

## Geoff Herman

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**From:** Benjamin Dudley [ben@engagemaine.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 05, 2009 4:57 PM  
**To:** Nancy Kelleher; Mark Gray; Chris Lockwood; Richard Trahey; jillgold@gwi.net; jhanley@pikeindustries.com; Joe Wishcamper; John O'Dea; maria@mbtaonline.org; Mary Anne Turowski; chasse@nea.org; Crystal Canney; Geoff Herman; George Christie; jsweeny@nea.org; Jeff Austin; jhedlund@emcc.edu; Julie Norton; kharvie@nea.org; Kit St John; Leticia Martinez; Lizzy Reinholt; Rick McCarthy; rwalker@nea.org; Steve Crouse; Toby McGrath; tkiley@aol.com; wrobin5626@aol.com; Kate Knox; Sarah Ledoux; Kay Rand  
**Subject:** Re: Good Showing!

Mark,

Thank you for your exceptional leadership and for the privilege of being connected to this outstanding campaign. You kept us focused on our plan and delivered a textbook come-from-behind victory.

While it's always rewarding to win, it is especially gratifying to have done so working with such a diverse groups of individuals and interests. I know that the Engage Maine community is very happy to have made stronger connections with the members of this coalition and we look forward to continued work together.

On that note, though I think we've put TABOR to bed for a long time, the Maine Heritage Policy Center lives on. As A.J. Higgins reported yesterday, "[Tarren] Bragdon wouldn't speculate on whether his group would launch another TABOR effort, but he made it clear that TABOR supporters weren't going anywhere."

No doubt MHPC is feeling the sting of defeat right now (Maine Leads too), but their efforts weren't without some measure of success. Looking at PAC expenditures (not including all the in-kind spending) on both sides, TABOR Now and More Green Now spent about \$280,000 on offense (this includes the cost of petition circulation from 2007 to 2008), while Citizens Unified spent \$1.8 million on defense.

Obviously this isn't sustainable for us. It's also bad for Maine for a such reckless and skillful group to be able to wreak so much havoc with so few resources (the signature collection cost them about \$100,000 -- and remember, they nearly qualified 3 initiatives!)

So, like you Mark, I look forward to working with this coalition in the future -- on something other than TABOR. Like Nancy, I think it's time that MHPC and Maine Leads play defense.

With profound appreciation and eagerness for things to come,

Ben

On Nov 5, 2009, at 12:56 PM, Kelleher, Nancy wrote:  
Mark, thanks for your leadership on this. Between your folks, and all the other groups, it was great to finally kick it down substantially. That last ad with Don Strout was the best and final home run. Now let's get busy on some positive ventures for our future.....and stop wasting our energies and resources on these hair brained ideas from the fringe. Thanks to one and all. And special

thanks to former Gov. King who talked to over 11,000 of our AARP members on a final town hall! Nancy

Nancy B. Kelleher

State Director

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From: [mgray@nea.org](mailto:mgray@nea.org) [<mailto:mgray@nea.org>]

Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2009 12:50 PM

Subject: Good Showing!

Colleagues & Campaign Partners;

We did what we set out to do...we won decisively! Regardless of the efforts to throw us off our campaign plans and the speculation by many that at least Question #4 would be a close race...it wasn't. We put together a great campaign team; we developed a thoughtful campaign plan; we executed it well; and we were successful on Election Day!

I want to offer my congratulations and my thanks to all of you for the hard work that went into these two campaigns.

If you take a minute to reflect on the fact that at the end of August, 2008 our polling had the Excise Tax at 42% Yes / 50% No and the TABOR proposal at 60% Yes / 33% No we really did some good work together. Approximately eight (8) weeks later, we soundly defeated both proposals and completely flipped the numbers on TABOR. We can all be proud of what did together to win these two (2) campaigns. Each of you played an important role in this campaign and each of you helped to keep Maine a great place to live and work and a place that values both the public and private sectors of its economy.

Again, thank you and I look forward to working with all of you in the future.....(just not on another TABOR initiative anytime soon :>)

Best,

Mark