

McMinn County Libertarian Party
Position Paper

Purpose of Government

Summary: The McMinn County Libertarian Party believes the purpose of government is to defend the rights of its citizens, not to provide nor plan for them.

Libertarians are often accused of being “anti-government,” or of being anarchists. This is not the case. We are for a strong government whose primary function is to protect our natural right to life, liberty, and property.

We agree with the writings of Thomas Jefferson, "A wise and frugal government, which shall restrain men from injuring one another, shall leave them otherwise free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned. This is the sum of good government..."

Libertarians are keenly aware that for too many Americans government has become the preferred method of taking from their neighbor what they can not earn for themselves. It has become what H.L. Menchen described as "... a broker in pillage, and every election is a sort of advance auction sale of stolen goods."

We therefore strive to obtain that government which protects us from others, and that government from which we need no protection.