



**PEACE & FREEDOM PARTY  
OF CALIFORNIA**

**State Central Committee**

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March 31, 2015

Hon. Cristina Garcia  
State Capitol, Room 2013  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0058

**Subject:** AB 82 - Drivers license: Selective Service -- **OPPOSE**

Dear Assembly Member Garcia,

The Peace and Freedom Party of California opposes AB 82, your bill to require men of draft age to consent to registration with the Selective Service System in order to apply for drivers licenses. This bill not only violates the rights of those affected by it, but does so in support of military policies of the federal government that many Californians justifiably oppose.

California law currently requires draft registration to receive state financial aid for higher education (Education Code Sections 69400, 69433.9 and 69618.1). We would repeal these provisions. AB 82 goes even further. Under it, men of draft age and younger could not even apply for a drivers license without agreeing to register for the draft.

The Selective Service System encourages states to pass laws like this one affecting drivers licenses, access to higher education at public colleges and universities, and public employment. But nothing in federal law requires state departments of motor vehicles to do what this law would require the California Department of Motor Vehicles to do. In the absence of a federal mandate, this bill would put the Legislature, and therefore the people of California, on the wrong side of crucial public debates about military and foreign policy.

Some of the young people who do not register with the Selective Service System do so entirely as a matter of conscience, and many more are influenced by ethical concerns to a greater or lesser degree. Requiring draft registration in order to operate a motor vehicle violates the right of these people to decide for themselves whether to comply with a law they believe to be unjust. That must be a personal decision for each of them, not a decision imposed on them by the state. For further details on this aspect of draft registration, please see "Selective Service Registration: Coercion of Conscience" published by the Center on Conscience and War (<http://www.centeronconscience.org>).

In summary, this bill would force young people to act against their consciences and would do so for a cause that we and many other Californians believe to be unjust – a cause that is at the very least a controversial one.

If you would like to discuss our position on AB 82 further, please contact me at 916-320-9186 (mobile) or [ctwebervoters@att.net](mailto:ctwebervoters@att.net), or our State Chair, Debra Reiger, at 916-698-8131 (mobile) or [debra.reiger@earthlink.net](mailto:debra.reiger@earthlink.net).

Yours truly,

C. T. Weber  
Chair, Legislative Committee

**cc:** Assembly Transportation Committee

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