



WA REP booth at WSRP State Convention a success!

Bob Batty, Harvey Brown, Lloyd and Darleen Flem, Lunell Haught, and Mark Pinch, joined periodically by Toby Nixon and Jim DiPeso were an ongoing presence for REP at the State Republican Convention in Spokane at the end of May. Hundreds of people were exposed to REP ideas, particularly focusing on our Hanford Cleanup platform proposal. The convention focused on the McCain/Paul issue, at the expense of other debates and ideas, so the REP resolution wasn't adopted, but certainly a lot more people know about REP and our positions than ever before. Like most of us, relief and appreciation was the expression volunteers heard about what REP was doing.

May Executive Committee Meeting Wrap-Up

The May REP state executive committee meeting was held in conjunction with the Mainstream Republicans annual Cascade Conference in Gig Harbor. Presentations from Doug Sutherland and Sam Reed gave the inside scoop on what's happening in the Department of Natural Resources and the Secretary of State's office. The panel on climate change, with REP ex-com member Toby Nixon moderating and featuring presentations by professor Mark Stoelinga of UW, Christopher Horner of the Competitive Enterprise Institute, and REP National Policy Director Jim DiPeso, was very well received. It was great to get together "live" with REP members and outstanding elected officials.

At the meeting, the ex-com discussed associating with other environmental groups, creating real bi-partisan support for issues. If you belong to other environmental groups let us know so we can influence them to be more supportive of Republican candidates who are "good" on our issues. Also, if you are a member who might influence solutions at the policy level, let the ex-com know. It's easier to be engaged in the beginning of policy development than to change it once it's set!

More on Cap and Trade

Most WA REP members accept that negative climate change is a problem, and human activities are a significant cause (National REP strongly supports that position, but it is still controversial with some Republicans.) Our message might best be "What have we to lose by conserving finite fossil fuels and particularly reducing dependence on petroleum from less-than friendly sources? It's an issue of national security. This is important whether negative climate change is human-induced a little or a lot."

Cap and Trade as a means of reducing CO₂, a major cause of negative climate change (and strongly endorsed by John McCain), was briefly summarized in our last newsletter. Lloyd Flem will continue to research how the "trade" part functions and share results of that research with members through this newsletter.

In Washington, we plan to continue our focus on the Hanford cleanup issue as well as begin to focus on the cleanup of Puget Sound (we supported legislation on this topic two sessions ago).

Best regards,

Bob Batty

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