

LaRouche Candidates Confront States with Angelides Report

by EIR Staff

Feb. 7—Given the fact that the Angelides Report, issued by the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, has provided thorough affirmation of what Lyndon LaRouche has said for decades about how former Fed chairman Alan Greenspan, in particular, by eliminating Glass-Steagall and promoting derivatives, created the current economic-financial breakdown crisis, any decision by legislators—on the state or Federal level—to carry out murderous budget cuts, is a criminal act of stupidity. The alternative, beginning with the reimposition of President Franklin Roosevelt’s Glass-Steagall measure, is ready and waiting to go.

This is the message the six LaRouche Democratic Congressional candidates are taking to state legislatures around the country, as lawmakers struggle with unprecedented budget shortfalls. The LaRoucheLPAC strategy is simple: Get the state legislators to actually go for a solution to their existential crises, by burning the rearends of their Congressmen to pass Glass-Steagall *now*.

What the LaRouche candidates report so far, is extreme openness to the message, but it is clear that the pace of the response must be quickened. A few letters to Congressmen have been pledged, and many legislators have taken seriously the need to educate themselves, through the LPAC website (www.larouchepac.com) and otherwise. But much more is required. All six candidates have committed themselves to intensified activity over the next crucial weeks, when the Angelides report will come before Congress, and the Glass-Steagall bill *must* come before Congress, to pre-

vent the next disastrous phase of the global collapse into a New Dark Age.

Coast to Coast

LaRouchePAC organizing teams have accompanied the candidates in forays into state capitals from California to Rhode Island. In every capital, a large portion of the lawmakers are chafing under the enormous pressure, coming from the leaderships of both political parties, to carry out budget cuts which they know to be murderous for the poor and elderly. Even some Republicans, who are generally portrayed as rabid budget-cutters, are looking for an alternative to destroying their constituencies.

Perhaps the most entrenched (in dead-end thinking) is California, where San Francisco Congressional candidate Summer Shields, and Washington State Congressional candidate Dave Christie, have led organizing teams. For, while the economic crisis has gotten a lot worse, the Democratic takeover of the governorship, from the broadly hated Rothschild-anointed Arnold Schwarzenegger, has brought no change to the budget-cutting perspective from Gov. Jerry Brown. Shields’ team moved to cut through the fog with the message: “Let’s not kill people by cutting the budget; it’s time to act on the Federal level to save lives.”

In Austin, Texas, Congressional candidate Kesha Rogers led the organizing team on Feb. 2-3. After holding a rally with a 16-foot-long yellow banner featuring the slogans “Cut Wall Street, Not the States,” and “Glass Steagall or Die,” the team held about 20 meetings with



LPAC-TV

LaRouche Democrat Diane Sare, running for Congress in New Jersey, is shown here, organizing on Wall Street for Glass-Steagall and a Hamiltonian credit system.

members of both state houses. Most of the legislators were unaware of the Angelides Report, but several of them were quite familiar with LaRouche's record, and thus receptive to the briefing.

Michigan Congressional candidate Bill Roberts led organizing forays into the Michigan and Ohio state legislatures, where they found many lawmakers excited about the possibility of a way out of the current disaster. Many of the legislators are new and very young, open to education.

In all the state capitals, the candidates reported a tremendous amount of excitement about the NAWAPA (North American Water and Power Alliance) development perspective, which they presented, after confronting the legislators with the need to join the fight to ram through Glass-Steagall. But, as all the candidates emphasized, the first task is to break the British monetarist stranglehold, by getting Congress to act.

Advances in Albany

New Jersey Congressional candidate Diane Sare and Massachusetts candidate Rachel Brown have led four organizing assaults on the New York State Legislature, and there, the efforts are finally beginning to bear fruit. Bolstered by a team of LPAC organizers, the two candidates have held dozens of meetings with state lawmakers, as well as staff members, and are refusing to take "no" for an answer.

The most recent foray occurred on Feb. 1, the same day that Gov. Andrew Cuomo was announcing his budget, an event which definitely got the legislators' at-

tention. Sare and Brown distributed copies of part of the conclusions of the Angelides Report, which many legislators were aware of, but had not read. Combined with the LPAC video and written material on Glass-Steagall, the report underscored the message that action had to be taken now.

Unlike previous visits, where of 35 meetings, only 6 were with representatives, on Feb. 1, the candidate-led team met 18 legislators personally. In some cases Assemblymen were drawn into watching an LPAC video on the Angelides Report on the spot. One Assemblyman, who, in the morning had

told the organizers that he had to do his homework, bumped into them later in the day, and reported on what he had found about the Cantwell-McCain Glass-Steagall bill of 2008-10. He then volunteered that he had followed LaRouche's work for years, and opined that LaRouche is always going way out on a limb, but then turns out to be right.

In some cases, there was even a breakthrough on the question of money versus credit, with one aide saying: I think I'm getting what you mean by fake money: The Dow is at 12,000, yet people are totally impoverished.

As in the other legislatures, the candidates found tremendous openness to the idea of turning the country around with NAWAPA. "This is like the Transcontinental Railroad of Abraham Lincoln! Go West!" one young aide said. At the end of the day, several more commitments to contact Members of Congress on Glass-Steagall were secured.

South Dakota and Maryland

While the six LaRouche Democrats are taking the lead, with campaign statements and on-the-ground organizing, they don't have to be personally present to have an impact. This was shown in South Dakota, and Maryland, where LPAC teams have involved dozens of legislators in education and action for Glass-Steagall.

One organizer laid out the challenge this way: South Dakota was the state where bank deregulation began, and it's the state where it should end—by forcing through the introduction of a Glass-Steagall bill, which will be sure to pass.