

The Valley Patriot

Making the 6th District Great Again!

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Dear Friends and Fellow Republicans

In case you weren't aware, our very own Congressman Ben Cline will be a guest speaker at the upcoming CPAC Conference. The speaker list includes but is not limited to:

Congressman Ben Cline
Congresswoman Lauren Boehbert of Colorado
Congressman Mike Buck (also of Colorado)
Ben Carson
Florida Governor Ron De Santis
Radio Talk Show Host Dana Loesch
Donald Trump Jr
and last but NOT least
Former President Donald J Trump.

CPAC conference actually begins tomorrow, unfortunately because of COVID,

this.

For more information on CPAC and the guest speakers, here you go: <https://cpac.conservative.org/speakers/>

AN ASSEMBLED CONVENTION?

Dear friends, in something that shocked me to my very core, last night the State Central Committee voted to support an assembled convention, which will be held at Liberty University on May 8 2021. Ever since December 5 2020, when the convention passed the 1st (and 2nd) time, it was always understood that this would be an unassembled convention.

However some of the pro-primary people dug their heels in a bit too far, and made any type of compromise impossible. For example, I had personally offered to some pro-primary people that we allow for unlimited delegates from each locale (something that would ensure 0 chance of anyone who wanted to vote be allowed to vote), ensuring a certain number of voting locations per District so that no one would have to drive too far, and several other concessions. Others had made similar offers. In all fairness, some pro-primary people were amenable to these negotiations. However the leaders of the pro-primary group would not allow for any serious negotiations.

For those of you who emailed me asking for a primary in the past 2 weeks - I am sorry but you were fed some misinformation. After the January SCC meeting - and we voted for a convention for the 3rd time - there was not enough time for the Party to have a primary as the nomination process.

And the concept of a statewide "firehouse primary" advocated by some of the pro-primary people would have been 5x more problematic than the unassembled convention that I and the majority of State Central supported. See, to do a "firehouse primary" statewide, you'd need a voting location in every locale in Virginia. No ifs, no ands, no buts. You'd need 126 voting locations minimum, and probably more. And given the fact you'd need upwards of 40 volunteers per voting locale - we're talking about a minimum of 5,040 volunteers around the state to have a successful firehouse primary. At the unassembled convention, you'd need closer to 1,200. Or 40 volunteers per locale, with a likelihood of 30 voting locales around Virginia. And the odds of finding 126 locales (minimum required) for a firehouse primary would be difficult at best. We who supported the unassembled convention had already found nearly the 30 voting locations necessary to have a successful unassembled

I am sorry that many of you were told bad information. We would have greatly preferred an unassembled convention. It wasn't until late last night, when State Central Member Jeff Ryer of Williamsburg said publicly and I quote "There will never be an unassembled convention, no way no how, I won't allow it", that I actually believed he was serious. Before that I always thought he was negotiating. Didn't think some of the pro-primary people were doing a good job of it mind you. But always thought this was a negotiation tactic.

I'd like to take this time to acknowledge a few people who worked hard on this issue to ensure a favorable result. Among them are:

Dan Webb - Western Region Vice Chairman- master strategist and tactician

Melvin Adams - 5th Congressional District Chairman - same as above

Andrew Loposser - 8th Congressional District Chairman

Geary Higgins - 10th Congressional District Chairman (and my former Supervisor when I lived in Loudoun)

Nate Boyer

Vinson Palathingal

Doc Troxel (aka your friend and mine) kept the debate moving when others tried to filibuster

and last but not least

Mike Ginsburg - Mike was a tireless worker for the grassroots during this entire episode. Mike's hard work and his never failing to negotiate (even when some on the pro-primary side were being surreal at best) in good faith were inspirational.

I'd like to take this time to acknowledge Trevor Webb, College Republican President. While Trevor and I disagree fundamentally and passionately on this issue (primary vs convention) the fact is that Trevor was a delight to work with. Trevor is smart, passionate, and always brought a positive argument to bolster his case. The CR's will be well served with him as President - and if Trevor and the Liberty CR's are the future of the Party, our GOP in Virginia will be well served!

I tend to think that most of the pro-primary people are decent people who I and we just have a fundamental disagreement with. Quite frankly, I agree with a few of the arguments of having a state run primary. However for reasons stated too many times, I supported a convention, and did so with your permission. With that being said, a few of the pro-primary people took a difficult situation and made it 10x worse. With everything from the robo calls and the

outcome for the issue you support. Especially when you're down in the vote count.

It should be stated for the record that of the 16 statewide candidates who have made their intentions known that they're running for Governor/Lt Governor/AG, 11 of those 16 want a convention, 2 wanted a firehouse primary, 1 wanted a primary, and 2 did not respond. So contrary to what you've been told, State Central is looking after the best interests of the Party/Party Activists/candidates.

I am still hopeful that now that some of the pro-primary people may see the light, and come to us in good faith and we can have an unassembled convention. I may be naive, but am hopeful.

If or when the pro-primary people who can negotiate in good faith will come to the bargaining table, we can then sit down and actually work something out. But until then, mark May 8 off of your calendar.

(NOTE - I was on the call the entire time, however my phone started having issues, so at the last vote, it took a few minutes for my vote to be recorded).

Be vigilant and be strong.

I remain

your servant

S John Massoud

6th District Republican Party Chairman



Upcoming Events:

February 27, Noon. Meet and Greet for Lt.. Governor candidate Tim Hugo. French's cabin Woodstock Va. Please RSVP to Craig Orndorff at craig.orndorff@gmail.com

March 1 - 7 PM - Liberty University College Republicans, in conjunction with the Virginia 5th and 6th Congressional District Republican Party, will be jointly hosting a Gubernatorial Candidate Forum. Thomas Road Baptist Church - Bruner Hall.

March 2 - 7 PM Bedford County GOP Committee Meeting - Town Hall, Bedford.

March 29 - 7 PM - Liberty University College Republicans/CD 5/6 Lt. Governor Forum. Same information as above.

May 8 - RPV 2021 State Convention. Details to follow!

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