

SPONSOR: Candidates Committee

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SUBJECT: Endorse Dr. Butch Ware for Governor

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE: As most of you know, Dr. Butch Ware formally announced his campaign for Governor several months ago, and he's been very actively campaigning since then. Butch later asked if we could endorse him, so we (the Candidates Committee), created a questionnaire (to be used for all statewide candidates), which Butch filled out, and which we found to be more than adequate.

Butch has already created an exceptionally strong campaign, with regular campaign events around the state, plus online events. He has done this earlier than any other Governor candidate we've had, and he also has a stronger early fundraising program and social media presence than our previous Governor candidates. He is campaigning as a Green and is explaining to people why it's time to break with the two-party system. Endorsing Dr. Butch Ware will benefit both his campaign as well as the Green Party of California.

PROPOSAL: That the GPCA endorse Dr. Butch Ware for Governor. This will enable the GPCA and Butch to build a strong, unified campaign effort. The GPCA will be able to unequivocally encourage voters to support Butch's campaign, and in coordination with it, we'll be able to better build the party at both the local and statewide levels. In addition, when we're asked whether Butch is "the Green Party's candidate for Governor?", we'll be able to clearly answer "Yes", instead of having to create an explanation about why we haven't yet given him our endorsement. Butch is already running a very strong, unprecedented Governor's campaign -- let's now endorse Butch and take advantage of this incredible opportunity to together build the Green Party here in California.

COMMITTEE DECISION: The Candidates Committee consensed to recommend that the GPCA endorse Dr. Butch Ware for Governor.

TIMELINE/RESOURCES: After the GPCA endorses Dr. Butch Ware for Governor, the Candidates Committee will inform his campaign about the endorsement, and will work with his campaign to coordinate GPCA involvement with it.