

Libertarian Party of Hawaii

Phone: 1 (808) 537-3078

News

October, November 2013

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Libertarian Party of Hawaii Executive Committee Members:

Raymond Banda	raymond.bandaiii@gmail.com
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Joe Kent	joe_kent@hotmail.com

Upcoming events:

Cato Institute

WHEN: Tuesday, 3 December 2013, 7:00AM
WHERE: online at www.Cato.org/live
WHO: **Angus Deaton**, author, Dwight D. Eisenhower Professor of Economic and International Affairs, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs & Economics Department, Princeton University
Charles Kenney, Senior Fellow, Center for Global Development
Moderated by **Ian Vasquez**, Director, Center for Global Liberty and Prosperity, Cato Institute
WHAT: Book Forum: ***The Great Escape: Health, Wealth, and the Origins of Inequality***
In a process that began some 250 years ago, most of humanity has managed a great escape from grinding poverty and early death that characterized its existence for thousands of years. Professor Angus Deaton will describe the dramatic scope and speed of that progress, why we are living longer, healthier lives, and how progress has created inequalities that can have positive or negative impacts. He will also discuss measures rich countries can take to help the world's poor, including reducing foreign aid, which has been ineffective and often harmful. Charles Kenney will provide comments based on his own research on global improvements in human well-being.

Maui Libertarian Party Group Meeting

WHEN: Monday, 9 December 2013, 6:30pm – 8:00pm
WHERE: **Kaanapali Beach Ministries**
910 Honoapiilani Hwy.
Lahaina, HI 96761
WHAT: Discussion, event planning.
CONTACT: **Joe Kent**, Maui County Secretary
1 (507) 382-0318
joe_kent@hotmail.com



Big Island Libertarian Party Group Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, 10 December 2013
WHERE: Puna, HI
WHAT: Discussion, event planning.
CONTACT: **Cindy Marlin**, Hawaii County Chair
1 (808) 217-7534
lahilahi@hawaiiink.net

Upcoming events (continued):

Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

Calabash

WHEN: Wednesday, 11 December 2013, 10:30AM – 12:00PM
WHERE: **The Pacific Club**, Cleghorn Room
1451 Queen Emma Street
Honolulu, HI 96813-2003
WHAT: Examining the "Affordable Care Act"
CONTACT: **Register online**
Tim Lussier (808) 591-9193
info@grassrootinstitute.org



Libertarian Party of Hawaii

General Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, 12 December 2013, 7:00PM – 9:00PM
WHERE: **Unitarian Church**
2500 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96817
WHO: **Jeff Davis**, radio talk show host,
Libertarian candidate for governor
Tracy Ryan, Chair, Libertarian Party of Hawaii
WHAT: **Jeff Davis'** gubernatorial candidacy.
Ballot access drive.
Efforts to legalize marijuana.
CONTACT: **Tracy Ryan**, Vice Chair
1 (808) 534-1846
tracyar@hawaiiantel.net



International Society for Individual Liberty

2014 World Libertarian Conference

WHEN: Thursday–Sunday, 28–31 August 2014
WHERE: **Tirana International Hotel**
Tirana City Center, Scanderbeg Square
Tirana, Albania
WHO: **Ken Schoolland**, author & professor of economics
at Hawaii Pacific University
WHAT: Discuss ideas for a prosperous & peaceful society
in the Balkans.
CONTACT: **Kozeta Çika** kcika@yahoo.com
International Society for Individual Liberty
1 (415) 859-5174
RESERVATIONS: **Tirana International Hotel**
Phone: +355 42 234185
Fax: +355 42 232521
reservation@hoteltirana.com.al



Maui Libertarian Party Meeting

Report by Joe Kent

I was so amazed by the high quality meeting in Kihei on November 23rd, 2013!

Eleven well educated, passionate libertarians, showed up to talk and debate about the best plans for organizing a libertarian movement on Maui. The time is now, there's a wave of libertarianism happening in this country, and we need to be ready for it.

The big takeaway: we are going to try to do libertarian meetings in a different part of the island every month. So, the second week of December, we'll try to do a libertarian meeting in Lahaina on Monday, December 9th from 6:30pm - 8:00pm at [Kaanapali Beach Ministries](#). Lahaina folks – be there, or be square!



Other things we talked about:

- Let's create a public discussion forum . . . perhaps underneath the Banyan Tree in Lahaina.
- Hold a public debate with a democrat, a republican, and a libertarian at the college, moderated and filmed by the Maui Liberty Network.
- Advertise events with flyers, newspaper ads, signs, and newsletters.
- What are issues that resonate with regular people (Joe public)?
- It's the small things that voters care about.
- Dumb laws in our state. Piano lesson laws. The number of fish you can catch. Zany restrictions on businesses.
- Could we make an episode of Maui Liberty Network about "Dumb Laws on Maui?"
- Joe, Pat, and others agreed to work together to refine the Hawaii Libertarian Newsletter.
- We talked quite a lot about candidates, and the potential of many people running for office on the libertarian party ticket.
- Speak at county council meetings, not only for the politicians, but for the crowd and the exposure to libertarian ideas. This is easier done in groups!

How can you help?

Connect with us, and never miss out on any important events!

Join:

<https://www.facebook.com/LibertarianPartyOfHawaii>

or

<http://www.meetup.com/Libertarian-Party-of-Maui/>

That's where all the action's happening!

Also, watch the second episode of the "Maui Liberty Network: Gun Control and the Second Amendment"

<http://www.mauilibertynetwork.com/>

Stay tuned everyone . . . tonight we just lit a fire!

Your friend in liberty, Joe Kent

Letters:

Affordable My Okole!

Having actually read much of HillaryCare in the early '90s, and knowing one or two of the people on her select group to author it, I readily came to the conclusion that Billary did not really care what was in it, only that it would be such a disaster that the electorate would scream for single-party payer (i.e. gov't only medical care).

It never came to pass. However, the mismonickered 'ObamaCare' fits the same purpose. Obama had nothing to do with its content and has never read it in its entirety. He does not care what's in it, only that it will never work. He campaigned for the US Senate in Illinois on single-party-payer and has not changed his spots.

Finally one of the Fox morons (Bully O'Reilly) has figured this out and is no longer like the other Republican heel-yapping entertainers who complain about the website not working and stupid inconsequential minor problems. O'Reilly is now clearly exposing it for its true intent - screw up medical services and insurance to the point that the overweight overdrugged lazy mind-numbed voters will cry out for socialized medicine. Limbaugh figured this out back in the '90s but no one listened.

It will likely not be overturned by Congress because too many people are already hooked on government dependency and the promise of something-for-nothing. If it is thrown out - great, but not likely.

If not, it will be time for ***wholesale civil disobedience*** against the 'Unworkable Health Scare Act'. The same kind of civil disobedience that fought slavery, defeated Jim Crow and ended segregation.

Larry Bartley, Vice Chair, Libertarian Party of Hawaii

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii News is compiled, edited, & published by [Pat Brock](#).

Letters & submissions may be emailed to pbrock@hawaii.rr.com or mailed to **PO Box 1866, Kihei, HI 96753**.

MY YEAR WITH BITCOIN

BY JOE KENT

About a year ago, I was at a Ron Paul rally, and I saw a little booth with a bunch of people crowding around it. Tiny little coins with holograms were being sold for about \$20 each, called "Bitcoins". I immediately thought it was some kind of scam, and kept walking.

Then, last May, I heard about it again. The price jumped up to \$100. As of this writing (November 2013), the price has jumped to \$1200, and it's still rising.

What are Bitcoins, and why are they becoming so valuable?

Well, a Bitcoin is virtual money. It's a digital currency. There have been lots of attempts at virtual money over the years. First there was e-gold which was a complete failure. The problem with e-gold was that it could be inflated. Much like the Federal Reserve can print more money, programmers could just program more e-gold. It was a scam from the beginning, and it flopped.

But Bitcoins are different. Bitcoin is open source -- everybody can see the code. And the code says that there can only ever be 21 million Bitcoins. It can never be inflated.

Beyond that, Bitcoins behave just like money. They're easy to carry around (it works with your smart phone). And they can be transferred easily from smart phone to smart phone. More and more businesses are beginning to accept Bitcoins for payment. At a Subway chain in Canada, you can buy a sandwich with your Bitcoin. █

Should you buy Bitcoins? Well, that depends. Right now, the virtual currency market is still in its infancy stage. Wild swings can make the price jump from \$1000 to \$1200 in a matter of minutes. Also, there might be problems with the currency. Although no one has discovered any problems (it is so far, invulnerable to hackers), there could be problems in the future.

Finally, the government is skeptical about Bitcoins. A virtual currency means that the government can't tax it. It can't control it, and it can't inflate it. And the strength of all governments rely on their ability to control the money.

This month there was a hearing on Capitol Hill about Bitcoins. Politicians debated endlessly about what should be done about the virtual money. Can we regulate it? Can we control it? Should we ban it? But at the end of the day, the politicians didn't see it as enough of a threat. Besides, many of them had already bought Bitcoins themselves.

Will Bitcoin be the currency of the future? Who knows? All I know is, it's a neat experiment in a truly libertarian currency. A currency of freedom.



All People Are Selfish

by joekent

I'm a selfish person. I want the best for me, all the time. In fact, I'm one of the most selfish people I've ever met, and I really have no qualms about it.

Now, you may be thinking, "How rude!"

But, being selfish doesn't make me a bad person. In fact, just the opposite is true. Being selfish makes me a good person.

I give to charity because it feels good. I'm greedy to give. I don't have much money, but I still give a good portion to charities around the world. Yet – even that is a selfish act. I only give because I want to feel good.



In a classic episode of Friends, Joey says, "There's no un-selfish good deed."

Phoebe says, "Yes there are! There are totally good deeds that are . . . self-less!"

"Well, may I ask for one example?" Joey asks.

Phoebe says, "Yeah it's . . . you know, well . . . No you may not!"

Joey is right. Every single thing that you've ever done has been to make you feel good. Whether it be working out, or taking medicine, or eating, or calling your mom . . . it's all done for ultimately selfish reasons. And in that sense, everyone is selfish.

Sometimes people say, "You know what the problem is with the free market? Some people are greedy." But – hold on there. Is there anyone in the world who is not greedy?

The weird thing is, we live in a society where it looks like some people are being greedy, and other people are being good. But everybody is greedy! When I go to the grocery store, the lady at the check-out counter smiles at me and asks, "Did you have trouble finding anything?" It seems like this business is not being greedy at all. They even put all my food in my bags – and if I asked, they would carry it to my car for me. What Samaritans!

Yet, the only reason they do that is because they are competing for my business. They are selfish Samaritans.

There are only three ways greed can operate in this world:

- 1) Stealing
- 2) Cheating
- 3) Voluntary Exchange

In stealing, one person wins, and another person loses. The same is true with cheating; one person wins, and another loses.

But in a voluntary exchange, *both* parties benefit. It's the only way that two greedy people can gain and feel happy afterwards. What a miracle!

Government is based on stealing and cheating. But the free market is the only a system based on voluntary exchange. It utilizes greed to its most helpful potential, and entices greedy people to work together in perfect concert. I give you the dollar, and you give me the milk. In the end, we're both happier. This is multiplied a billion times throughout the world, every day, and it helps make everyone happier.

Yes, it is true that businesses can lie, cheat, and steal, but when they do, they shoot themselves in the foot, because they lose their reputation. And in the business world – reputation is everything.

In the free market, they can only trick you once or twice, and then most people learn their lesson, and don't visit those places again. Most people spread the word, and try to visit the businesses that have a good reputation. But governments don't need to worry about reputation. They can trick you again, and again, and no one can ever get away.

Voluntary exchange is so powerful that it actually discourages cheating, and stealing. Any business that behaves poorly gets punished by their competitors. Greed is not the problem, it's the solution. Because as long as everyone is selfish, doesn't it make sense that we stop wasting energy trying to "make everyone good", and start using greed to our advantage? The free market entices greedy people to do good things. But for greedy people to do bad things, without the fear of any consequence – it takes government.

WHY ARE THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE?

AUTHOR: UNKNOWN

Psychology 101

If you start with a cage containing five monkeys and inside the cage, hang a banana on a string from the top and then you place a set of stairs under the banana, before long a monkey will go to the stairs and climb toward the banana.

As soon as he touches the stairs, you spray all the other monkeys with cold water.

After a while another monkey makes an attempt with same result... all the other monkeys are sprayed with cold water. Pretty soon when another monkey tries to climb the stairs, the other monkeys will try to prevent it.

Now, put the cold water away.

Remove one monkey from the cage and replace it with a new one.

The new monkey sees the banana and attempts to climb the stairs. To his shock, all of the other monkeys beat up on him. After another attempt and attack, he knows that if he tries to climb the stairs he will be assaulted.

Next, remove another of the original five monkeys, replacing it with a new one.

The newcomer goes to the stairs and is attacked. The previous newcomer takes part in the punishment..... with enthusiasm, because he is now part of the "team".

Then, replace a third original monkey with a new one, followed by the fourth, then the fifth. Every time the newest monkey takes to the stairs, he is attacked.

Now, the monkeys that are beating him up have no idea why they were not permitted to climb the stairs. Neither do they know why they are participating in the beating of the newest monkey.

Finally, having replaced all of the original monkeys, none of the remaining monkeys will have ever been sprayed with cold water. Nevertheless, not one of the monkeys will try to climb the stairway for the banana.

Why, you ask? Because in their minds...that is the way it has always been!

This, my friends, is how Congress operates... and this is why, from time to time:

ALL of the monkeys need to be REPLACED AT THE SAME TIME.



Sugar Cane Burning

by joekent



Growing up on the Big Island of Hawaii, I remember stories of how the sugar cane industry died so long ago, and how the Big Island economy died along with it. So when I first moved to Maui, I was in awe. Out the window of the airplane, I saw beautiful green fields of sugar cane like a carpet over the windy valley isle. “What a miracle!” I thought. It was like stepping back into Hawaii’s golden age of sugar.

Then, one day, I noticed a giant black pillar of smoke stretching miles into the air. It looked like someone had dropped an atom bomb. The mushroom cloud engulfed half of Maui, with twisting bits of carbon falling from the sky onto people’s lawns. Somehow, the picture didn’t match with the beautiful fields of green I remember from before.

Was it a disaster? Had something gone horribly wrong? No, the sugar company was just burning cane again. Apparently, it’s common practice for HC&S to burn down the cane before they haul it to the factory to be processed.

What is to stop a company from polluting the air?

The obvious solution is the government. We should make a law! Perhaps communities should organize and sign petitions. Maybe we can put pressure on the government to make the company stop. Everybody knows that it’s the government’s job to protect the environment.

The problem is — it doesn’t work. For decades, the Maui Clean Air Coalition has tried and failed. They sent around petitions and got thousands of signatures in just a couple of days. They spoke to politicians and business and gained overwhelming support. They sat in countless meetings with government officials and sugar cane representatives, listening to long explanations about the problem. But after decades of hard work, they finally just gave up.

Of course, libertarians say, “If a company is polluting onto your property, you have the right to sue them.” It’s a nice principal, but the problem is – in practice, nobody ever sues. The Maui Clean Air Coalition has threatened to sue them many times, but they’ve never gotten serious and taken the sugar company to court.

Now, why would this be? People sue each other all the time, for the most ridiculous things, and yet nobody wants to sue HC&S for polluting the air?

The reason is because of a law called the “[Hawaii Right to Farm Act](#)”, which makes it impossible to win a case against a farmer who pollutes. The law states: “No court, official, public servant, or public employee shall declare any farming operation a nuisance for any reason . . .”

According to [Hawaii Agriculture Magazine](#), in 1982 the legislature was worried that people would begin suing sugar companies for polluting the air. So they made this law to protect the sugar industry.

What’s more, if anyone even tries to sue the sugar company, they have to pay for all the sugar companies’ attorney fees.

Imagine trying to sue a company, and the law specifically stated that it was impossible for you to ever win your case, and in addition, you had to pay for all the court fees of the person that you were suing. No wonder nobody ever tries to sue them!

If this law were abandoned, it would probably be quite profitable to sue sugar companies that polluted onto your property. Maybe we’d begin seeing commercials on TV, “Have you been the victim of air pollution? Our team of lawyers will help you get what you deserve!”

But what about the sugar companies? Free-market defenders will run to the aid of the sugar company, and exclaim, “We can’t let our sugar industry die in Hawaii. The lives of 800 workers depend on it!”

But it may be time to admit that the sugar industry in Hawaii is dying, and one day, it may be completely dead. But that’s not a bad thing. Sugar used to be a giant industry on the Big Island, but it died, and life still goes on. Most of the laid off workers just created other jobs, or they retired. Today, business in Hilo is steady, with more people living and working on the Big Island than ever.

Of course, the sugar company could think creatively about ways to remain in business without polluting. Perhaps they could do what other countries do, and harvest the cane first, rather than just burning it all over the island. Maybe they could find a different crop to grow, or think of a new technology. They often protest, “It can’t be done!”, but miracles happen all the time, especially when there is an incentive for those miracles to happen.

At any rate, if 800 workers’ jobs depend on being able to make Maui look like it was attacked by an atomic bomb, raining down black ash onto everyone’s property, then that hurts the jobs of many other people who depend on Maui looking pristine and beautiful.

It is sad that the free-market often gets blamed for things like air pollution. Libertarians are constantly attacked with air pollution gotcha questions, like “Without the government, who would stop all those greedy corporations from polluting our air?” But, in case after case, it’s the government that allows and encourages pollution. In that sense, it might very well be that the free-market is the best protector of the environment.

Announcements:

Jeff Davis for Governor

Jeff Davis, the "Solar Guy" has announced his intention to run for Governor of Hawaii on the Libertarian ticket. Jeff is well known for his daily radio show that airs from 5 to 6 PM on KGU 760 AM in Honolulu. Jeff's big issues are reforming the Jones Act, marriage equality, marijuana legalization and drug policy reform, and getting corporate money out of politics. Jeff will be speaking at the upcoming LPH General Party meeting on December 12th in Honolulu.

Marijuana legalization efforts

The LPH will be sponsoring a bill to repeal all of Hawaii's existing marijuana laws. In the body of the bill we will suggest new rules to meet the eight point outline from the US Attorney General's office on what the Feds consider problematic. We will not be proposing a complicated regulatory and licensing system modeled on Colorado or Washington State, but may accept something like it in negotiation. A proposed California ballot initiative that would treat marijuana like wine may also garner support in Hawaii's 2014 session.

Libertarian Party of Hawaii Ballot Access Drive

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii needs to gather signatures to regain its political party status in **Hawaii elections** & to run candidates for public office. **Hawaii State law** requires that every 10 years alternative political parties, other than the established **Democrat & Republican Parties**, must justify their existence. To put **Libertarian candidates** back on the ballot starting in February 2014, the Party needs to gather **706 registered voters' signatures** on petitions provided by the Hawaii State Office of Elections.

If you would like to circulate a ballot access petition, please contact

Hawaii State Chair: **Tracy Ryan** (808)534-1846 tracyar@hawaiiantel.net

If you would like to make an appointment to sign a petition, please contact your county chair:

Hawaii County Chair: **Cindy Marlin** (808) 217-7534 lahilahi@hawaiiink.net
Honolulu County Chair: **Ken Schoolland** (808) 676-0825 ken.schoolland@gmail.com
Kauai County Chair: **Jeff Mallan** (877) 278-3859 lightwriter@hawaiiantel.net
Maui County Chair: **Tim Regan** (808) 250-0281 coolmauistuff@hawaiiantel.net

"It will be of little avail to the people, that the laws are made by men of their own choice, if the laws be so voluminous that they cannot be read, or so incoherent that they cannot be understood; if they be repealed or revised before they are promulgated, or undergo such incessant changes that no man, who knows what the law is today, can guess what it will be tomorrow."

~ James Madison (1751-1836) 4th President of the United States

Featured Links:

On 8 October 2012, at an [Oregon State University Socratic Club](#) seminar Dinesh DSouza humorously explains the lack of morality involved in the idea of universal health care.

View at [Michael Shermer & Dinesh Dsouza at Oregon State](#) (6:00 minutes)

On November 6, 2013 the libertarian [Reason Foundation](#) announced the winners of the first-ever Reason Video Prize, which "honors short-form video, film, and moving pictures that explore, investigate, and enrich our appreciation of libertarian beliefs in individual rights, limited government, and especially human possibilities."

Watch them at [Reason.com](#)

Ladar Levison speaks on why he closed his secure email business [Lavabit](#) rather than disclose the private information of his customers to federal authorities. He expands on how pervasive government surveillance has chilled our economy and negated your Fourth Amendment Constitutional right to privacy.

[Ladar Levison](#) (29:00 minutes)

[Houston Neighborhood Turns to Private Security Firm for Protection](#)
(2:08 minutes)

[The Truth about the Minimum Wage](#)
(3:13 minutes)

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii

[Check out our new website!](#)

Recommended Links:

[420 Magazine](#)
[Alternate Solutions Institute \(Pakistan\)](#)
[Antiwar](#)
[Ayn Rand](#)
[Cato Institute](#)
[David D. Friedman](#)
[Federalist Society](#)
[FreedomWorks](#)
[Foolish Things Salon](#)
[Future of Freedom Foundation](#)
[GunCite](#)
[Independent Institute](#)
[International Society for Individual Liberty](#)
[John Stossel](#)
[Laissez-Faire Books](#)
[Leadership Institute](#)
[Liberal Democratic Party \(Australia\)](#)
[Libertarian Party of Hawaii](#)
[Libertarian Party of New Zealand](#)
[Libertarianism](#)
[Liberty for All](#)
[Liberty Fund](#)
[Library of Economics and Liberty](#)
[Milton Friedman](#)
[Moving Picture Institute](#)
[National Cannabis Coalition](#)
[Oath Keepers](#)
[Police State USA](#)
[Ron Paul Channel](#)
[Smart Business Hawaii](#)
[Take Liberty](#)
[Tom Mullen](#)
[Young Americans for Liberty](#)

[Advocates for Self-Government](#)
[American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii](#)
[Atlas Network](#)
[Cafe Hayek](#)
[Center for a Stateless Society](#)
[European Students for Liberty](#)
[Freedom Library](#)
[Freeman Online](#)
[Friedrich Hayek](#)
[Grassroot Institute of Hawaii](#)
[Harry Browne](#)
[Institute for Justice](#)
[John Locke](#)
[Jonathan Gullible - Ken Schoolland](#)
[Law Enforcement Against Prohibition](#)
[Lew Rockwell](#)
[Libertarian Party of America](#)
[Libertarian Party of Hawaii - Discuss](#)
[Libertarian Party \(UK\)](#)
[Libertarische Partij \(Netherlands\)](#)
[Liberty for America](#)
[Liberty Unbound](#)
[Marijuana Policy Project](#)
[Mises Institute](#)
[Murray Rothbard](#)
[NORML](#)
[Partei der Vernunft \(Germany\)](#)
[Reason](#)
[Scottish Libertarians](#)
[Students for Liberty](#)
[Tibor Machan](#)
[Walter E. Williams](#)



We invite you to join

The Libertarian Party

Believing in and understanding of the pledge is central to Libertarianism.
You may join by signing below:

"I certify that I oppose the initiation of force to achieve political or social goals."

Signature

Date

Salutation: Mr. Miss Mrs. Ms. Dr.

First Name: * _____

Last Name: * _____

Address: * _____

Apt./Suite No.: _____

City: * _____

State: * _____

Zip Code: * _____

Phone: _____

Email: * _____

**Membership in the national Libertarian Party:
\$25 per year**

Make check out to: **Libertarian National Committee**

Mail form & check to: 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037

Or click: www.lp.org/membership

Your dues includes: **The quarterly LPNews newspaper
The Monday email bulletin**

**Membership in the Libertarian Party of Hawaii:
\$20 per year**

Make check out to: **Libertarian Party of Hawaii**

Mail form & check to: 1658 Liholiho Street, #205
Honolulu, HI 96822

Or click: www.LibertarianPartyofHawaii.org/membership

Your dues includes: **The monthly Libertarian Hawaii News**

Contributions welcome.

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, address, and occupation and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.
Political contributions are not tax-deductible.

Employer: _____

Occupation: _____

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I also acknowledge that this contribution is made from a personal account for which I have the legal obligation to pay, and is not made by a corporate or business entity.