



Profile: Free State Project Member Mike Sylvia

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 Mike Sylvia (Belknap District 6: Belmont)

State House candidate Mike Sylvia moved to New Hampshire in 2010 as part of the Free State Project. Sylvia has demonstrated considerable ties to the Free State Project, including:

- **Sylvia moved to New Hampshire in 2010 as part of the Free State Project, and ran for the State House in the first statewide election he could even vote in New Hampshire.** While participation in local civic activities is honorable and to be encouraged, Free Staters have a notably short move-to-run time for political office. [[NH House Republicans. [New Member Spotlight: Rep. Mike Sylvia](#). 5.31.13; Vote Smart. [Bio: Mike Sylvia](#). Accessed October 2014]
- **Sylvia has proudly attended every Porcfest – the annual festival for Free Staters – since 2008.** [Itsnewjournalist Tumblr. [In Liberty: The Free State Project](#). 12.14.13]
- **Sylvia is known as a Free Stater in political circles, but he purposely leaves his Free State Project affiliation off campaign materials and his campaign website.** [Mike Sylvia. [Campaign Website](#). Accessed October 2014]
- **Sylvia recently admitted to reporters that the Free State Project is actively looking to recruit additional FSP members to run for political office.** [Washington Post (reprinted in Valley News). [‘PorcFest’ Draws Libertarians to Wilds of N.H.](#) 7.13.14]

Why is Mike Sylvia’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.¹ Members like Mike Sylvia 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.

¹ *“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]