

About Creating A Constitution And Laws We Will Start Over And Carefully Do It Right

The general plan of the New California movement is to create a constitution and laws that will borrow from the best and most successful ideas found in other states and from the federal government. We may even borrow ideas from abroad. We have no plans to repeat the mistakes of the past. We will take careful note of past mistakes and horrible results and strive to avoid them to the utmost extent.

The current constitution and laws of the State of California are beyond repair. They provide hundreds if not thousands of examples of what not to do in government. The California government bureaucracy, and its myriad rules and regulations and pervasive intrusions into the daily lives of people who are supposed to be living in a free country, provide a nightmare example of what can happen when government is allowed to run amok.

Thomas Jefferson wisely pointed out that a government that governs least governs best. He was a pretty smart man.

Although various iterations of the following quotation and various attributions of it (e.g. Georges Santayana) have appeared over time, we plan to heed this advice:

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

We also give credit here to the wisdom of Stan Statham, a former member of the California Legislature, who emphasized that the basic command to keep in mind in order to do things correctly now in creating a new state, if California is split up, is:

“Start over”

As we start over, we wish to create a stable constitutional framework. We wish to have simple, easily understood laws. We wish to minimize the interference of government into citizens’ daily lives. We wish to allow citizens to make their own choices to the maximum extent feasible. The concept of freedom is near and dear to those in the New California movement.

When the time comes, we will put together a committee of people to discuss formulation of a constitution and laws and encourage the wholesale contribution of ideas about what all is wrong with current California government, what has been successful elsewhere, and what can be done specifically to prevent the creation of another nightmare government like the current California government.

We do not need the huge state government we currently have. The founders of this country believed in a citizen government. The governmental people are supposed to serve; the citizens are supposed to control. Thomas Jefferson espoused the concept of participatory government. Citizens come forward and help *temporarily* with their expertise and their leadership abilities, then go back to their businesses and farms. The founders knew the dangers in endowing professional politicians with too much power. And they understood that legislators do not need to meet continuously and that setting up such an arrangement is a prescription for disaster. Their wisdom and cautions were quite prescient.

We would like to encourage those in the New California movement and others who wish to join to contribute ideas that will enable the creation of government and governmental structure that is fair, just, honest, efficient, minimally intrusive, non-corrupt, inexpensive per capita, business-friendly, and sincerely connected to the citizens.

This is not something to rush right into wildly but something to be carefully contemplated and constructed, much as the forefathers of our country carefully created a constitution that has garnered the respect of people and nations all over the world for well over 200 years. We can learn a lot from the history of the United States, its constitution, and its founders.