



Konetchy for Senate 2012 *Empower People ... not Government*

www.peterkonetchy.com
pete@peterkonetchy.com

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RE: Michigan for a Conservative Senate(MI4CS)

I have a disagreement in principle with the organizers of the MI4CS coalition.

What principle? Tea Parties don't endorse candidates. It's a basic principle that's' being trampled by this coalition. The political posturing is already evident: I see both the organizers and candidates trying to gain an advantage within this coalition; with the overall goal of being dubbed as the "Tea Party Candidate". From my perspective it parallels the influence peddling throughout Washington, which is the system I'm fighting against.

Most individual Tea Parties within Michigan do not endorse candidates, a practice I find refreshingly open and transparent. They have never acted in concert as a political movement to endorse a single candidate in a single race. Tea Parties have educated their members and encouraged individual activism via the model of Adam Smith's "Invisible Hand"; which allowed an educated electorate to work for and choose their representatives. It succeeded amazingly in 2010!

Any one of the Republican candidates will be a great improvement over Debbie Stabenow. Our job is to educate the people of Michigan about our strengths and core values, and then allow the people to nominate Stabenow's opponent. This is the purpose of the primary.

I strongly support organizations, such as iCaucus or the Tea Party Express, who have developed their own membership with their goal of vetting and supporting conservative candidates. I do not place MI4CS in this category.

They have not developed their own membership and are instead trying to harness the existing membership of the individual Tea Parties to accomplish their goal. No matter how noble the original motive, I believe it has become a politically motivated organization and is now trying to manipulate the Tea Parties of Michigan. Of course, the individual Tea Parties are free to join this coalition, but I choose not support it.

How many people are happy with the GOP? Not many. Most ordinary republicans are perplexed by the GOP endorsements. What about union political activism? Many are repulsed by candidates blatantly endorsed and supported by unions.

Why would we want to start the politicalization of the Tea Party Movement and drown out the voices of those members who do not support the "Tea Party Candidate"?

I've had the pleasure of meeting with the great majority of the Tea Parties throughout the State and every one consists of great American patriots fighting to maintain our liberties--ordinary, responsible, people pursuing their happiness as they deem proper.

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We know something is very wrong. Our country is being taken from us, and we want it back. In 2010 “We the People” educated ourselves through Tea Parties, alternative media, friends...any way possible, and got involved. We worked for the candidates we thought best represented our values, with unprecedented results. The great majority of state governments switched from blue to red, the House had a historic shift from Democrat to Republican, and the Senate lost its super Democratic majority.

The Tea Party movement succeeded beyond most of our wildest dreams, because an educated electorate got involved and changed history.

I hope and pray that the greatest grassroots political movement in history, the Tea Party, is not overcome by political control. So, it is with great love for the Tea Party movement and great faith in it as a powerful means of political change that I choose not to participate in the MI4CS vetting process.

Peter Konetchy

Candidate for US Senate 2012, Michigan

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