
Interview: Lawrence K. Freeman

LaRouche Democrat challenges ADL, drug lobby in Maryland election

Lawrence Freeman is a gubernatorial candidate in the Sept. 13 Democratic primary for the state of Maryland. He is known to readers of EIR for his work on Africa, including a recent series of articles and interviews conducted during a visit to Nigeria.

EIR: Mr. Freeman, you filed to run for governor of Maryland back in March of this year, and the primary is almost here, on Sept. 13. How do you assess the campaign so far?

Freeman: We have accomplished a great deal. I am heading up a slate of over 50 candidates who are running for over 70 offices in the Democratic primary. We have more grassroots volunteers than any other campaign. Our people are out every day, and especially on weekends, distributing tens of thousands of copies of my program, of *New Federalist* newspaper, and over a quarter of a million pamphlets calling for the exoneration of Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. I have spoken at nearly 40 gubernatorial forums, and the other candidates running on my slate are out virtually every night, addressing all kinds of constituency groups. We have had an enormous impact on the Democratic Party and have won grudging respect from many people inside the party and other candidates, for our defense of President Clinton from the attacks by the press empire of British intelligence's Hollinger Corp. We have really scared the hell out of the local financial-political establishment, who have used all kinds of dirty tricks to keep the voters from knowing about my candidacy, they even deployed four goons one night to physically keep me out of a forum. But they haven't been able to stop us from reaching out to the population, and everybody involved with our slate has learned a great deal about organizing, and had some fun as well.

EIR: The press coverage of your campaign has called you a LaRouche Democrat. What does that mean?

Freeman: First of all, I was the first gubernatorial candidate to file as a Democrat, and all the candidates on my slate have identified themselves as LaRouche Democrats. This is because the Democratic Party still represents, in its base, those constituencies that make up a majority of working people, in particular the trade unions, farmers, the civil rights layers, other ethnic minorities, and the poor and have-nots.

The problem is that over the last 20 years, some of the national leaders have tried to turn the party into an amalgam of environmentalists, New Agers, feminists, and in some cases outright genocidalists, who want to get rid of a few billion people because they believe the world is overpopulated. We LaRouche Democrats stand for economic progress based on new technologies, emanating from new scientific discoveries. We are pro-growth, pro-science, and pro-people, which distinguishes us clearly from the New Age liberal crowd that is trying to take over the party.

EIR: How has your message been received?

Freeman: At every forum, television show, news interview, and radio show, I have outlined the imminent financial crash that Mr. LaRouche has forecast, and have displayed *The LaRouche-Bevel Program To Save The Nation*, which was published during Mr. LaRouche's 1992 presidential campaign. My campaign is unique in that I want to completely reverse the insane "post-industrial" economic policy that has driven the Maryland economy virtually into bankruptcy. My program is to rebuild, re-industrialize Maryland, and put tens of thousands of people to work in manufacturing, agricultural, and infrastructure areas of employment. Before our elected officials adopted this fantasy of basing our economy on dead-end service jobs, tourism, and gambling, Maryland used to be a strong, industry-based economy.

As a result of the wrong political decisions, we now have more and more people living in poverty. Baltimore is a complete disaster, and every year we are faced with huge state budget deficits. Some people are predicting that in the next fiscal year, Maryland will have over a \$1 billion deficit. This is all due to the shrinking tax base, which produces less revenue every year leading to higher taxes and more cutbacks. Several of the other candidates for governor, after listening to me at these forums, began talking about the need to have more manufacturing jobs instead of low-paying hamburger-flipping jobs.

EIR: How have people responded to your efforts to have Mr. LaRouche exonerated?

Freeman: Nobody has responded directly on that issue, although several Maryland politicians have said that they will



Lawrence Freeman, at right at a crab festival on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, is a LaRouche Democrat seeking the party nomination for governor. He is campaigning to reindustrialize the state.

sign the call for Mr. LaRouche's exoneration after the election. What is interesting is that the overwhelming majority of people whom I talked to were quite interested in Mr. LaRouche's ideas. However, the slander campaign against Mr. LaRouche is still having an effect, even if it is a decreasing one. Let me give you a couple of examples. When I spoke before 25 representatives of the Maryland AFL-CIO unions, many people there agreed with the LaRouche-Freeman program, but still said I was unelectable because of my association with LaRouche. This gave me an opportunity to describe the role of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL) and Henry Kissinger in railroading Mr. LaRouche into prison. But the pragmatism of the unions prevailed. At many events, somebody would usually come up to me or a campaign worker and say, "You have the best ideas, but you can't get elected."

EIR: I understand that your campaign also made a major issue of Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke's needle-exchange program.

Freeman: Yes, for me this is a fundamental moral issue as well as a political one. I was the only candidate to come out calling for Schmoke's needle-exchange program to be shut down, and was mildly surprised that no other candidate would even talk about it. As a result of intense lobbying by Mayor Schmoke, the darling of the Drug Policy Foundation, and billionaire "derivatives king" George Soros, the Maryland state legislature passed a law to have Baltimore run a test program. It is being run by the city health department and Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene, to hand out nine clean

syringes along with nine condoms to drug addicts who turn in their used needles. Along with the drug and sex paraphernalia, they receive a card with an identification number that stipulates that they *cannot be arrested* for using these needles to shoot dope into their veins.

The phony excuse being used is that this will stop the spread of AIDS infection, which Mayor Schmoke knows is a cynical lie. Baltimore, as well as the state of Maryland, have done absolutely nothing to halt the spread of AIDS. When we organized a forum at the Moorage (un)Christian Center for myself, Dr. Abdul Alim Muhammad of the Abundant Life Clinic of Washington, D.C., and a few local ministers, to expose Schmoke's immoral program to help spread drugs in the city, Mayor Schmoke, the ADL, and pro-drug forces in the city forced a cancellation of our room. The forum went on anyway, but it gives you an idea of how upset people got.

EIR: Are you satisfied with what your campaign has accomplished?

Freeman: Yes, I am very happy at what we have been able to do. Given the fact that the *Baltimore Sun*, *Washington Post*, the other major media, along with League of Women Voters of Maryland, the Greater Baltimore Committee, and the whole junior financial elite tried to censor my campaign from the voters, my friends and I did a fine job. I think many more people are now open to learning about Mr. LaRouche's program to reorganize the financial system, and that is good news, given how close we are to a monetary collapse.