



**State of Connecticut**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
STATE CAPITOL  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

**REPRESENTATIVE JASON W. BARTLETT**  
SECOND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
ROOM 4010  
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591  
HOME: (203) 798-8895  
CAPITOL: (860) 240-8500  
TOLL FREE: 1-800-842-8267  
FAX: (860) 240-0067  
E-MAIL: Jason.Bartlett@cga.ct.gov

**MEMBER**  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE

February 28, 2007

Dear Chairman Sen. Gayle Slossberg and Rep. Chris Caruso and members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee,

I am here to support HB 5981 and HB 5991.

In the Town of Bethel the current administration has violated the spirit of minority party representation. In order for the First Selectman to allow his party to control town boards, the First Selectman asked citizens to change their party affiliations in order that he might appoint them to serve. In one case the First Selectman asked a registered Libertarian to switch to Republican to fill a Republican slot on a board. Before 90 days elapsed this nominee was appointed to the Inland Wetland's Commission as a Republican. I personally contacted the Secretary of the State's office and spoke with Deputy Leslie Mara. The deputy commissioner informed me that indeed the Secretary of the State's office interpreted the statute to mean that a citizen only had to wait 90 days to vote in a primary or caucus but could participate in all other activities of the party they are joining including being appointed to boards and commissions. (Please see Attorney Martin Lawlor's testimony which explains these set of facts in further detail.)

After this appointment was made the First Selectman then orchestrated another appointment to a town board with the intent in my opinion of violating the spirit of minority representation. The First Selectman constituted an entire building committee which was overseeing the construction of Bethel High School. After removing all the current board members the First Selectman appointed new members. He was restricted to appointing only five Republicans to the board. Instead of keeping to this rule he asked

SERVING BETHEL, DANBURY AND REDDING

Gerald Roche to change his registration to unaffiliated. Mr. Roche was a registered Republican from 9-26-02 to 10-02-06. He switched to unaffiliated on 10-2-06 and that evening was appointed to the building committee. This maneuver in effect gave the board an additional Republican and the minority party was unable to object due to the Secretary of the State's previous ruling.

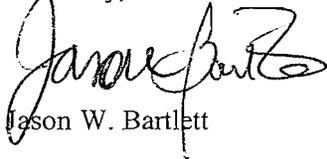
In regards to HB 5991, I asked that you support this bill to give more rights to members who are minor party members, but due to lack of process are unable to participate in their own party. Specifically, the Independent Party in the last two election cycles filed notices of their party's caucus to nominate candidates for office with the Secretary of the State's office. The minor party was not required by statute to print a notice in a local newspaper. I believe that a fairer process would be that all official nominating caucuses and conventions have to be posted in the newspaper following the procedures of the major parties.

I also believe that rules should be filed. Enclosed are the party rules filed in 1987 by the Independent Party. They have never been updated according to the Secretary of the State's office. When I challenged the rules through an election enforcement complaint the Secretary of the State's office and Elections Enforcement told me that the rules filed in 1987 met the statutory requirements. If you review the rules you will see that there is no process for one to seek their endorsement, for participation by the minor party members or indication as to who are the officers of the Independent Party currently. I believe all these issues need to be addressed. I believe the language to address this area of concern must begin with "Notwithstanding the provisions of public ACT 87-472, any party who filed a name change with the Secretary of the State under said act shall have to file new rules six months before each election.

Finally, minor parties do not have to seek the consent of candidates to cross endorse them. I believe this should also be required by statute.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jason W. Bartlett

**1 Check Boxes that Apply:**  New Voter Registration (Includes move to a new town)  Address Change (within same town)  Name Change  Party Enrollment Change

**2 Name of Applicant** Last Name: ROCKE First Name: GERALD Middle Name or Initial: D

**3 Date of Birth** (Month Day Year): 6/24/66 **4 Are you a U.S. Citizen?**  YES  NO **5 Address Where You Live** (No., Street, Apt. #): 1 Limekiln CT Town, Zip (Connecticut): Bethel 06801

**6 If Different, Address Where You Get Your Mail** (P.O. Box, etc.): Same **7 Telephone Number** (optional): (203) 791 9529 **8 Gender**:  Male  Female

**9 Do you wish to enroll in a political party?**  YES. Name of Party: Republican  NO. I do not wish to enroll in a party at this time.  
**Note:** Declaring a party enables you to vote in that party's primary election, which is open only to party members. You may later choose to switch enrollment to or from a political party.

**11 I swear or affirm that:** I am a U.S. Citizen, I live at the address shown in Box 5 above, I am at least 17 years old, I have not been convicted of a disfranchising felony, or if so, my voting rights have been restored. The information provided here is true.  
 Signature: [Signature] Today's Date: 9/25/11

**10 NAME or ADDRESS CHANGE** Previous Voting Address (if none, write "NONE"): 3 Wedgewood CT Newtown CT Name Under Which Registered (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_ **12 Would you like to work at the Polls on Election Day?** YES  NO

**NOTE:** The particular office at which you register to vote, or whether you decline to register, remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes. **WARNING:** If you sign this statement even though you know it is untrue, you can be convicted and imprisoned for up to five years and fined up to \$5,000.

BELOW COMPLETED ONLY BY AGENCY (OR SPECIAL ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OR TOWN CLERK) (Date Received by Agency)	DATE RECEIVED BY REGISTRAR: <u>9/24/02</u>	REGISTRAR INITIAL: <u>MM</u>	APPLICATION IS HEREBY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED <input type="checkbox"/> REJECTED <input type="checkbox"/> UNDELIVERABLE	DATE NOTICE MAILED: <u>9/24/02</u>
	DATE ENROLLMENT EFFECTIVE IF CHANGING PARTY	REASON FOR REJECTION		

REV. 08/01 (CGS §9-23g)

PLEASE USE PEN PRINT CLEARLY

**1a Check Boxes that Apply:**  New Voter Registration (Includes move to a new town)  Address Change (within the same town)  Name Change  Party Enrollment Change

**1b Are you a U.S. citizen?**  YES  NO **Will you be 18 on or before election day?**  YES  NO **If you checked "NO" to either of these questions, do not complete this form.**

**2 Name of Applicant** Last Name: Roche First Name: GERALD Middle Name or Initial: D

**3 Date of Birth** (Month Day Year): 06/24/66 **4 CT Driver's License Number** (if none, last 4 digits of Soc. Sec. No.): \_\_\_\_\_ **5 Address Where You Live** (No., Street, Apt. #): 1 Limekiln CT Town: Bethel CT Zip: 06801 State: Connecticut

**6 If Different, Address Where You Get Your Mail** (P.O. Box, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_ **7 Telephone Number** (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ **8 Gender**:  Male  Female

**9 Do you wish to enroll in a political party?**  YES. Name of party: Republican  Democratic Other: \_\_\_\_\_  NO. I do not wish to enroll in a party at this time.  
**Note:** Declaring a party enables you to vote in that party's primary election, which is open only to party members. You may later choose to switch enrollment to or from a political party.

**10 NAME or ADDRESS CHANGE.** Previous Voting Address (if none, write "NONE"): \_\_\_\_\_ No, Street, Apt # \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Name Under Which Registered (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

**11 I swear or affirm that:** I am a U.S. Citizen, I live at the address shown in box 5 above, I am at least 17 years old, I have not been convicted of a disfranchising felony, or if so, my voting rights have been restored. The information provided here is true.  
 Signature: [Signature] Today's Date: 10/2/06

**12 Would you like to work at the Polls on Election Day?** YES  NO

**NOTE:** The particular office at which you register to vote, or whether you decline to register, remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes. **WARNING:** If you sign this statement even though you know it is untrue, you can be convicted and imprisoned for up to five years and fined up to \$5,000.

THIS SECTION COMPLETED ONLY BY AGENCY (OR SPECIAL ASSISTANT REGISTRAR OR TOWN CLERK) (Date Received by Agency)	DATE RECEIVED BY REGISTRAR: <u>10/2/06</u>	REGISTRAR INITIAL: <u>MM</u>	APPLICATION IS HEREBY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCEPTED <input type="checkbox"/> REJECTED <input type="checkbox"/> UNDELIVERABLE	DATE NOTICE MAILED: _____
	DATE ENROLLMENT EFFECTIVE IF CHANGING PARTY	REASON FOR REJECTION		

### Connecticut Voter Registration System

**Inquiry - View Voter Registration**

MOLEARY / Bethel

<b>Previous Name</b>	<b>Previous Address</b>	<b>Previous Party</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Voter Information</b></p> <p>Prefix Name: Mr                  Voter's Name: Gerald D Roche                  Date of Birth: 06/24/1966                  Voter ID: 003136810</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Miscellaneous</b></p> <p>Gender: Male                  Telephone: 203-791-9529                  Special Status:                  Perm Absentee Ballot: No</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Residence Address</b></p> <p>Address: 1 Limekiln Court                  Unit:                  City: Bethel                  State: CT    Zip: 06801 -3234</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Status Information</b></p> <p>Reg. Effective Date: 09/26/2002                  Current Status : Active                  Last Active Date:                  Off Reason:</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Enrollment Information</b></p> <p>Current Party                  Unaffiliated                  Privilege Date                  10/02/2006</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Audit History</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Election History</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Canvass History</b></p>

**Mailing Address**

Street No.	Street Name /P.O. Box	Unit	Town	State	Zip Code
					Country:

**Districts:    Congressional: 005    Senatorial: 024    Assembly: 002**

	District/Ward	Precinct	Polling Place
STATE:	005	00	Frank A. Berry School - 5
LOCAL:			
SPECIAL:			

**Back**

**Inquiries**

New Voter    9/26/02    Registered as Republican  
                   10/2/06    Party Enrollment Change to Unaffiliated

UNAFFILIATED PARTY OF CT.  
Suite 201, 36 Tamarack Avenue, #5  
Danbury, Ct. 06811

August 5, 1987

To: Secretary of State  
Elections Division  
30 Trinity Street  
Hartford, Ct. 06106

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to your letter dated July 29, 1987 regarding Public Act 87-472 we as authorized agents of the Unaffiliated Party of Ct. hereby request that our new party designation as permitted by the new law is INDEPENDENT (PARTY). We further request that the organization name on record with the campaign finance unit be INDEPENDENT PARTY-STATE CENTRAL.

Sincerely,



Kenneth F. Fox  
74 Franklin Street  
Danbury, Ct. 06810



Donna L. Dixon  
R.R. #3, Box 618  
Fleetwood Drive  
New Fairfield, Ct. 06812

P.S. In complying with such above law we reserve the right to claim compensation for the confiscation of our name, Unaffiliated.

FILED  
ELECTIONS DIVISION  
07 AUG 7 1987  
BY   
SECRETARY OF THE STATE



**State of Connecticut**  
**SECRETARY OF THE STATE**  
30 TRINITY STREET  
HARTFORD, CONN. 06106



**JULIA H. TASHJIAN**  
**SECRETARY**

**BERNARD P. AUGER**  
**DEPUTY SECRETARY**

August 24, 1987

Robert Fand, M.D.  
79-1/2 North Street  
Danbury, Connecticut 06810

Dear Dr. Fand:

This is in reply to your note requesting "a letter of approval for the name Independent" as the new party designation (replacing Unaffiliated) reserved by the Party Designation Committee of which you are a member, and as the new party name of the minor party in the 109th Assembly District in Danbury. Your note was attached to a letter received in this office August 7, 1987 signed by Kenneth F. Fox and Donna L. Dixon, in which they stated that pursuant to Public Act 87-472 "...we as authorized agents of the Unaffiliated Party of Ct. hereby request that our new party designation as permitted by the new law is Independent (Party)..."

The letter from Mr. Fox and Ms. Dixon substantially meets the requirements of PA 87-472 with respect to "...a certificate changing such former designation to one permitted...signed by the persons authorized by such party designation committee..." The designation Independent is one permitted under subsection (c) of Conn. Gen. Stats. §9-453u as amended by Section 1 of said Public Act.

Therefore, the party designation Independent is approved to replace the prohibited party designation Unaffiliated.

This means the following:

1. The party designation (formerly Unaffiliated) of the minor party with respect to the office of State Representative in the 109th Assembly District is now changed to Independent. Such party may nominate a candidate for said office in 1988 in the manner prescribed in its party rules. (See below)

Page 2  
Dr. Fand  
August 24, 1987

2. The party designation (formerly Unaffiliated) reserved by the Party Designation Committee filed here April 14, 1986 is now changed to Independent. Pursuant to Section 9-453u as amended by the Public Act, such reservation, under the changed party designation Independent, continues in effect for the offices which were listed in said application for reservation and for which candidates appeared on the ballot under the designation Unaffiliated at the November 4, 1986 state election. Those offices (excluding State Representative from the 109th Assembly District, to which the minor-party status applies as indicated above) are: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the State, Treasurer, Comptroller, United States Senator, Representative in Congress-1st. Congressional District, and State Representative-110th Assembly District. Therefore, at the next election for these offices, nominating petitions for said offices under the party designation Independent may be obtained by any eligible person or persons upon application properly made; and the endorsement of the Independent Party Designation Committee will be required (in addition to the filing of the requisite number of nominating petition signatures) for the placement of a candidate's name on the ballot for any of said offices under the designation Independent.

Please note that your committee's reservation of the party designation Independent is not applicable to offices not listed above; and does not alter or affect the current minor-party or reserved-party-designation status of the designation Independent for certain offices filled at municipal elections in the towns of Fairfield, Plainfield, Easton, Pomfret, Willington and Norwalk. For any particular office, applications for reservation of a particular party designation not previously reserved for that office will be treated on a "first come, first served" basis.

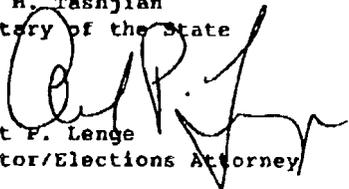
\* Finally, our records reflect that Unaffiliated party rules were filed with our office on February 13, 1987. We will change our file-system labelling and indexing of these rules to indicate that they are the party rules of the Independent party, under which rules an Independent minor-party candidate may be nominated for State Representative from the 109th Assembly District in 1988. In other words, we will treat the certificate of changed party designation filed by Mr. Fox and Ms. Dixon as being applicable to the title of the party rules, as well as to the name of the minor party and the designation reserved by the Party Designation Committee. However, if the party decides to adopt a formal amendment to the party rules as such, reflecting the name change, please file a copy of such amendment with us together with a complete copy of the party rules incorporating such amendment, as required by Conn. Gen. Stats. §9-374.

Page 3  
Dr. Fand  
August 24, 1987

We greatly appreciate your group's cooperation and assistance in this matter. Please don't hesitate to call upon our office whenever we may be of service.

Sincerely,

Julia H. Tashjian  
Secretary of the State

By:   
Albert F. Lenge  
Director/Elections Attorney

APL-TJL/fc  
(1028E-71)

cc: Mr. Kenneth F. Fox  
Ms. Donna L. Dixon  
Mr. Frank Longo  
Mr. Tulio Belardinelli  
Ms. Joanne Chelednik  
Mr. W. Leroy Staib  
Mr. Salvatore DiBetta  
Mr. Edward J. McCallum, Jr.  
Ms. Sally F. Cadmus  
Mr. Richard M. Hunt  
Mr. Winton C. Nickerson

RULES FOR NOMINATING CANDIDATES

In accordance with the rules of the Unaffiliated Party of Connecticut, the State Central Committee adopts the following Rules for the establishment of local committees and the nomination of candidates.

1. Local Committees

a. Local committees may be organized for any region containing at least one town. Each local committee must send its proposed rules to the State Central Committee of the Unaffiliated Party for approval, which approval shall require a two-thirds vote. Once its rules are approved the local committee shall have permanent existence until dissolved.

b. The State Central Committee of the Unaffiliated Party shall have the right to dissolve a local committee by a two-thirds vote, for actions contrary to the Principles of the Unaffiliated Party. The State Central Committee of the Unaffiliated Party shall have the power to resolve jurisdictional disputes between local committees by a majority vote.

2. Nominations

a. Party Candidates

No Unaffiliated Party member shall seek ballot status in a general election as a candidate of the Unaffiliated Party without first being nominated under the provisions of this article.

b. Local Committees

A local committee may nominate candidates for any office whose electoral district falls within its jurisdiction. Such nominations shall be subject to a veto by a majority vote of the State Central Committee of the Unaffiliated Party.

c. Special Party Meetings

A Special Party Meeting called for that purpose by the State Central Committee of the Unaffiliated Party may nominate candidates for any office for which no candidate has been nominated by a local committee.

d. State Central Committee of the Unaffiliated Party

The State Central Committee of the Unaffiliated Party may by a two-thirds vote nominate candidates for any office for which no nomination has been made under a, b, or c, and for any State or Federal office.

e. Presidential Campaigns

During each Presidential election, the State Central Committee shall by a majority vote nominate candidates for the Electoral College who are pledged to support the duly nominated candidates of the Unaffiliated Party for President and Vice President.

The above rules were passed unanimously at the meeting of the State Central Committee of the Unaffiliated Party on 2/10/87

Donna Dixon  
Donna Dixon, Secretary

Kenneth F. Fox  
Kenneth F. Fox, Chairman

FILED  
FEB 12 1987  
SECRETARY OF THE STATE  
BY