

Let Lubbock Vote

News Release

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Pro-Vote Group Issues Challenge Asks Opposition Group to Keep Debate Civil and Fully Disclose Financial Support

"I am concerned when anyone is putting about \$100,000 into a project, somebody thinks they are going to be winners," Jones said. "You have to ask the question, 'Who is going to win?' It seems to me it is limited to a very small number of people who would really win. I would be interested in seeing where the money is coming from (and) who are the sources."

*--Larry Jones, Lubbock Area Baptist Association
Lubbock Avalanche Journal, Sept. 10, 2008*

We are pleased a group representing opposing views has decided to join the debate and we welcome them. We also agree the people have a right to know all the facts on the effects of an election to allow legal alcohol sales in Lubbock County.

The Let Lubbock Vote committee will comply with all state disclosure requirements by releasing the list of contributions and expenditures as required by State Ethics laws. We are proud to show our support will come from a broad array of groups, individuals and businesses and virtually all will either live, work, conduct business, and have employees from Lubbock and the surrounding area.

It will come as no surprise some of our supporters are individuals, groups and businesses that currently sell alcohol or intend to if approved by voters and are not opposed to the people having the right to vote.

However, we also believe it is only right and fair, since the opposition group has made the issue of "who" supports and opposes these efforts that we issue this challenge.

First, we ask the opposition group to take the same pledge to comply with all state disclosure laws and report the true source of their contributions and support.

Second, we also ask those groups opposed since they are making the argument "*alcohol sales causes problems*", then it would be hypocritical for those same groups to then take money from for-profit alcohol interests.

Therefore, we ask those groups to either:

1. ***"pledge to not accept contributions from any entity or individual that currently or will profit from the sale of alcohol"*** or
2. ***Fully disclose why they are accepting money from alcohol interests and why those groups oppose the people's right to vote on this issue.***

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Finally, the opposition group has stated their intent is to encourage their supporters to not sign the petition giving people the right to vote on this issue next May. They are certainly within their constitutional rights.

However, based on current world events, where our fighting men and women are currently deployed in countries where we, as a country, are supporting giving their citizens the right to vote in democratic elections, we feel it inappropriate for anyone to criticize or condemn those who sign a petition giving all Lubbock County citizens the right to vote on this issue.

Asking your supporters not to sign is one thing, attacking those who do is another. We ask the debate stay civil and based on facts.

Let us agree to let the voters decide what is in the best interest of Lubbock.

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