

[HOME \(/\)](#) [WATER \(/WATER.HTML\)](#) [CONTRIBUTE \(/CONTRIBUTE.HTML\)](#)

[TIPS \(/TIPS.HTML\)](#) [NEWSLETTER \(/NEWSLETTER.HTML\)](#)

[ENDORSEMENTS \(/ENDORSEMENTS.HTML\)](#) [VOTE \(/VOTE.HTML\)](#)

[MORE \(/MORE.HTML\)](#)
**RISHI KUMAR -
SARATOGA
COUNCILMEMBER
(/)**

CONTRIBUTION TO RISHI's CAMPAIGN
Contribute via Paypal, Credit Card or Crypto Currency

*KUMAR FOR COUNCIL 2014**

(Name to be updated soon for the 2018 campaign)

NOTE: Citizenship is NOT required to make a contribution

There are no campaign contribution restrictions for Saratoga Council elections

You may make contributions through your business - please review the rules below

Contribute via Paypal or Credit Card



Contribute via Cryptocurrency such as Bitcoins

NOTE: City of Saratoga does not have any campaign limits

- used solely for campaign purposes, declared on California Campaign Form 460 filings with FPPC

BTC == 1McSCWVnaEsXgkVD4vgseZGUPgm5YwHQky

ETH = 0x163038f402DF8A923F51DC5938e052ddE845cd50

LTC = LVmFEa7MbsBSHxz1QihVinwyDJ2Ptoewz4

BTC Wallet Address



1McSCWVnaEsXgkVD4vgseZGUPgm5YwHQky

LTC Wallet Address



LZ9CvCSL3a8Wof14vThL5vhdT5K9H8HyEDn

ETH Wallet Address



0x163038f402DF8A923F51DC5938e052ddE845cd50

CONTRIBUTION RULES:

I am at least 18 years of age

I am a US Citizen or Permanent Resident Alien

This contribution is made from my own funds, and funds are not being provided to me by another person or entity for the purpose of making this contribution.

If my contribution exceeds \$99, I will include my NAME, ADDRESS, OCCUPATION and EMPLOYER NAME

NOTE: Your political contribution is NOT tax deductible. If you are a major donor (\$10K+ in donations) you will need to file FORM 461

Donations at or below \$99 can be done anonymously.

*The campaign account registered with FPPC is "Kumar for council 2014" which will be used for the 2018 campaign.

To all my friends, supporters, neighbors, community members/leader - I truly appreciate you | this without you. Thank you for your support!
- Rishi Kun

OFFICE HOURS

Saturdays, 10AM-Noon (check facebook.com/voteRishiKun

"In ordinary life we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it i rich" - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

P O BOX 2653 Saratoga, CA 95070-1232

PHONE 408 805 5993

© KUMAR FOR COUNCIL 2014



WWW.RISHI
rkumar<at>sa
WWW.FACE
RISHI<@>RISI
Facebook.con

PAID FOR BY KUMAR FOR COUNCIL 2014 || FPPC ID #1364692

TOPICS

SUBSCRIBE
4 weeks for only 99¢

TRIAL OFFER | 4 weeks for 99¢

ADVERTISEMENT

BackupAssist

Windows Server Backup with Ransomware Defense

Try the 30-Day Free Trial! >

Newport candidate is accepting bitcoin donations

By BY EMILY FOXHALL

THIS POST HAS BEEN CORRECTED, AS NOTED BELOW. | DEC 19, 2013



When Newport Beach City Council candidate Michael Glenn thinks of freedom, that includes the freedom to choose how to donate, be it with dollars, pesos or bitcoin.

Glenn claims to be the first local politician to accept campaign donations in the esoteric digital currency. He is seeking the Balboa Peninsula's 1st District council seat being vacated by Mike Henn. Also in the race are businesswoman Diane Dixon and Harbor Commissioner Joe Stapleton.



inRead invented by Teads

**WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING HAVE YOU SEEN ONLINE VIDEO ADVERTISING FOR RECENTLY?
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)**

 TOPICS

ADVERTISEMENT
SUBSCRIBE
4 weeks for only 99¢

TRIAL OFFER | 4 weeks for 99¢

ADVERTISEMENT

Glenn's announcement comes just weeks after individuals used bitcoin to pay for a Tesla, and then a Lamborghini, from a Costa Mesa dealership.

But as the chief executive of a web development company, Glenn felt familiar with the virtual currency — created by a computer programmer in 2009 — long before it appeared in recent headlines. He even possessed some bitcoins himself.

ADVERTISEMENT

 The idea to accept bitcoins percolated in his mind until, after about two months of research into potential legal issues, Glenn took his online payment system live Wednesday. SUBSCRIBE
4 weeks for only 99¢

TRIAL OFFER | 4 weeks for 99¢

While he is not sure how many donations — if any — will eventually come of it, he sees the move as being in line with the ideology of an open and accessible politician who simultaneously desires to be inclusive and challenge the status quo.

"The things I'm doing are not necessarily for the benefit of my campaign," he said. "They're for the benefit of where I think the structure should be going."

From a donor's perspective, the process for giving by using bitcoins mirrors that of giving by way of credit card. Users click a "donate now" button atop Glenn's webpage. They select the dollar amount they would like to give, enter the necessary personal information and proceed to a payment page, where they enter credit card information or receive steps for sending their bitcoins.

ADVERTISEMENT

A processing agency called Coinbase receives the bitcoins, converts them into dollars and passes the money into Glenn's account.

Glenn, a Balboa Peninsula resident, feels confident that this process helps to ensure the California Fair Political Practices Commission stipulation that only a singular bank account be used for donations. He said he does not ever handle the bitcoins himself.

He said his account has already received donations.

TOPICS

SUBSCRIBE
4 weeks for only 99¢

[For the record, 11:31 a.m. Dec 20: An earlier version of this story incorrectly identified Joe Stapleton's first name as Patrick.]

Today's Headlines Newsletter

Delivered weekdays

A digest of essential news, insight and analysis from L.A. Times editors.



ADVERTISEMENT

BE THE FIRST TO COMMENT

LATEST NEWS

REVIEW

The art of daily existence: Meleko Mokgosi's provocative show at the UCLA Fowler Museum

3m

SCIENCE NOW

Global travel may be good for the soul, but its huge carbon footprint means it's bad for the planet

3m

Marketcap Prices v ICO Calendar Bitcoin v Ethereum Litecoin Altcoins Learn v Advertise v Contact



BTC/USD

21:04
\$9,094.64

Low
\$8,851.16

High
\$9,494.55

Marketcap
\$153.86B

ACCEPTS BITCOIN FEBRUARY 12, 2015 21:36

Gavin Newsom Accepts Donations In Bitcoin In Bid For California Governor



ICO CALENDAR

- Global REIT
ETHEREUM ✓ 2
- Digitize
ETHEREUM ✓ 5.5
- Sandblock
ETHEREUM ✓ 7
- Aramco
ETHEREUM ✓ 4

[View all ICOs](#)

Advertisement

MIT | SA+P

MIT SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING
COMMERCIAL ESTATE ANALYSIS AND INVESTMENT
6-WEEK ONLINE SHORT COURSE

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Trending



Advertisement

BUY NOW

XCELTOKEN

XCEL
A BLOCKCHAIN UTILITY TOKEN
starting from \$11

Join our community of 10 000 traders on Hacked.com for just \$39 per month.

In announcing his intention to run for governor of California in 2018, Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) is accepting donations in bitcoin, supporting his tech-savvy image. The "Gavin for Governor" invites supporters to donate via bitcoin. Newsom is one of the nation's first high-profile politicians to accept contributions in bitcoin, according to *The San Francisco Chronicle*.

Newsom has about \$3 million left from his successful 2014 re-election campaign for lieutenant governor, according to reports on his campaign for governor in 2018.

A political bitcoin pioneer

When Newsom ran for re-election for lieutenant governor in 2014, news reports cited him as one of the nation's first high-profile politicians to accept contributions in bitcoin.

He was swayed by people like top Silicon Valley venture capitalist **Marc Andreessen**, an investor who has put more than \$50 million in bitcoin-related startups, *The San Francisco Chronicle* reported.

Aside from Newsom, Democrats like Oakland mayoral candidate Bryan Parker and Colorado Rep. **Jared Polis**, and Republicans like Texas attorney general and gubernatorial candidate **Greg Abbott**, the newspaper noted.

Also read: [RandPaulCoin to fund 2016 presidential campaign](#)

FEC issues opinion on bitcoin contributions

The Federal Election Commission (FEC) in May approved an advisory opinion allowing bitcoin contributions. In response to a request from Make Your Laws PAC, Inc., the FEC decided that the organization could accept contributions of bitcoins as proposed, subject to valuation and reporting procedures detailed in the opinion.

"I've never been a fan of pretense or procrastination," Newsom states on his website announcing his 2018 bid for governor. "After all, our state is defined by its independent, outspoken spirit. When Californians see something we truly believe in, we say so and act accordingly – without evasiveness or equivocation.



Indian Police Seize Ethereum Miners in Alleged \$15 Million MLM Scheme



Texas Regulator Hits Two Bitcoin Investment Scheme with Cease-and-Desists



Binance CEO Says It Are 'Necessary,' Mc VCs 'Have No Clue'



Facebook Taps

“So today I’m announcing that I’m creating a committee to run for California Governor in 2018. Because I truly and passionately believe in the future of this great state. Today, Californians are blessed with the remarkable leadership of Governor Jerry Brown, who in the face of long odds has led our state to firm fiscal footing and brought us to the enviable position of dreaming – and achieving – big dreams again. Even so, long-term challenges remain daunting – we must continue to grow our economy and create private-sector jobs, we must invest in public education and keep college affordable, we must address the widening inequalities that separate our communities and we must maintain California’s historic leadership in meeting the climate challenge.”

Follow us on **Telegram**.

Advertisement

A Mini Berkshire to Buy

The Motley Fool

Motley Fool’s Triple Buy Alert Looks a Lot Like Berkshire in 1992

Motley Fool’s Triple Buy Alert Looks a Lot Like B

1992

POSTED IN: ACCEPTS BITCOIN, BITCOIN ANNOUNCEMENTS, BITCOIN POLITICS, NEWS

TAGS: CALIFORNIA, GAVIN NEWSOM

AUTHOR
Lester Coleman

SHARE
POST

Lester Coleman is a media relations consultant for the payments and automated retailing industries.

0 Comments CCN

Login

Recommend Share

Sort by Best



Start the discussion...

LOG IN WITH

OR SIGN UP WITH DISQUS ?

Name

Be the first to comment.

ALSO ON CCN

Binance CEO Says ICOs Are 'Necessary,' Most VCs 'Have No

8 comments • a day ago



Blindfolded — fyi 'review' is generally a function of putting active links into the text. If this is the case,

Opinion: Calm before the Storm? The Coming Crackdown on ICOs

25 comments • a day ago



DonkedItUp — True. The Austro-Hungarian Empire had every right to defend itself from the assailants and

Trump's Former Economic Advisor Joins the 'Blockchain Not

10 comments • 9 hours ago



Pete — "bitcoin is too complicated" wowThis statement coming from a banker of a firm that made billions

Cryptojacking Attack Hits Hundreds of Websites to Mine

3 comments • 13 hours ago



scottyk — Government funded computers using wordpress , drupal etcFree open source Apps.Need I

Subscribe Add Disqus to your siteAdd DisqusAdd Privacy

BITCOIN EDUCATION FEBRUARY 12, 2015 15:18

What Is Bitcoin? – Two out of Three Americans Don't Know

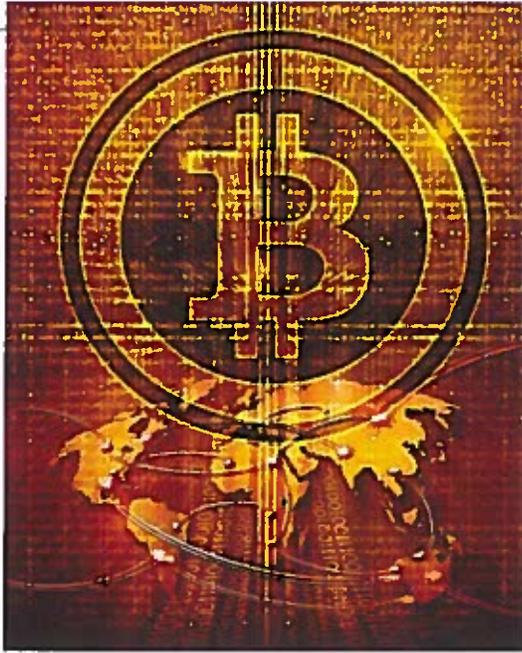


In 2014, Google was asked many times "What is Bitcoin?". In fact, it was the fourth most asked, "What is.....?" question on Google last year. It would seem many of those inquiries are coming from the U.S., after reviewing the latest survey findings from Coin Center. According to a new survey, Americans don't know what Bitcoin is. This survey, done through Google, and conducted by Coin Center, shows that 65% of all respondents are "not familiar at all" with Bitcoin.

"What is Bitcoin?" The largest Bitcoin market really doesn't know

This would make Americans among the most ignorant of digital currency, when compared to recent surveys done in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. This is somewhat hard to reconcile with the amount of US Dollar investment into Bitcoin and the number of wallets and businesses that work with Bitcoin within the United States. It would seem that Bitcoin falls into two camps domestically. Those that use it are very active in the digital currency markets, and those that do not are completely off the grid. 84% of those that responded said they've never used digital currency before.

"There has never been a definitive benchmark for public understanding of Bitcoin," said Coin Center executive director Jerry Brito. "This survey demonstrates that there's much to be done to build an understanding of Bitcoin, and at Coin Center we see this as an opportunity to build effective educational programs for policymakers and consumers alike."



Also read "What is Bitcoin?" Is Google's 4th Most Searched "What is...?" Term of 2014

Companies like merchant account leader BitPay have spent quite a bit of money on getting the mainstream to take a look at Bitcoin, and learn more about it's advantages. BitPay sponsored the St. Petersburg Bowl college football game last month to gain Bitcoin brand awareness. This did generate exposure to over three million mainstream viewers who might not otherwise have heard about Bitcoin. Two new Bitcoin commercials were created for viewing during breaks in the game, to help viewers understand Bitcoin in real-world situations. Overall exposure to the Bitcoin concept, and education in how it works for the average online user seems to be the greatest areas of growth for Bitcoin.

In the United Kingdom last year, it was shown that over 70% of all Brits had some awareness of Bitcoin. The amount of actual use was low, but it was moving into range of the known players in the money transfer sector. It even passed MoneyGram. PayPal is the preferred money transmitter in the UK. In the Netherlands, a similar amount to the United States were unaware of Bitcoin, at around 70% overall.

When it comes to how government should regulate Bitcoin, the online respondents were divided. 12.9% said they were alright with banning something that many of them had never heard of while 16.1% hoped the government would not ban or over-regulate Bitcoin.

Coin Center's survey was compiled in conjunction with Google Consumer Surveys. The results are weighted by gender, age, and income in order to emulate the overall demographics of the entire American population. The survey is a compilation of five months of inquiries since September of 2014. Each month's survey sample had at least 1,000 completions for all questions.

What are the best ways to get the word out about Bitcoin? Are you telling friends and family about "The Future of Money?" Share above and comment below.

POSTED IN: BITCOIN EDUCATION, BITCOIN INTERVIEWS, BITCOIN OPINION, BITCOIN RESEARCH, NEWS

AUTHOR
Evander Smart

SHARE
POST

Evander Smart wants to get you talking, get you thinking, get you learning about Bitcoin, "The Future of Money". He has two Bitcoin video training courses on Udemy.com called "Bitcoin for Beginners". Go to EvanderSmart.com to get the latest on Evander and the latest Bitcoin news.

SFGATE <https://www.sfgate.com/politics/joegarofoli/article/Newsom-among-1st-politicians-opening-coffers-to-5490356.php>

Newsom among 1st politicians opening coffers to bitcoin

By Joe Garofoli Updated 3:10 am, Tuesday, May 20, 2014

ADVERTISEMENT

 Photo: Shannon

IMAGE 1 OF 3

California Lt. Gov. **Gavin Newsom** is used to being on the leading edge of controversial issues like same-sex marriage. This election cycle, he's out there again, as one of the nation's first high-profile politicians to accept contributions in bitcoin, the controversial virtual currency.

But while the political battle lines on same-sex marriage are stark, they couldn't be murkier for cryptocurrencies. Regulatory agencies and watchdog groups are miles behind the technorati in understanding the currency, and are struggling with how to monitor it.

There is, however, a political payoff for candidates who embrace bitcoin, which has the backing of top Silicon Valley venture capitalists and is favored by young techies for its transparency and disruptive nature.

"What it does is say, 'Hey, Millennial generation. I'm cool, too,'" said **Robert Molnar**, a former California Republican political strategist who is founder and CEO of **KryptoBucks Capital**, a startup in cryptocurrency. "This may not be a big policy issue this year, but in 2016 it will be huge."

ADVERTISEMENT

3 Foods to Remove from - The Fridge Forever

Cut a bit of belly bloat each day by avoiding these 3 foods [nucific.com](#)

LATEST SFGATE VIDEOS

00:03 01:20

Now Playing

- 300-foot-tall lava sprays in Lailani Estates...**
USGS & University of Hawaii
- How Weird Street Faire 2018...**
San Francisco Chronicle
- Baby bald eagle flies home to mother...**
San Francisco Chronicle
- Volcanic fissure in Hawaii...**
USGS

Unveiled in 2009 by an unidentified programmer, or group of programmers, under the name **Satoshi Nakamoto**, bitcoin has grown in popularity - and volatility - in the last two years. Supply is capped at 21 million bitcoins, and a software algorithm controls the flow of the cryptocurrency instead of a monetary authority.

Risk-averse politicians have kept their distance, but bitcoin has found fans on the far left and the far right. Some liberals view it as a way to help low-income constituents avoid usurious bank fees. Some conservatives see it as a way to get the government out of monetary policy.

Aside from Newsom, Democrats like Oakland mayoral candidate **Bryan Parker** and Colorado Rep. **Jared Polis**, and Republicans like Texas attorney general and gubernatorial candidate **Greg Abbott** now accept bitcoin contributions.

ADVERTISEMENT

MORE IN POLITICS



Fringe candidates steal show Idaho governor debate viral



Obama considering new housing, budget leaders



Governor hopeful Donnelly trusts conservatives before GOP

Their common challenge: Explaining bitcoin.

"I came from a place of absolute confusion and cynicism on bitcoin," Newsom, the former San Francisco mayor, said. "If anybody started talking about cryptocurrency, I'd start rolling my eyes and yawning and going, 'Give me a break.' Now I find it fascinating.

"But how the hell do I explain it to anybody?" said Newsom, who was swayed by people like top Silicon Valley venture capitalist **Marc Andreessen** - an investor who has put more than \$50 million in bitcoin-related startups.

Bitcoin has support from liberals and libertarians, but it remains a cause of confusion. The nonpartisan **Sunlight Foundation**, which analyzes the role of money in politics, doesn't yet have a policy statement on cryptocurrencies.

This month the **Federal Elections Commission** took its most definitive stand on the issue, issuing an advisory opinion that said politicians could accept bitcoin donations - up to \$100. Before depositing them into a campaign account, an organization must exchange the bitcoins for U.S. currency. But the commissioners remain divided on the

larger meaning of the advisory opinion.

FEC Chairman **Lee Goodman** wrote that it meant that bitcoin should be "regulated like in-kind contributions. So the commission effectively took the same position that the IRS has taken, that bitcoins are in kind property; they are not U.S. currency." Treating bitcoin donations in that way would limit individuals to giving \$2,600 to a candidate per election and \$5,000 to a PAC.

FEC vice chair **Ann Ravel** disagreed, writing that the commission's reservations seem to stem largely from perceived concerns about the current technical difficulty in tracing bitcoins.

"Unlike checks or credit cards, bitcoins are not associated with a depository institution, which means that they cannot be traced or verified through standard audit mechanisms, such as account records," Ravel wrote.

But cryptocurrency supporters like **Brad Stephens**, a San Franciscan who donated \$6,800 in bitcoin to Newsom's campaign, says bitcoin is far less anonymous than regulators believe due to the block chain, or permanent record, updated each time a bitcoin is traded.

Still, regulators are wary.

When asked if bitcoin contributions to Newsom's campaign were legal, **California Fair Political Practices Commission** spokesman **Jay Wierenga** said, "They are not prohibited, but we recommend against it at this time because we want to ensure that the true donors are identified and disclosed.

"We're continuing to evaluate the issue as new decisions, facts and technology develop."

That was enough of a green light for Newsom's campaign.

"The way we read it is that the door is not closed," Newsom said.

Newsom's campaign staff pleaded with him for months not to take a public stand on bitcoin. But he said if he was going to preach disruption, then "I should promote the technology ever so subtly by saying I'll accept bitcoin in the campaign - until they tell me it's a terrible idea. And if they say stop it, we'll stop it."

"My chin is right out there, for people to say, 'This guy is a nut. What's he doing?' " Newsom said and laughed. "It's been there before. I'm ready for it."

Joe Garofoli is a **San Francisco Chronicle** staff writer. E-mail: jgarofoli@sfgate.com Twitter: [@joegarofoli](https://twitter.com/joegarofoli)

© 2018 Hearst Communications, Inc.

H E A R S T

SFGATE Recommended For You

Inside Melania Trump's complicated White House life: Separate schedules, different priorities

East Bay residents warned of rattlesnakes following 2 bites

You May Like

Sponsored Links

How to Adopt Healthier Habits This Year

Mercury Insurance Quotes

Don't Get Cabinets Without Seeing This First

Arhaus

Sponsored Links

Alpine White Mavic Pro Limited Edition: A Classic Re...

DJI

We Tried The HelloFresh Vegetarian Box: Here's Wha...

Popdust for HelloFresh

16 Amazing Discounts Seniors Didn't Know About

Prime®

SFGATE Recommended For You

In thinking small, Warriors get big win

Costco employees share their 11 best food court secrets and hacks

The account clerks at the payment window in City Hall collect payments for water bills, cannabis permits, business licenses, and other city charges. But the report said direct supervision is sometimes lacking, and there are instances of refund checks and account credits being issued for the same accounts.

The Grand Jury also found that not all council members were completely accurate on their Form 700 (Statement of Economic Interests with the California Fair Political Practices Commission) filed in September 2017.

There was one small bright spot toward the end of the list of findings, though.

“Community perception that the mayor has hired friends as city employees, dismissed employees that oppose the mayor, and issued cannabis business permits to friends is unsubstantiated,” the report stated. “In actuality, the mayor and council members, working as a body, only hire the city clerk and city manager. The city manager hires, dismisses, and disciplines all city employees. The city council is involved in the appeal process for employee discipline.

“The city council as a unit, will issue cannabis permits after all phases and vetting processes are completed.”

The city is legally required to respond to the report within 90 days.

The full report is posted on the Kern County Grand Jury website at www.kerncounty.com/grandjury/. This report and others are filed under “Early Releases.”

Want to contribute bitcoin to a political campaign? State ethics panel could decide if and how

Wisconsin State Journal

By Mark Sommerhauser

04/24/2018

The anonymity of transactions of digital currencies such as bitcoin has some state Ethics commissioners balking at the prospect of sanctioning their use to make campaign contributions in Wisconsin.

The discussion came during a Tuesday morning meeting of the Ethics Commission.

"If we can't accurately and immediately describe who's donating these funds, there's a hesitation on my behalf to allow it," Republican commissioner Pat Strachota said.

The commission held a public hearing on a request from the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin to give guidelines for campaign giving via digital currencies. It did not immediately take action on the request during Tuesday's

open session of the meeting. A closed session was set to follow in which commissioners could discuss the question further.

Digital, or crypto-, currencies, of which bitcoin is the most widely known, are new online-only forms of currency that are not governed by authorities such as a central bank.

The request from Phil Anderson, chairman of the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin, says digital currencies "such as Bitcoin, Litecoin and Ethereum, are more and more widely accepted as currency and as stores of value."

"The (Chicago Board Options Exchange) offers a futures market for Bitcoin, and other financial platforms, corporations and governments are weighing in on not 'whether' to address crypto-currencies, but 'how?'" Anderson wrote.

Among Anderson's questions to the commission is how such digital currency contributions would be counted toward state campaign contribution limits set in dollars.

Some states, such as California, have urged campaigns not to accept digital currency contributions -- though the practice is not prohibited. The Federal Election Commission permits digital currency to be donated to campaigns for federal office, counting such donations as "in-kind" contributions, such as a gift of materials.

David Buerger, staff counsel for the commission, said he's not aware of any instances in Wisconsin in which digital currency contributions to state campaigns were given or accepted.

Commissioners suggested during Tuesday's discussion that if digital currency were counted as a monetary contribution, it likely would be subject to a \$100 contribution limit in state law that applies to cash contributions. The law says any larger contribution must be made by means such as a credit card or check.

Digital currencies lack the sort of authority such as the U.S. Treasury and Federal Reserve System, which print and manage the U.S. dollar. For that reason, they have been championed by those, such as many libertarians, who oppose government control of currency. Bitcoin speculation, and a recent spike in its value, also has drawn attention to it.

Bitcoin and other digital currencies have plenty of critics in the financial world. J.P. Morgan Chase CEO Jamie Dimon has called bitcoin "a fraud." while mega-investor Warren Buffett has said the hubbub over digital currencies "will come to a bad ending."

The California Fair Political Practices Commission has urged campaigns not to accept digital currency because the commission says it's virtually impossible to trace.

"Given the anonymous nature of digital currency, which is rapidly developing and constantly evolving, there could be significant difficulties in establishing the true source of bitcoin donors," that Commission has said.

Unlike a check or credit card payment, a bitcoin transaction provides no form of positive ID -- unless the sender independently confirms the transaction, said Brad Chandler, who directs the Nicholas Center for Corporate Finance and Investment Banking at UW-Madison. Chandler said that could make it possible to more easily evade certain restrictions on campaign giving.

A potential solution, Chandler said, might be to require contributors to use a tool such as bitpay, which enables users to essentially cash in bitcoin for US dollars, before they give to a campaign.

State Rep. Jimmy Anderson, D-Fitchburg, said in a Twitter post Tuesday that permitting digital currency to be used for campaign giving "is really dangerous for about a dozen reasons."

"The ability to conceal who is making the contributions alone is going to make this an ethical nightmare," Anderson wrote.

Sasha Linker
Commission Assistant
Fair Political Practices Commission
1102 Q Street, Suite 3000 | Sacramento, CA 95811
slinker@fppc.ca.gov | 916-327-8269

<https://www.bitcoin.com/wallet> Buy Bitcoin menu x

<https://www.bitcoin.com/wallet> Buy Bitcoin menu x
ads via cryptobar



Contributions in Bitcoin

https://news.bitcoin.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/shutterstock_767076979_1600.jpg

Authorities in the state of Wisconsin have discussed the adoption of (https://www.bitcoin.com/wallet) Buy Bitcoin menu x
regarding cryptocurrency contributions to political
(//srv.buysellads.com/ads/click/x/GTND42QICWSDEKJECYSLYKQMCVBI52JIF6ADVZ3JCV
campaigns, as requested by the Libertarian Party. Other states, like segment=placement:bitcoincom;) (https://www.buysellac
California, have urged politicians not to accept bitcoin donations. utm_campaign=Crypt
Kansas is the only state prohibiting such contributions. The Federal
Election Commission allows crypto donations to campaigns for
federal office.

Also read: Majority of US States Have Taken a Stance on Bitcoin and Blockchain (https://news.bitcoin.com/majority-of-us-states-with-stance-on-bitcoin-and-blockchain/)

Libertarians: The Question Is Not “Whether” but “How”

The Wisconsin Ethics Commission held on Tuesday a public hearing on a request from the state’s Libertarian Party regarding the adoption of guidelines for crypto contributions to political campaigns. The party’s chairman, Phil Anderson, wants to know how such donations would be counted toward the limits set by the state in dollars.

“Digital currencies, such as bitcoin, litecoin and ethereum, are more and more widely accepted as currency and as stores of value,” the libertarian said, quoted by the *La Crosse Tribune*. “The Chicago Board Options Exchange offers a futures market for bitcoin.



Corporations and governments are weighing in on not ‘whether’ to address cryptocurrencies, but ‘how,’” Anderson wrote in the request.

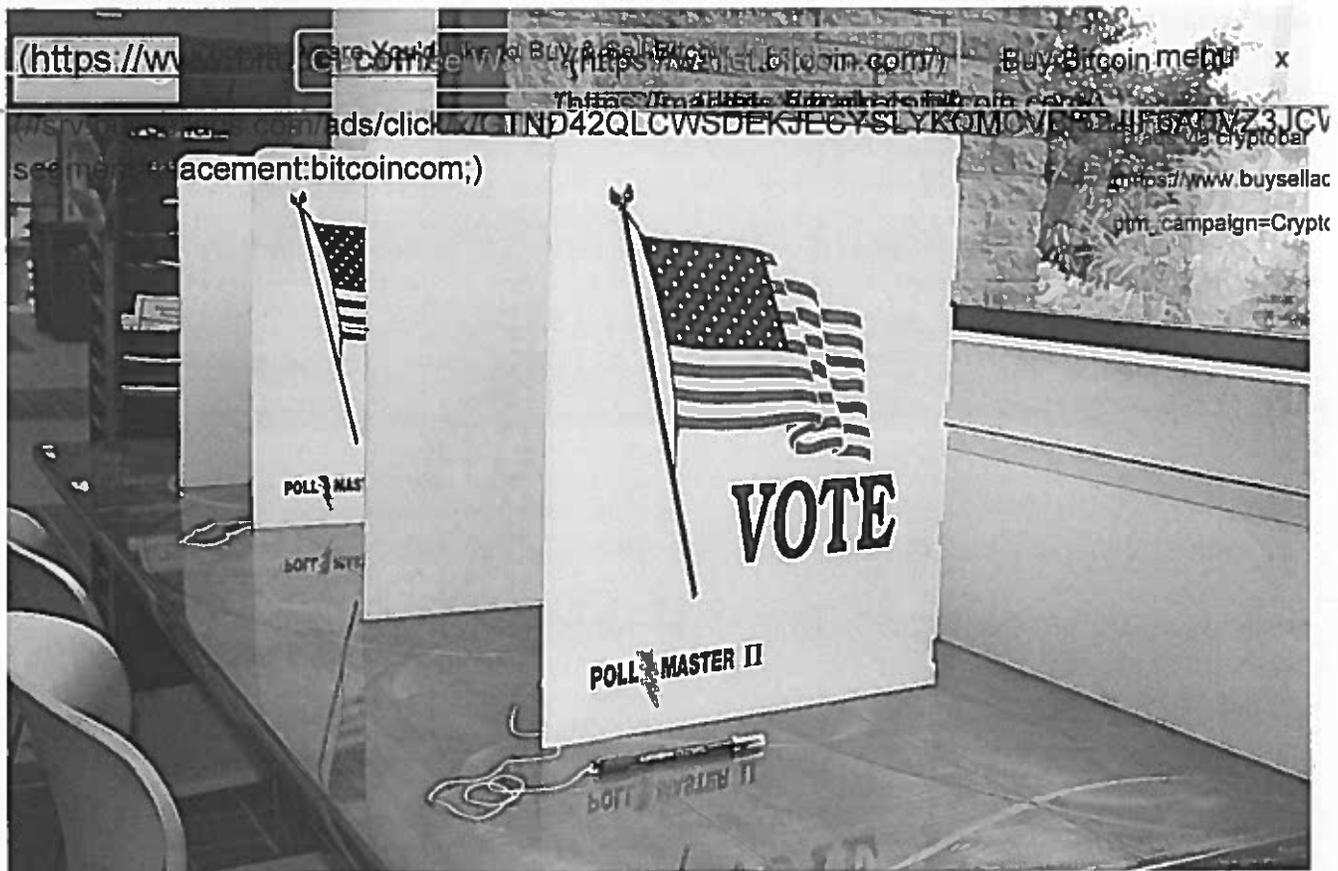
David Buerger, staff counsel for the commission, admitted he is not yet aware of any instances in Wisconsin in which cryptocurrency contributions to state campaigns were given or accepted. Libertarians are

among the stronger supporters of bitcoin. The idea of a decentralized
 (https://www.bitcoin.com/wallet) | Buy Bitcoin menu x
 currency, not controlled by a central authority or bank, is in line
 (/srv.buysellads.com/ads/click/x/GTND42QLCWSDEKJECYSLYKQMCVBI52JIF6ADVZ3JCV
 with their political views and opposition to government control over the
 segment=placement:bitcoin.com,) U ads via cryptobar
 national currency. (https://www.buysellac
 utm_campaign=Cryptoc

During Tuesday's meeting, commissioners suggested that if digital currencies were counted as a monetary contribution, crypto donations would be subject to the \$100 limit applicable to cash contributions. Larger donations must be made by a credit card or a bank check.

Only One State Prohibits Crypto Donations

The question of cryptocurrency contributions to political campaigns is one of many crypto-related issues that have been addressed differently in each state. For example, California (<https://news.bitcoin.com/california-bill-aims-to-recognize-blockchain-records/>) has issued a warning against such donations. The Fair Political Practices Commission in the Golden State urged campaigns not to accept digital coins because their transactions are considered "virtually impossible to trace". Last year Kansas (<https://news.bitcoin.com/kansas-governmental-ethics-commission-forbids-bitcoin-donations/>) became the first state to ban bitcoin contributions. According to its ethics commission, cryptocurrency is "too secretive".



Most US states have adopted some crypto regulations according to a recently published report (<https://news.bitcoin.com/majority-of-us-states-with-stance-on-bitcoin-and-blockchain/>) by the Brookings Institution. The attitude towards cryptocurrencies, however, varies significantly between different jurisdictions. On national level, crypto contributions to campaigns for federal office were approved by the Federal Election Commission. In 2014 FEC said they should be treated as "in-kind donations" and "noncash items".

Politicians Taking Bitcoin

The popularity of bitcoin among American politicians seems unaffected by recent market volatility. A growing number of political candidates are accepting cryptocurrencies to fund their campaigns. Republican Andrew Hemingway, the youngest gubernatorial candidate in New Hampshire (<https://news.bitcoin.com/new-hampshire-governor-signs-bill-designed->

to protect bitcoin from regulation), was the first to do so in 2014, as
 (https://www.bitcoin.com/wallet) | Buy Bitcoin menu x
 reported by CNBC. Hemingway, also a tech entrepreneur, said he decided
 (/srv.buysellads.com/ads/click/x/GTND42QLCWSDEKJECYSLYKQMCVBI52JIF6ADV73JCV
 to accept crypto contributions after many of his supporters asked if they
 segment=placement:bitcoincom;) ID: 105142 cryptobar
 could donate bitcoin. (https://www.buysellac
 utm_campaign=Cryptk

Austin Petersen

(https://news.bitcoin.com/republican-senate-austin-petersen-accepts-the-largest-campaign-contribution-paid-in-btc/),

Republican candidate from Missouri, received 24 bitcoin contributions while running for

Senate. He is also the beneficiary of the largest crypto donation worth \$4,500. Democrat Patrick Nelson, running for Congress from New York, is accepting cryptocurrency contributions through the payments provider Bitpay (https://news.bitcoin.com/bitpay-launches-bitcoin-cash-debit-card-top-ups/). "We're a 21st century campaign and as such we embrace new technologies like bitcoin," he tweeted. Democratic candidate for Congress Brian Forde of California and Republican Kelli Ward running for the Senate from Arizona are also taking bitcoin donations.



The first candidate for the White House to do the same was Kentucky Senator Rand Paul who ran for the Republican nomination at the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Paul has in the past stated that the US government should adopt a "hands off" approach to controlling money. His campaign accepted bitcoin donations worth up to \$100. That's the maximum amount for individual contributions in cryptocurrency, as set by the Federal Election Commission.

What do you think about bitcoin contributions to political campaigns? Share your views in the comments section below.

Images courtesy of Shutterstock.

<https://www.bitcoin.com> <https://wallet.bitcoin.com/> Buy Bitcoin menu x
 you do not miss any important Bitcoin-related news! Follow
 our news feed any way you prefer, via Twitter, Facebook, Telegram, RSS or email (scroll down to the bottom of this page to
 subscribe). We've got daily, weekly and quarterly summaries in
 newsletter form. Bitcoin never sleeps. Neither do we (about:blank).

(<https://news.bitcoin.com/author/lubomirtassev/>)

Lubomir Tassev (<https://news.bitcoin.com/author/lubomirtassev/>)

Lubomir Tassev is a journalist from tech-savvy Bulgaria, a country that often finds itself at the forefront of technological advances it cannot easily afford. Quoting Hitchens, Lubomir says: "Being a writer is what I am, rather than what I do". International politics and economics are two other major sources of inspiration.