

### 13. What will happen to our universities and prisons? Will California students have to pay out of state tuition?

A: It's ridiculous to say we're going to close all schools and prisons and fire everybody. Every state needs schools, prisons, and public employees. We'll need all these things. We can negotiate whether someone pays out of state tuition. We're talking about changing the representative dynamic, so a million people can begin to govern their lives—from the bottom up. We're going to have schools, prisons, prison guards, police, road workers, and teachers. The structure will look much like it does today, but with the potential of being very responsibly and efficiently governed at the local level.

### 14. How can we determine what our state income will be?

A: We can get a general assessment of our tax revenues from the state legislative analyst, state controller, franchise tax board, state board of equalization and other agencies. So, we have an idea what we generate under current standards for our revenue, and what our expenses are from comparing those to county budgets and state reports. However, instead of having one agency with the complete picture, California has umpteen different agencies monitoring different parts of it. We have to collect all the puzzle pieces from each of these agencies to put it together. The six state movement gave us a big gift, because the state legislative analyst's office provided a financial report. Funding north state counties the way California is right now, the tax structure and all of the same agencies, **the state of Jefferson is sustainable from day one.** Statistics we are looking at for our economy come from the US Dept of Agriculture, Dept. of Interior, Bureau of labor and statistics, US census, California abstract, etc. Those same counties that we are looking at in the state of Jefferson are at 28% of the economy from 20 years ago. Since 1994 we have lost 72% of the economy. So what we know is that even at 28% of 20 years ago, we could be self funding. The question really is "Can we fund ourselves? Yes. Can we drastically improve that picture? Yes."

Questions 15-20 can be found online  
<http://jeffersondeclaration.net/questions/>



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# **? Mark FAQs**

Transcribed from the series of videos entitled 'Question Mark' narrated by Mark Baird, Jefferson Declaration Committee. View the videos here:  
<http://jeffersondeclaration.net/questions/>

## **1. What gives you the right to speak for the State of Jefferson?**

A: The people ordained the government. The US Constitution gives us the authority to make new states under Article 4 Section 3. People have the ultimate authority, because all just power of government is derived from the governed. When that government fails to serve the people, it's our duty and our responsibility to abolish that government, and institute a government more friendly to our desires. The City of Los Angeles has 35 representatives, and the northern third of California has 4 or 5, depending on where you draw the boundaries. That's why we're doing this—for better representation.

## **2. Are you happy with the government of the State of California?**

A: We're here asking people this question. If you're not happy with it, there's a plan to do something about it, and you are free to join that movement.

## **3. How can the State of Jefferson protect private property rights in a way the State of California is not?**

A: The California Constitution has been amended 521 times in the last 163 years. With 570 state regulatory agencies, all of them want something from you. They want money, they want permission, and they want to intrude in your life; they want to decide what you do with your property. In the State of Jefferson, our goal is to eliminate that. We will have a Constitution that will protect the right of people to use their property for themselves and their families. That Constitution will be a very small document compared to that of the State of California. It will outline individual rights and the functions of government—as well as how those functions will be performed. If our state Constitutional Convention is true to the ideals that we're proposing, the Jefferson Constitution will be extremely difficult to change.

#### **4. Why change the CA Constitution?**

A: The Constitution is the line the government is never supposed to cross - into your personal liberties and freedoms. With our state Constitutional Convention we will propose a less intrusive government--what the vast majority of the people in the State of Jefferson want. We will codify that in the Constitution. It will protect the rights of property, free speech, and Second Amendment rights.

#### **5. Why will Sacramento let us go? Why would the legislature let us separate from the state?**

A: It's a win-win. We need to help people in southern California understand why they will win from this. They'll win because they have infrastructure problems gang problems, earthquakes, large freeways, aqueducts, things we don't deal with, and we're no help to them. They would be free to concentrate all their political power, vast wealth, and resources; they'd be free to concentrate on solving the problems that face them every day i.e.: How to run an education system with 8 million kids in it. We have diverse problems, in rural northern California we have catastrophic wild fires due to environmental mismanagement--a lot of things that people in the city can't understand. We would like southern California to win. We don't have any ill will towards them. Our families and friends live there, and we want them to win as well. We know we'll win because we can create a business friendly environment--a regulatory environment better suited for a small rural state. We can manage resources from the local level with local wisdom and talent. Then there's the representative issue, because of Reynolds vs. Sims. We literally ended up with no representation. We can't get the simplest things done, because the majority of the representation is in lower California. That can be corrected.

#### **6. What will happen to State workers pensions and health benefits?**

A: Much propaganda is spread by our opponents that contracts will be immediately terminated, prisons will close and public employees will be on the streets and jobless. People don't want to see change, and want to continue the status quo. Article 1 Section 10 "no state will pass any law that impairs the obligation of a contract." If you have a contract here, it's a contract no matter if it's in New York or Zimbabwe. If we change things, it will be in a renegotiation process once a contract expires. If we allow certain employee groups to get smaller, it will be by attrition not by voiding contracts. That's unconstitutional. Retirements and pensions that are already vested and contractual law won't change at all. Yes, it will be expensive, but we'll figure it out. Once we renegotiate those contracts, or decide what departments we're going to have and which we aren't, new employees will be free to choose whether

they want to live within the terms of that new contract, or not. We are basically going to correct a lot of this through attrition. Article 1, section 10 says "no state shall pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts."

#### **7. Sacramento won't let us go because we have the water. How do you answer that one?**

A: Water rights are water rights. Contracts are contracts, (Article 1 section 10). No one proposes to dynamically change the water landscape because we need representation. We need representation because we have none, not because we want to steal things that don't belong to us. We don't want to change the framework of American law or civil liberties, or what people receive in southern California and what they don't. What we want is a state that represents the people of the state, and that literally has nothing to do with water rights. Once we have a state, when those issues come up we will negotiate as a state on equal footing with all other states. Contracts are contracts. The Constitution is still the Constitution.

#### **8. Why do we want to separate from California?**

A: We have no representation in Sacramento, because the California government is unconstitutional and violates people's freedoms. We plan to establish a representative form of government that enforces the Constitution.

#### **9. Reynolds vs. Sims explained. Is it true that California was based on the federal model of representation?**

A: Prior to 1964, we were represented equally in the state Senate just like the US senate, where California as a large state has two senators and North Dakota being smaller has two senators. The US House of Representatives is based on population. Is it true that California was based on that federal model? Thirty or more states were based that way, and contrary to what Justice Warren said [in Reynolds vs. Sims], there were a great many states that had the "federal model," with a state senator for an area or county, and representative based on population. This was true both before and after the 14th amendment. We believe Justice Warren created a principle not found in the Constitution and not found in law. He was proud of the fact that he forced 30 state legislatures to change the way they elected officials. However, we want to return to a federal model of government where there is representation for both the county and the people. So you truly have checks and balances. You have an executive, one house that represents the people and one house that represents the local governments. There you have a check and balance.

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#### **10. How was the 14th amendment twisted so it affected the vote?**

A: Amendment 14, section 1 guarantees everyone "equal protection under the law" that clearly meant to prevent a person of one race from being punished for a crime that a person from another race would not be punished for. Justice Warren created the principle out of thin air in order to change all elections to '1 man=1 vote' which is not found in the U. S. Constitution. When we return our state to the principle of a republican form of government, it will work for everyone again. We'll have a check on the unbridled power of the government. California's Constitution does not work because it's open to the whim of every minority group, and has been modified 521 times!

\*Constitutional form of government is a 'federal republic'

#### **11. What is the primary benefit and reason for the State of Jefferson?**

A: Article 4 section 4 of the Constitution guarantees a republican or representative-type of government. Representation drives every thing. Adequate representation must be in place "of the people, by the people and for the people."

#### **12. How will the State of Jefferson be funded?**

A: In Siskiyou County we had the highest timber receipts of any county in California. Timber receipts largely funded the police, roads, and schools. In a non-regulatory environment, where we are free to use our property responsibly to make a better life for ourselves and our families, we can use the resources that we've been blessed with in abundance. The restoration of timber receipts alone will fund 85% of our police, education, and roads. We have tremendous resources that we're not using, because we've been regulated out of those businesses. Once we create a state that has an environment that is business-friendly with a better regulatory climate, we will be able to fund public works through responsible use of those resources. We would have the funding opportunities that any state has, because we would enter the union on equal footing with other states. Federal monies previously sent to the State of California will be divided, with a substantial portion coming to our state. Much of the funding would be the same. Our representative picture having changed, would allow funding to be used more responsibly, with more of it going to the county level than under California's current model of government.

# Time for 51!