



# Profile: Free State Project Member Jack Thorsen

---

## Free State Project Members

Free State Project members sign a pledge to move to New Hampshire and work to change the way of life in our state. They do not move here for a job, or for family, or even because they like what New Hampshire has to offer. Instead, they move here because a political group they are affiliated with voted on a state to move to in order to enact a political agenda, and New Hampshire was the unlucky recipient of that vote.

## State House Candidate Jack Thorsen (Rockingham District 30: Portsmouth)

State House candidate Jack Thorsen moved to New Hampshire from Oregon in 2005. Thorsen has demonstrated considerable ties to the Free State Project, including:

- **Thorsen demonstrated his allegiance to the Free State Project by signing the early mover pledge.** The early mover pledge was aimed at getting 1,000 Free Staters to move to New Hampshire early to establish a network for other Free Staters to follow in later years. Free State Project members who had already moved were encouraged to sign the First 1,000 pledge as well. The majority of FSP participants will not move until 20,000 individuals have signed on for the Free State Project. [Free State Project. [First 1,000 Pledge](#). 2003-2006]
- **In 2011 Thorsen ran for Portsmouth City Council as a candidate openly affiliated with the Free State Project.** He is reported to be the first candidate for local office to be openly affiliated with the Free State Project. [Portsmouth Herald. [Council candidate Thorsen aims to fulfill Free State Project promise](#). 9.13.11]
- **Thorsen's top contributors to his City Council race were all well-known Free State Project activists.** Free State Project activists and State Representatives such as Mark Warden and Dan McGuire were among his top contributors. [Portsmouth Herald. [Ferrini tops list of campaign contributions](#). 10.29.11]

## Why is Jack Thorsen's FSP Affiliation Important?

The ultra-extreme Free State Project voted on a state to move 20,000 people to, with the stated purpose to take over state government and dismantle it. The Free State Project seeks to create a libertarian "utopia" void of public infrastructure and common laws, and to use the power of numbers to dramatically change New Hampshire – even threatening secession from the rest of the country.<sup>1</sup> Members like Jack Thorsen are actively working to help the Free State Project fulfill those goals.

**For more information about the Free State Project Watch of Granite State Progress, contact (603) 225-2471 or [freestateprojectwatch@granitestateprogress.org](mailto:freestateprojectwatch@granitestateprogress.org).**

---

<sup>1</sup> "Once we've taken over the state government, we can slash state and local budgets, which make up a sizeable proportion of the tax and regulatory burden we face every day. Furthermore, we can eliminate substantial federal interference by refusing to take highway funds and the strings attached to them. Once we've accomplished these things, we can bargain with the national government over reducing the role of the national government in our state. We can use the threat of secession as leverage to do this." [[Announcement: The Free State Project](#) by Founder Jason Sorens]