member of the two major political parties must submit to the State Board of Elections petitions signed by 15,168 registered voters, including at least 300 from each of the 11 congressional districts.

The figure represents one-half of 1 percent of the 3,033,634 voters registered in Virginia as of Jan. 1. The State Board of Elections recommends candidates get at least 50 percent more signatures than required to ensure that enough are valid.

The Libertarian Party of Virginia also has launched a petition drive. Last week, the party mailed petition forms to party members asking each member to collect 60 signatures or contribute \$60 to help pay for the petition drive.

"It's very hard work," said Richard Sincere of Arlington, the state chairman. "It is expensive, tedious and time-consuming."

Sincere and Haas said the obstacles faced by nonmajor party candidates in getting on the ballot demonstrate the control wielded by candidates from the two major parties.

"While they are out campaigning, arguing about issues before the voters, we have to spend long hours collecting signatures," Sincere said. "Could that be the intention the Republicans and Democrats had when they wrote these ballot-access laws for third parties?"

"It is a very hard job made hard by the existing political parties," Haas agreed. He said the Reform Party has to confront a different set of rules in each state.

Even so, the presidential ballot in Virginia in 1992 had four presidential candidates in addition to Democrat Bill Clinton and Republican George Bush. The Libertarian Party, Perot's group, political extremist Lyndon H. LaRouche Jr. and independent Lenora B. Fulani were successful in getting on the Virginia ballot.

The signatures must be submitted to the State Board of Elections by Aug. 23.

Because Republicans choose to nominate their Senate candidate in a primary, Sen. John W. Warner and James C. Miller III, his opponent, also must gather the same number of petitions — 15,168 — to qualify. Both campaigns have begun petition drives.

In congressional races, independent candidates must gather between 1,534 and 1,645 signatures, depending on the number of registered voters in the district.

factored in the Coleman vote, because the Virginia Independent Party had met the other qualifications.

"We have been meeting once a month as a party ever since we were turned down by the state board," Herrink said.

Perot needs another vehicle besides United We Stand, because the organization is a nonpartisan citizens

### PARTY FROM PAGE B1

Sen. Cole said. Although he ran as an independent, he wrote a letter to the State Board of Elections saying he regarded himself as the candidate of the Virginia Independent Party. "He was our candidate," Herrink said.

RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH 2-01-96

For Sure

VIRGINIA:

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF KING GEORGE COUNTY

FICTITIOUS NAME CERTIFICATE

Pursuant to Section 59.1, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, the undersigned Virginia Independent Party, a Virginia non-stock corporation, executes this certificate as notice that it is now doing, conducting and transacting business under the assumed name of Virginia Reform Party.

The Registered Office address of the corporation is:

11227 James Madison Parkway  
King George, Virginia 22485

Executed this 21st day of August 1996,

Virginia Independent Party

by Louis S. Herrink  
Louis S. Herrink, President

Louis S. Herrink, President of Virginia Independent Party, personally appeared before me, the undersigned Notary Public, this 21st day of August, 1996, and being first duly sworn, acknowledged the foregoing certificate and made oath that it was signed and acknowledged by authority granted him by said corporation.

Charles C. Frank  
Notary Public

My commission expires

3/31/00

A COPY TESTE:

Charles V. Mason, Clerk

By Jean S. Inman  
Deputy Clerk



# Virginia Independent Party

## MINUTES OF MEETING

July 20, 1996

### RECONVENING OF STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention of the Virginia Independent Party was reconvened on Saturday, July 20, 1996, 2:30 pm in Charlottesville, Virginia, at the Lane Building. Present were Al Picardi representing the 1st District due to Pink Ely being unable to attend, Bill McKenzie, 2nd District, Sam Scott, 2nd District, Carolyn Taylor, 4th District, Sue Harris DeBauche, 5th District, Fred Sylvester, 6th District, Ralph Copeland, 7th District, Arlene Smith, 8th District, Buddy Holloway, 9th District, Steve Hales, 10th District, and Karen Overocker, 11th District. A list of certified Delegates to the convention from each district is hereby attached and made a part of these minutes. Earlier in the day, this group and approximately 400 others were able to hear Richard Lamm, former Governor of Colorado and Ross Perot speak to the convention.

Buddy Holloway, Convention Chairman of the VIP, opened the meeting by advising that at the time the convention held on June 8, 1996, had been adjourned, there were two committee reports yet to be heard by the convention participants. The Nominating Committee still needed to report on the nominations received for President. Sue Harris DeBauche advised that there had been only one nominee named for President. It was discussed that since the June 8th convention, other persons had come forward requesting the nomination, including one present at the time, Diane Beall Templin from California. Ms. Templin asked for time to speak to the body and was allowed five minutes. A motion was made by Louis Herrink that the rules be suspended to allow the Nominating Committee to meet again at this convention to receive nominations from those present for a Presidential candidate. The motion was seconded by Tom Overocker, voted and carried unanimously.

The Nominating Committee removed itself from the floor and received nominations from persons present. The Nominating Committee returned to the floor, and Sue Harris DeBauche, Chairman, read the nominations to the body. The following persons were nominated:

Richard Lamm

Diane Beall Templin

Ross Perot

The National Reform Party Nominee to be announced August 18, 1996

Motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to accept the report of the Nominating Committee. Districts were then asked to render the vote of their respective delegation. The vote resulted as follows: Ross Perot, 59.6; Richard Lamm, 22.6; Reform Party Nominee, 27.8.

Motion was then made that a Vice-Presidential nominee should be selected from the remaining three nominees. Districts were asked to render the vote of their respective delegation. Richard Lamm received 69 and the Reform Party Nominee received 41 votes. Diane Beall Templin received no votes.

Al Picardi made a motion that the election of these two candidates should be made unanimous. After some discussion, the motion was voted down.

Tom Overocker was then asked to give the report of the Resolutions Committee. The following Resolutions were read and carried unanimously.

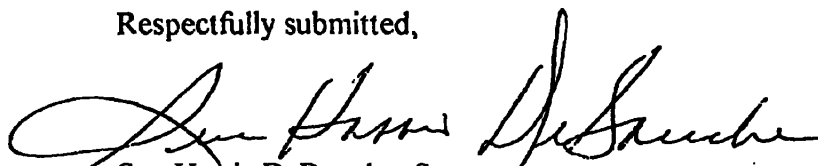
BE IT RESOLVED, that the name of the party be changed, if necessary, to The Virginia Reform Party or to The Virginia Independent Party dba The Virginia Reform Party.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Platform of Principles is hereby adopted.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the State Chairman is authorized to certify the nominees of the party.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Sue Harris DeBauche, Secretary

Louis S. Herrink, Chairman