

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014

February 5, 1973

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Last year Congress passed a new law which allows taxpayers to check off a dollar of their income tax to the political party of their choice. An explanation of the law, drawn up by the Committee for Democratic Election Laws, is enclosed.

Because the law discriminates in favor of the Democrats and Republicans, and against all smaller parties, CoDEL is preparing a legal challenge to it. The SWP has accepted CoDEL's invitation to be a plaintiff in the suit, along with other parties and individuals.

The importance of this suit lies in the fact that it provides a vehicle for challenging on a federal level the right of the government to discriminate against smaller parties. As you know, until now we have been limited to state-by-state election law fights. A successful challenge to this law might lead to a national definition of "recognized" political parties which would include the SWP. This would greatly strengthen our fight for ballot status in the states.

In addition, a national election law challenge provides the opportunity for a unified legal and political campaign throughout the country, which can involve all branches and locals. The SWP will be cooperating with CoDEL, and with the other plaintiffs in the suit, in a coast-to-coast effort to win civil liberties support for this case.

While the law does not now apply to the SWP, it is possible that dollars checked off to the SWP will be collectable if the suit is won. Therefore, any members or supporters of the SWP who volunteer to check off a dollar for the SWP should be encouraged to do so.

CoDEL is requesting that all those involved in the suit assist in distributing an educational leaflet about it, and in raising funds for it. We are enclosing copies of the CoDEL newsletter outlining possible projects for parties involved in the suit. Since this lawsuit does provide an opportunity for us to explain the nature of the electoral monopoly in the U.S., we urge the branches to cooperate with CoDEL on this project.

Comradely,

Larry Seigle

Larry Seigle
for the SWP National Office