

What is a Jeffersonian Whig?

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A "Jeffersonian Whig" is a combination of two political ideologies that Mr. Sloan advocates as his party identification.

The Jeffersonians, influenced by the work and ideas of Mr. Thomas Jefferson, support a federal government that has a significantly curtailed authority. Jeffersonians believe that the majority of governmental power should lie in the discretion of the states. The Jeffersonians follow a strict adherence to the U.S. Constitution, calling on state and local governments to ensure the private and public rights of citizens and their property. Jeffersonians also believe strongly in education and direct citizen involvement in government.

The Whig philosophy primarily focuses on the role of Congress as a check on the executive branch. Founded in opposition to Andrew Jackson's "Jacksonian Democracy" in 1833, the Whigs strongly believe that Congress, not the President, represents the desires of the American public. Unlike the Jeffersonians who advocate an agrarian economic subsistence, Whigs support a modernized economic system based on industrial gain. Thus, Lloyd believes in the core value systems of both of these ideologies but realizes that today's American economy is not what it use to be. Today's economy is a modern system fueled by industry and technology and these advances are quite beneficial to the nation as a whole.