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## Local

# A Tea Party in Richmond

More than 1K people rally to call for state rights, limited taxes

Richmond, Va.

Members of various groups affiliated with the so-called Tea Party movement made a show of strength in Richmond Monday, rallying more than 1,000 demonstrators for a Capitol Square protest and then flooding the General Assembly building to meet with lawmakers.

The Martin Luther King Day holiday is traditionally considered Lobby Day in Richmond, with dozens of groups taking advantage of the day off from work to send members to the capital city. But the Tea Party group appeared to be the largest in recent memory.

Wearing "Don't Tread on Me" stickers and holding signs calling for states rights, a reacknowledgement of the 10th Amendment of the Constitution, limited taxes, less government spending and — above all — a rejection of the fed-

eral health care bill, the group listened to almost two hours worth of speakers, including rousing addresses from Virginia's new attorney general, Ken Cuccinelli, and Delegate Bob Marshall.

"This Obama-care is not only a fight over health insurance. It's not even a fight over payback to political help," Marshall said. "This is a fight for — are you a citizen or are you a serf? It's not your wallet that they want, it's your soul and your family." ROSALIND HELDERMAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)