



Tenther News: 09-24-12

After some heavy courtroom back and forth on NDAA kidnapping powers resulted in the federal government still holding on to the power to “indefinitely detain” anyone without due process, the People of Michigan have an opportunity to take liberty into their own hands instead of waiting on the highly suspect and unreliable federal court system.

State Rep. Tom McMillin introduced House Bill 5768, which would require all state agencies and employees to refuse compliance with such detention powers being used against any person in the state of Michigan. Tomorrow, Tuesday September 25, there will be a meeting of the Oversight, Reform and Ethics committee to consider the bill. Activists are urged to attend and voice support at the Anderson House Building in Lansing, Michigan.

Also this morning, the Oakland County commissioners will consider similar legislation on a local level – introduced by Jim Runestad. We’ll be sure to update you with more information as we have it at tenthamendmentcenter.com

Susanne Posel at Infowars.com reports that the Obama Administration is using another excuse to restrict firearms ownership. Through the Justice Department, they given the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives the authority to “seize and administratively forfeit property involved in controlled-substance abuses.” In effect: those who are convicted of crimes involving alcohol and/or substance abusers will have their right to bear arms revoked.

By misuse of the civil-forfeiture doctrine, rights and constitutional limitations are circumvented while the owner of the property will have it taken without recourse.

According to Tad DeHaven of the CATO Institute, This month, the House passed a continuing resolution that will keep the government funded for the next six months. Republicans and Democrats were eager to avoid a budget fight—and possibly a government shutdown—with little more than a month to go before the elections. And according to Tad, with that potential distraction out of the way, the two sides can now focus on convincing voters that their brand of big government is the superior choice.

Politico had a good breakdown of the CR’s contents. Here are a couple of snippets:

It restores the higher spending targets set in the Budget Control Act—and with such haste and pique—that billions will go out without any distinction between the merits of different programs. Labor, health, and education spending that’s so often targeted for cuts by the GOP will grow by close to \$1 billion. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission budget, the bane of anti-regulatory forces, inches up again, albeit far less than the White House requested...

The new top line for non-emergency appropriations will be \$1.047 trillion, an \$8 billion increase over what the Congressional Budget Office estimates is the current rate of spending... But in their desire to keep the bill simple—and move fast—Republicans opted to distribute most of the increase, \$5.9 billion, through a mechanical formula that automatically ups most accounts by 0.612 percent.

This Continuing Resolution vote represented a test for Republican freshmen, a.k.a., the “Tea Party Class” – but only 28 of the 87 Republican freshmen—32 percent—voted against it.

From NORML, we learn that efforts to nullify the feds are holding strong popularity in both Colorado and Massachusetts. Marijuana is currently considered illegal by the federal government at all levels. But yet, more and more people and more and more states are getting on board the bandwagon and defying the feds – resulting in a de facto nullification of federal laws against this plant.

Suffolk University, in conjuncture with 7NEWS, just released new polling data for Massachusetts' medical marijuana initiative, Question 3. The new survey of Massachusetts voters had support for the initiative at 59%, opposition at 35%, and 6% undecided. This is an increase in support from previous polling released at the end of August, which had support at 58%, opposition at 27%, and undecided at 15%. Judging from the solid lead and continued upward trend in polling, it is very likely Massachusetts will become the 18th state to have legalized medical use of cannabis this fall.

And the people of Colorado, who've had medical marijuana for some time now, are potentially pushing things a step further – full legalization of the plant for the general public. Colorado's Amendment 64, which aims to regulate marijuana in a manner similar alcohol – restricting sales based on age – is gaining favorability with voters as the November election nears.

New polling data by DenverPost/SurveyUSA shows Amendment 64 support growing. 51% of respondents said they would vote in favor of the measure, with only 40% saying they will vote against it. 8% remain undecided. Previous polling, conducted several weeks ago by Public Policy Polling, had support for the amendment at 47%, opposition at 38%, and 15% undecided. With similar efforts in Washington State and Oregon, this wave of west coast nullification of the federal war on pot – in conjunction with Eastern states like New Jersey and Massachusetts finally catching on, could mean the final nail in the coffin for this unconstitutional prohibition.

And in closing, Laurence Vance points out some interesting hypocrisy on the LewRockwell.com blog. He notes: Pakistan has freed the young girl accused of desecrating the Koran. Conservatives, and I suppose just about everyone else, have condemned, and rightly so, Pakistan's harsh blasphemy laws.

But look what is in the 2012 Republican Party platform: “The symbol of our constitutional unity, to which we all pledge allegiance, is the flag of the United States of America. By whatever legislative method is most feasible, Old Glory should be given legal protection against desecration.”

Vance then asks what should be the obvious question to all observers, “So Republicans want to punish those who blaspheme the American civil religion by desecrating its flag. And they think Muslims are backward people?”

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