

Declaration of Grievances

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for like-minded patriotic Americans to rally as one against the powers that threaten to alter, diminish and destroy this country we love, proper respect for the opinions of our fellow citizens requires that we should clearly state the grievances that impel us to gather at this Bemidji Tea Party to protest peacefully but passionately in the tradition of our forefathers whose Boston tea party resonated around the world.

The history of the present government of these United States is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having the effect of establishing an unacceptable tyranny over the citizens of these states. Let the facts be self-evident and speak for themselves...and let these grievances be heard in the halls of power in 2009, just as they were heard in the palace of Britain's King George the third, as they thundered forth from the text of the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776.

Be it resolved on this 15th day of April, in the year 2009, at the great Bemidji Tea Party on the shore of Lake Bemidji in Bemidji, Minnesota, that just as our forefathers at the Boston tea party protested tyranny at the hands of the British crown and taxation without representation, we hereby raise our voices against the arrogance and the ruinous policies of our own government...a government that ignores the will of "we the people"...a government that drowns us in debt...a government that forsakes the free enterprise system that has driven the engine of the greatest economy on earth, in favor of a relentless march toward socialism designed to subvert the worth of the individual and encourage the intrusion of government into all aspects of our lives.

Let the word go forth from this time and place that we are freedom loving Americans who cherish individual liberty, our constitution and all this nation has stood for over two hundred and thirty years. We love our country, and we are here to take it back!

Let us hereby resolve that we have had enough of massive government driven bailouts using our money! To our elected leader we demand that you stop spending money we do not have. This is not your money; this money belongs to us, our children and our grandchildren.

We have had enough of so-called economic stimulus plans that falsely promise we

can spend ourselves back to prosperity.

We have had enough of trillion dollar spending schemes being passed without Congress or the people knowing what is in them. This is taxation without deliberation and we will not tolerate it!

We have had enough of the out of control government spending that is mortgaging our future and threatening our very way of life.

We have had enough of both major parties being arrogant and unresponsive to the people they were elected to serve.

We have had enough of seeing money taken unfairly from honest hard working Americans through excessive taxation and redistributed to individuals who have not earned the money.

We have had enough of capitalism being targeted as the problem instead of the solution.

We have had enough of government being called the solution, when government is the problem!

In every stage of these oppressions, we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms. Our repeated petitions to our elected officials have been answered only by repeated injury, if, in fact, they have been answered at all. A government, so arrogant and unresponsive to its people is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

We, therefore, the people of the United States of America, in general Congress assembled, here on the shore of Lake Bemidji in Bemidji, Minnesota, on this 15th day of April, in the year 2009, do, in the name and by authority of the good people of this city and nation, solemnly publish and declare that we are a free people, in this free and independent state, and that we have the power to demand that our government cease serving its own interests, and whatever political and ideological agendas it may be pursuing, and become the government of the people, by the people, and for the people to which we are entitled as Americans. And that for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on divine providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor.