American Legion Post #10
850 Doolittle Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Martin Luther King National Day of Service
Community Service Project
January 17, 2011

In kind Donation Request

January 3, 2011

To the Greater Las Vegas Business and Civic Community:

Monday, January 17, 2011, will be the 25th anniversary of the Martin Luther King National Holiday and National Day of Service.

In celebration of this historic milestone, the American Legion Post #10, after 30 years of active service to the West Las Vegas community, is planning a green building makeover and reopening of its headquarters at 850 Doolittle Avenue Las Vegas, NV.

This makeover is one of the many thousand community service projects in the nation officially registered with the Corporation of National and Community Service. The American Legion national organization is the oldest most productive veteran's service organization in America.

We are asking that your company or organization participate in this year's National Day of Service, January 17 (9am-5pm), by supporting our project through donations of supplies, building material, furniture, fixtures, equipment and food. We're also putting out a call to all veterans, labor and trade organizations in Las Vegas for skilled and unskilled donated labor.

Our goal is to complete the renovation and reopen the building on President's Day, February 21, 2011 with a ribbon cutting ceremony and community celebration.

The renovation of Post #10 will bring back a sense of pride to the West Las Vegas community that is sorely needed and long overdue. This is a major renovation project and a list of items needed by early January 2011 is attached.

Submitted at City Council
Date 1/5/11 Item CP
By: Stan Washington

Upon completion, the facility will be suitable to host community gatherings, weddings, art exhibits and much more for veterans of the United States Armed Forces, their families and friends.

All donated items are tax deductible. American Legion is a tax-exempt non-profit organization under 501(c) 19 specifically for veteran organizations.

We have embraced Affordable Green Housing for Homeless Vets of America, under the direction of its President, Mr. Stanley Washington, to lead the donation and renovation effort. Please operate under his instructions. Mr. Washington can be reached at (702) 581-2687 or swash57@gmail.com.

We thank you in advance for your generous support of our mission and will ensure that your donation is appropriately acknowledged.

Respectfully,

Robert Swift
Commander
American Legion Post #10
EIN # 88-6008789

USING THE GLASS STEAGALL PRINCIPLE
IN THE STATE AND MUNICIPAL DEBT CRISIS

By Lonnie Wolfe

December 23, 2010

1. The onrushing global financial breakdown crisis has created situations of actual or virtual bankruptcy among State, municipal and county governments. This crisis has caused knee-jerk reactions by these governments in all categories of government services, including cutbacks in essential services such as police, fire, and sanitation. If this trend continues, the crises will lead to the collapse of these governments, with catastrophic and deadly consequences for their citizens, and for the nation.

2. The problem cannot be solved at or effectively addressed by local government. Our Federal Constitution however provides that the Federal government must take steps necessary to insure the General Welfare of all our citizens, including when State or other levels of government cannot. It has been the failure of the Obama administration and the Congress to effectively address this acknowledged acute crisis that is the cause of our present problems. State and local government must now demand that such effective action be taken immediately, and that the proposals discussed herein be implemented at once; State and local government officials bear a responsibility for organizing their constituent citizens to mount an offensive demanding Federal action of the type we describe.

3. State and local governments find themselves suffering from accelerating rates of decline of all or nearly all revenue sources, as well as an accelerating rate of increase of debt and other financial obligations. These have not been brought on by either "overspending" or "mismanagement" but instead are the result of a global economic collapse, the which has vectored towards a total breakdown since the onset of this latest phase of the crisis in October 2008. No humanly acceptable cutbacks in services and government spending can close the gap between revenue and necessary spending and debt payments; in fact, it can be shown that cutbacks in spending, while putting citizens in harm's way, and in some cases, as with hospital, emergency services, fire, and police services, cause an increase in the death rate, and actually continue to widen that gap, as the basis for productive economic activity is destroyed, both for the present and the future. If continued, the policy of cutback has the potential to create a genocide, initially against the weaker segments of our citizenry—the poor, the unemployed, minorities, children, the sick and the elderly—spreading ineluctably to the general population.

4. The policies of austerity and cutbacks must immediately be halted, with steps taken for the rapid restoration of appropriate and necessary levels of government services, as well as the restoration of the trust and faith in governments. To do this certain emergency measures must be undertaken to increase revenue and to reduce what is a usurious debt burden, in an orderly fashion.

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(Secrets of the Soil
Sonic Bloom)

5. The Congress must immediately restore in full the Glass-Steagall portion of the Banking Act of 1933. That critical step is relevant to the State and local government financial crisis as follows. Glass-Steagall establishes a principle that the government does not and cannot stand behind speculative financial actions or usurious banking transactions. If the principle of the act is properly understood, then, in accordance with the Constitution's General Welfare provision, the Federal government and any of its chartered institutions, including the private central bank, the Federal Reserve, cannot bail out failed bets of financial institutions, including failed financial paper, contracts, or debt instruments. Since our banking system is currently encumbered with such obligations in amounts so large as to be almost uncountable, under the Glass-Steagall principle, the only recourse for government is to put the entire financial system through a federally-protected bankruptcy reorganization, in which all speculative bets and financial instruments, including all derivatives contracts are cancelled. According to the Glass-Steagall Act and the principle therein, the Federal government has the obligation to protect legitimate and necessary banking practice, including depository accounts, while allowing private banking interests and speculators, and others to suffer the consequences of their speculation. The key point here, is that the debt burden of the system is reduced by the total amount of speculation, including all incurred debts. If this means that certain financial institutions must fail, so be it, with their demise conducted in an orderly fashion, under Federal supervision.

6. The same Glass-Steagall principle must apply to State and municipal debts. That debt, being a government debt of an institution that is effectively or actually a part of our federal system of government, and related jurisdictions, cannot be simply cancelled without weakening faith in the guarantee that stands behind all Federal government issued credit and debt. We must honor those obligations, but as our first and greatest Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton argued (see his *Report on Public Credit*), there is nothing to prevent the rewriting of such obligations, stripping from them their usurious debt farming characteristics. For example, the practice of debt farming—the loaning of money to a debtor, only to then have the debtor be forced to borrow additional funds to pay interest and principle at ever higher interest rates, in repeated cycles—is a usurious practice which must be abolished; deduct the fees and interest, deduct a portion of the new principle over and above the amounts of the original amounts borrowed, then reissue new debt for this amount at nominal interest over an appropriate longer term—all this done under the authority granted the Federal government to do this by the Glass-Steagall principle. These write-downs must be undertaken solely on the authority and by sovereign government, and not by or with any committee of creditors and/or financial institutions. Under no circumstances shall any government or jurisdiction be subjected to any kind of debt recycling mechanism such as that created by Wall Street financier Felix Rohatyn for New York City, more commonly known as the Municipal Assistance Corporation, or "Big MAC." No committee of bankers shall ever be allowed to sit on top of or dictate to elected government, to extract their "pound of flesh" to make sure their Shylock's debt is repaid, regardless of the human toll caused by such repayment.

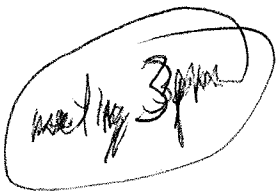
7. All actions creating monetary and financial obligations to bail out worthless financial paper are unconstitutional, and are abolished under Glass-Steagall, by principle. Therefore, the Federal government must demand the immediate return of all bailout funds so issued, the estimate for which funds issued is well over $3 trillion (see Sen. Bernie Sanders' (I-VT) office report). Once returned, Congress must create a special fund from these monies, the which fund shall provide grant monies to State and local governments to restore levels of essential service and government

funding, to safeguard and protect the General Welfare of their citizens. Repatriation of the spurious bailout monies will provide more than enough to accomplish this.

8. In order to revive local and State economies, the Federal Executive and the Congress must embark on a recovery program, centered around necessary and large scale infrastructure projects, including high speed rail transportation, water management and nuclear energy based improvement of the national power grid, the most notable of which projects is the proposed North American Water and Power Alliance (NAWAPA) that can employ more than 4 million people. The Federal government must assist states and municipalities in rebuilding national and local infrastructure, often replacing 19th or 20th century infrastructure in our oldest cities. Local and state governments can submit to the Federal government lists of priority projects that should be funded. The work shall be accomplished through the issuance of long term, low interest directed Federal credit for such projects. In order to facilitate the distribution of such credits through a reorganized banking system, the Federal Reserve bank and system must be abolished and replaced with a new National Bank modelled on Hamilton's First National Bank of the United States.

9. Local government must also come to grips with the fact that it contributed to the speculative real estate bubble by its being so bound to generating revenue from increases in real property valuation. Those values, now burned up in the ongoing financial blowout, were fictitious and must not be allowed to come back. Instead, local government must seek to build its revenue base from more stable and appropriate sources by increasing and intensifying real economic throughput, as opposed to financial services activity, etc.

10. This is the only competent program to deal with the States and municipal governments funding and debt crisis. We are seeking fair and just solution to that crisis, in accordance with the Constitution. The immediate passage of Glass-Steagall is the most important single action that can be taken to get this process jump started. State and local officials must fight for its passage as if their lives and the lives of their citizens depend on it—because, they do!



"Public Comment" @ CV city council