



# Peace and Freedom Party of California

## Legislative Committee

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Debra Reiger, Sacramento; John Reiger, Chair, Sacramento; Maureen Smith, Santa Cruz; Alice Stek, Los Angeles; C. T. Weber, Legislative Liaison, Sacramento.

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August 25, 2023

Honorable Senator Josh Newman  
1021 O Street, Suite 6520  
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 248 (Newman) Political Reform Act of 1974      OPPOSE

Dear Senator Newman:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Peace and Freedom Party of California to strongly oppose Senate Bill 248.

The Peace and Freedom Party opposes the June 13, 2023, version of SB 248 requiring candidates to disclose, under penalty of perjury, their prior education, work and military service history.

This "George Santos" bill goes way too far in addressing a real, but minor problem. Many, maybe even most, candidates polish their resumes by leaving out items that won't help their campaigns and/or giving vague descriptions that may sound better than the reality, but few actually lie about their backgrounds. This bill appears to require that they provide a detailed background under penalty of perjury, even about areas of their past that would play no part in their campaign (except possibly if an opponent's opposition research dug it up and publicized it). Such a requirement would reduce the number of Californians willing to run for office when the state should be encouraging, not discouraging participation.

Further, candidates whose views differ from those of their employers and of significant parts of their communities would be at greater risk of harassment and retaliation if such detailed information on their backgrounds was required.

Therefore, we strongly oppose SB 248. To discuss our position on this bill please contact me at 408-984-1196 (mobile) - or John Reiger at [reigers@earthlink.net](mailto:reigers@earthlink.net)

Sincerely,

*Dave Kadlecsek*

Dave Kadlecsek  
Legislative Committee Vice Chair  
Peace and Freedom Party of California

*John C. Reiger*

John C. Reiger  
Legislative Committee Chairperson  
Peace and Freedom Party of California