



Hartford as a SANCTUARY CITY, for oppressed taxpayers.

Here is how conscientious objectors should be treated in a JUST city. They should not be compelled to pay taxes unlawfully levied against them. They would not partake of any benefit from the unlawful spending others may still be funding.

Between 60% and 78% of federal spending is unlawful. The U.S. Constitution permits spending in eighteen enumerated categories. One of them has grown large, defense spending; the others remain relatively small. At 19% of spending, the defense department probably has the right to the cash it extracts from taxpayers. All other departments combined run the Constitutional federal expenses at 3%. That combined 22% is ALL. Social Security, Obamacare, Medicare, housing programs, university grants, and corporate welfare are all outside of permitted Federal spending. They are all un-Constitutional. (Debatable is paying Interest on the Federal debt, federal land "management", and federal employees' retirement expenses, which combine to 18% additional).

Even with these inclusions, a full 60% is extracted without right. Proper portioning should allow those who object to these ongoing "takings" to withhold up to 60% of their purported "share". Thus the proposal, which can only be done en-masse, and only with local government help:

Withhold 50%.

And withhold 100% of the Social Security if you are not going to partake in its future "payout". (Most of us know that SS cannot pay out on any fair terms beyond 2045.) Keep most of the money you are entitled to. Render to the Federal government an added 10% to 28%. Let it have a windfall, or a payment for just leaving you alone.

Conscientious objectors, who are not taking any more than they pay in, in cities whose police forces will protect them and their property against federal raids, can be above board. Pay 50%. Let the feds keep 50%. Resist, with police protection and fellow citizens' assistance if federal agents come after you or your withheld funds.

Hartford is a very good nominee for a City of Refuge. It will let residents, workers, and business owners, all of whom are over-taxed (residents especially) use our money the way WE want. The police force I would hire would be pledged to protect citizens' property if a Federal team came to seize it. The conscientious objectors should be pledged to protect one another's property as well, maybe not with firearms, but with ire, denunciation, and as much non-violent intimidation as possible against Federal weasels sent up here.

Hartford's local tax burden is already huge. A 50% reduction in federal income tax for most Hartford residents exceeds their state and local tax combined.

The Biden administration SHOULD welcome conscientious tax objectors. If administered fairly, with no reprisals, conscientious tax withholding rids us of the federal budget deficit. It greatly knocks down the debt. With good management, the 10% extra revenue **that no longer needs to be spent**, is money in the government's pockets.

True democrats should also welcome this. Conscientious tax objection is the epitome of government done according to the people, not wayward spend-happy officials.

Conservatives (defined here as simply "Constitutionalists") can be elated that this ends deficit spending. We no longer foist federal debt on younger generations.

Almost ALL American taxpayers should welcome this. Except for the few whose careers depend on federal unconstitutional largesse (there are VERY few who are without skills to side-shift to similar private employment), a taxpayer will see a nearly-full paycheck; an investor will see nearly zero capital gains tax; an employer will see no FICA reduction for an Unconstitutional system that should be completely voluntary.

Conscientious objectors are the best ally of good governance. We pay for only what is constitutional and what we use. If federal highway maintenance is constitutional (dubious, now that there is no military purpose for use of highways) and you don't ever use a U.S. highway, you'd theoretically withhold even that portion too. If research grants that indirectly fund university lab development that potentially makes soldiers' uniforms more rain-resilient are constitutional (a dubious stretch) and you make no use of university educations, that's another tiny portion of the budget you'd be entitled to withhold.

Hartford was once the place of remarkable objection to federal policy. In 1814 delegates from all New England convened in Hartford to debate their states' participation in a war they deemed unwise to fight and possibly unconstitutional. The delegates at this "Hartford Convention" strongly debated their states collectively seceding from the Republic they loved, but whose government had become wayward. Today, too few recognize how wayward our federal government has become. Not even the supposedly wise people in Congress recognize the limits the Constitution places upon them. We who do recognize limits feel powerless to stop the expansion of federal power and the extraction of money from our accounts. Let this again be a time, and Hartford to again be a place, for the spirit and activity of good governance.

*Designating cities as sanctuaries for some endangered people goes back to Biblical times, when the Israelites were commanded to set up six Cities of Refuge, places where citizens and city officials would protect an accidental wrongdoer from a vengeful relative out to murder him.

**Until there is a binding federal recognition, this will not work for employees subject to Federal withholding. And it will likely work only for funds held in crypto-currencies, outside the nation's banking system. A number of independent contractors are withholding now, semi-secretly keeping all their earnings from Federal grasp.

Mr. Stewart is an independent candidate for Hartford CT mayor. His site is www.StewartForHartford.com. Lose or win, in early 2024 he will be on ballots in at least six Democratic Party primaries. He is a 59 year old businessman and educator from Connecticut, offering more choices for voters, particularly Democratic Party voters.

The campaign site is www.stewartforliberty.com and the endorsement site is www.epic-party.us.

[Paid for by Stewart For Hartford, Pierce Klein Treasurer. Approved by candidate Mark Stewart Greenstein](#)

