



Libertarians Not Abandoning Romney/Ryan Ticket

by Bryan Schott
10/02/2012 |

A new poll suggests Libertarian voters will cast ballots for Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan.

The poll from Reason Magazine finds most libertarians (77%) would vote for Romney, even though their preferred candidate, Ron Paul, is no longer in the race.

"If the election were held today, the Romney/Ryan ticket would get more libertarian votes than any candidate since 1980," writes the Cato Institute's David Kirby.

Among likely libertarian voters, the poll had 77% voting for Romney and 21% for Obama. With the addition of Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson, 70% still said they'd vote Romney, with 14% going to Johnson. Kirby writes that statistically, adding Johnson "is a wash for Romney."

The poll sample doesn't include self-identified, capital-L Libertarians, though — instead, Cato's analysis of the poll takes people who indicated a preference for free markets and less government as libertarians.