

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417

NOVEMBER 1996 E-mail lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us

Calendar

75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change

1919 A VOICE FOR CITIZENS, A FORCE FOR CHANGE

1994

News Flash! Save this date!

Thomas L. Friedman, Foreign Affairs columnist for the N.Y. Times and author of the award winning book From Beirut to Jerusalem, will be the featured speaker at the March 11, 1997 fundraiser dinner to benefit the LWVMN Education Fund.

> See camera-ready flyer for your bulletin enclosed with this mailing! Additional information to follow in early December.

- November 13 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; MWB
 - 19 Board Memo/President's Mailing to local League Presidents & subscribers
 - LWVMN Budget Committee; noon 2:30 p.m.; MWB
 - 20 LWVMN Nominating Committee Meeting; 1:00 p.m.; MWB
 - 25 Fundraiser Committee; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
 - 28-29 Thanksgiving Holiday; LWVMN office closed
- December 2 LWVMN Action Committee & Intern Training; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
 - Pre-Invitation Mailing to members & friends of LWV for 3/11 Fundraiser
 - 3 LWVMN Voter Service Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m.; LWVMN
 - 4 Development Committee; 11:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m.; MWB
 - Member Resources Committee; 2:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.; MWB
 - 9 Legislative Intern Training at the State Office Building; 9:30 a.m.
 - 17 LWVMN Office Management Committee; 2:00 p.m.; MWB
 - Mini-Mailing to local League Presidents if needed
 - 20 "Citizens in Action Workshops" flyers mailed mailed
 - Deadline for Legislative Interviews
 - 23-27 LWVMN office closed for holidays
 - 30 LWVMN office opens

January

- 1 New Year's Day; office closed; Happy 1997!
- 6 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- 8 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.; MWB
- 14 Board Memo/President's Mailing
- 18 Citizens in Action Workshop, State Capitol
- 20 Deadline: MN State Government Spending Consensus Report due LWVMN office
- 25 Citizens in Action Workshop, State Capitol
 - LWVMN State Spending Study Committee Meeting; 9:00 a.m., LWVMN office

ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- > LWVMN Program Planning Discussion Guide/Dinneen, Nelson
- > Evaluation of Voter Service Projects for 1996/Duffy
- > Capitol Letter subscription form/Frisch
- > Ten-minute Activist sign-up/Frisch
- > Citizens in Action Workshops Agenda and Sign-up/Frisch
- Memo re LWVMN/local League Bylaws from LWVMN Bylaws Committee/Dougher
- > Proposed State Bylaw Changes form/Dougher
- ➤ LWVMN Bylaws, most recently revised 1995/Dougher
- > "Holiday Sale" flyer/Kargas
- Camera-ready flyer re LWVMNEF fundraiser/Walz, Wolsfeld



BOUQUETS TO:

- Judy Duffy and her committee for a first rate voter service program.
- LWVMN voter service project directors--Erica Buffington: Hotline--Eydie Kargas: Voter Guide--Mary Ann McCoy: Congressional/Legislative Forums--Virgina Sweeny: Senate Debates
- Duluth, St. Cloud, and Rochester for their Senate debates and all of the local Leagues who did. Congressional, legislative and local candidate events.
- Joanne Buie for accepting the position of planned giving chair and Margit Berg for her years of fine service in that position.
- Susan Weisbrod for her appearances on behalf of LWVMN in opposition to the recall amendment. Since it did pass, she will follow the development of the implementing legislation.
- The Fund Raiser Committee and Chair Sue Wolsfeld and Robin Larkin, LWV Edina, for getting Thomas Friedman, New York Times foreign affairs columnist and author of *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, as the speaker for our March 11 fundraiser.



STATE BOARD HAPPENINGS

At its March 14,1996 board meeting your state Board:

- Approved LWVMN lobbyists for this legislative session see the list of names under Action.
- Approved the budget committee for 1997-98 -- Dot Lilja, chair; Cindy Berquist, LWVMN Treasurer;
 Kathy Kolb, Minneapolis; Cathy Severin, Duluth; Fran Skovland, Freeborn County; Florence Sprague,
 Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights; Linda Theilbar, Red Wing; and Ellen Weiss, St. Paul.
- Approved the 1997-98 bylaws committee --Vera Dougher, chair; Kay Erickson, Jan Nelson, and Linda Satorius.
- Heard from Cindy Berquist, Treasurer, that LWVMN will be required (as will all nonprofits) to track
 and value many volunteer services beginning with fiscal year 1996 -97. (This does not apply to most
 local Leagues.)
- Discussed the possibility of a focus meeting perhaps one on the pros and cons of a new Twins stadium
 -- other topics are possible. A focus was approved as an Education Fund project.



PRESIDENT

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076)

Congratulations on your many voter service projects! They are a large part of how the League helps make democracy work. Thank you to those of you who were able to help with the state level projects as well as your local ones.

Thank you as well for your wonderful response to the Annual Appeal during this same busy season. Although I am ambivalent about asking for money in addition to all of the time and energy you give to your local Leagues, the reason that we do so is simple. It takes money to support our education fund service projects and the fine staff whose work maximizes the volunteer work of the Board and committees. If you are able to contribute money, I assure you that we appreciate every dollar and stretch every penny. We also appreciate and applaud every hour from your busy lives that you give to your League and community. So thank you for your League support in whatever way you give it.

As winter approaches our thoughts turn from elections to holidays - no - I meant to say the legislative session! The action committee looks forward to reading the results of your legislative interviews as it prepares for the session. We also invite you to seriously consider becoming a 10 minute activist or joining the committee as an intern or lobbyist. Action is how we make those positions we study so hard to arrive at come alive. I know you will enjoy working with Carol Frisch and with Meg Mannix who is back this year as the staff person. (See the Action section for more details.)

Please watch for convention materials as they appear in these mailings. Jeanne Matlock and the member resources committee are working to make it a good one for all of us. The nominating, bylaws and budget committees are also meeting. Please let any state board member know if you have questions or comments in any area or about the forms you receive in this mailing.

Sandy Cooper brought the concerns of her local League about the national program, Making Democracy Work, to the state board meeting. Her League finds it overwhelming and asked for some guidance. Mary Dinneen, Program Co-Chair along with Jan Nelson, agreed to look into the question. Meanwhile they would like to hear your concerns, comments and plans for implementing this program.

Have a good Thanksgiving. Pondering the Bosnian elections will find me thankful for our political system - even if it isn't perfect.



MARKETING

(Eydie Kargas, 612/473-8610)

See enclosures for a "Holiday Sale" flyer, featuring special prices for various League products - mugs, posters, tees, etc.



ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604)

LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

If you have not yet identified that eager-for-action member of your local League who should be encouraged to become a legislative intern, now is definitely the time. Applications may still be submitted for the training which occurs at 9:30 a.m. December 2 and 9 at the MN Women's Building and the State Office Building respectively and continues with the workshops at Citizens in Action on January 18 and 25, 1997 at the Capitol. Look especially for members who have a strong interest in state spending priorities, health care, tax reform, and women's issues.

CITIZENS IN ACTION

This year's workshops for grassroots lobbyists Citizens in Action will be held January 18, and 25, 1997 at the Capitol from 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Members may attend either or both days. Topics will span the basics in lobbying to planning a media campaign and building diversity in grassroots coalitions. Presenters will be experts from LWV, Common Cause, the MN Council on Non -profits, and state government, to name a few. Registration information will be mailed at the end of December.

LOBBYISTS NAMED

At the November LWVMN Board meeting the following members were approved as lobbyists: Anne Borgen, Carol Frisch, Sally Sawyer, Meg Mannix, Vikki Anderson, Pat Bugenstein, Lorraine Fischer, Janet Gendler, Diane Gibson, Mary Lewis Grow, Jane McWilliams, Catherine Shreves, Susan Weisbrod, Polly Keppel, and Barbara Flanigan.

LOBBYING THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

In October, Anne Borgen, Pat Bugenstein, and Carol Frisch paid a visit to Deputy Director for Cabinet Affairs DHS Marty McDonough to request that the Governor include a line in his budget recommendations for employment support on mental health clients served by six of the employability pilot programs we have long promoted. We were encouraged by our reception and are hoping to hear a response soon about the effect of our call.



VOTER SERVICE

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake, Birchwood, 55110 612/429-9703)

WHEW!!! It's over, the election that is. Thanks to all of you for all of the Voter Service activities - each of you provides a great service to your community. Included in this mailing is an Evaluation Form to be completed by the President or Voter Service Chair. We want to know what your League did as well as your response to LWVMN projects. We will use this information for future planning and also to be provided to funders requesting this kind of information. Please respond and send to us by January 1.

A quick recap of our LWVMN Voter Service projects:

- Congressional debates took place in each of the 8 MN Congressional districts. The Martin Pass-Through Grants were distributed to 7 of 8 Congressional District Leagues' cooperative projects. In Congressional District 1, the Leagues assisted but did not sponsor their own forum. Please get your completed reports in so the final grants can be made. Thanks again to all of you and especially to Mary Ann McCoy (LWV Mpls.), our project director.
- * U.S. Senate Debates: There were 4 debates held in St. Cloud, Rochester, Duluth and Minneapolis. All of these debates included the 3 major party candidates for U.S. Senate. This was also a great service for voters since no other organizations included all 3 major candidates. Thanks to the St. Cloud, Rochester and Duluth Leagues for taking on this extra project in an already busy season all jobs well done! Special thanks to Virginia Sweeny (LWV Edina) who directed and moderated the Minneapolis debate.
- * WCCO Hotline: All in all, we fielded over 16,000 calls and answered a variety of questions. Local League volunteer participation was great and we thank each of you for helping out. Special thanks to Erica Buffington (LWV St. Louis Park) for yeoman service, to Diane Gibson for her technological expertise and you volunteers. Also, a special, special thanks to the office staff who all pitched in!

- Voter Guide: 300,000 issues were printed and nearly all distributed. Thanks to Daytons-Merwyns-Target for their purchase and distribution of 135,000 Voter Guides, to local Leagues, to the MN Business Partnership, schools and libraries and many others. The Guide appeared in part on the Internet also in Spanish. Eydie Kargas (LWV Wayzata/Plymouth Area) was the project director who worked so hard on the development, format and production of this terrific piece. Many thanks for a job well done!
- E-Democracy: Over about the last 2 weeks of October, on-line debates occurred among the candidates for Senate. Many discussions progressed over this period between the candidates and other participants. LWVMN received an award for our co-sponsorship and we owe our effusive thanks to Diane Gibson, Technology Chair on the LWVMN Board, for her assistance and expertise on this worthwhile project.

So, our traditional Voter Service projects are completed. Many new and innovative techniques were used. All of this points to 1998 and how we can do more and do so with greater efficiency. It's an exciting time for all of us. I hope you enjoyed it even though it was certainly a harried and frantic season. Thanks again to all of you and best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season!



STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING STUDY

(Cindy Berquist, 1501 Lia Dr., Northfield, 55057 507/663-0816)

Work is proceeding nicely at the local League level on the State Government Spending study. Most local Leagues have already held their informational meetings and are conducting consensus in November-December. Just a few reminders:

Conduct membership consensus meetings and report consensus recommendations to local Board. The Board is responsible for determining where consensus has been reached.

Keep consensus results confidential. The consensus is not valid until the consensus of the entire state has been taken.

Local consensus results must be in the LWVMN office by January 20, 1997.

After state consensus is reached February 12, 1997, local Leagues will be notified of the new state position. Please report the new state position to your membership. Recommend what comes next (press release, etc.). Encourage study committee members to work in support of the new position.



TECHNOLOGY

(Diane Gibson, P.O. Box 131144, Roseville, 55113 612/636-0374)

We have created an e-mail discussion group called **lwvmn-share**. All League members are encouraged and invited to join. Any topics of interest to League members are fair game for discussion with this e-mail group. For example, it can be used to solicit ideas and help for how to accomplish some task - i.e. new member drive or phrasing a debate question. Any thoughts or questions you have can be shared and discussed with other Leaguers on-line.

To join:

- Send an e-mail to listproc@mtn.org.
- In the body of the e-mail type: subscribe lwvmn-share "your first name" "your last name"
- · Please leave the subject field blank.

For example, if I were going to join, I'd send an e-mail to listproc@mtn.org and I'd type in the body of the message:

subscribe lwvmn-share Diane Gibson

The list is for League members only, and we hope each of you with e-mail will join us. To send a message to the group, you simply send the message to lwvmn-share@mtn.org. This will automatically send your message on to all group members. We have about 25 members already, so please join us!



November 18, 1996

Dear Local League Presidents:

April seems a long way off, but before you know it convention 1997 will be upon us. So, it's time to start thinking about Program Planning.

Local League Program recommendations for the next state study are due on February 15, 1997. Most Leagues hold their Program Planning meeting in January.

Your suggested study should be thoroughly thought out, and should have an understandable focus and scope. You can propose a new study, an update, re-study, or drop of a position or certain parts of a position. It should contain education and advocacy.

TIPS FOR WELL-ATTENDED PROGRAM PLANNING MEETINGS

- Offer <u>food</u>! All Leaguers like to eat and "surveys" have shown that meetings with food are betterattended than regular meetings. Try a holiday potluck or a breakfast at a reasonably-priced restaurant.
- 2. Emphasize education. Emphasize that members can learn about all the state positions at one time.
- 3. Point out that this is a <u>once every two years</u> opportunity. It is the one time during the biennium that members have to suggest changes, re-emphasis or new studies for state programs.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- 1. Appoint a chair for Program Planning.
- Schedule the meeting.
- Use your Voter or other mailings to inform your members about current state program and lively
 issues. The *Program for Action* booklet with all of LWVMN's positions was mailed to local League
 presidents in June of 1996.
- 4. Local recommendations go to the state board which recommends or does not recommend the suggested program.
- 5. Convention delegates vote on all program items.
- 6. Because non-recommended items must pass by a 2/3s vote in order to be considered, it is important that all Leagues know about your proposal and have time before Convention to discuss it.
- 7. Plan a campaign for your program recommendations so that Leagues statewide understand the need for the changes or new study you propose.

Have a good planning session!

Jan Nelson Vice President, Program Mary Dinneen Program Co-chair

LS/cl

(with thanks to the League of Women Voters of Illinois)



PROGRAM PLANNING DISCUSSION GUIDE

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 15, 1997

To:

Presidents, Program Planning Chairs

From:

Jan Nelson, LWVMN Second Vice President, Program Chair, 612/938-7703 (h)

Mary Dinneen, Program Co-Chair, 612/941-0583

Re:

State Program Planning

Date:

November 18, 1996

Included in this packet:

- 1. Program Planning Discussion Guide
- 2. Lively Issues
- 3. Current Program, short version
- 4. Program Planning Form
- 5. Program for Action 1995-97
- 6. Local Program Planning Guide

The Fall issue of LWVMN VOTER will include Lively Issues for discussion purposes.

TIMELINE

November

Program planning packet sent to local Leagues; Lively Issues article in

LWVMN VOTER

December-January

Leagues have state program planning meeting

February 15, 1997

Deadline for receipt of program planning report form at state office

March 13, 1997

State Board Meeting - approve proposed program; Proposed program for

1997-99 mailed with Convention materials

April 25-26, 1997

State Convention - adopt 1997-99 program

Program planning is an annual event for local Leagues. Before the annual meeting, members need to provide suggestions regarding local program so your Board can select one it thinks best fits the guidelines for selecting an appropriate topic to study, reach consensus and take action. Since local Leagues have such busy schedules, the meeting at which you discuss local program ideas is usually the best one at which to discuss state program ideas.

Each local League should have someone in charge of setting up the program planning meeting. It is one of the most important meetings of the year - the chance to have input into the local and state program which will be adopted at the annual meeting or Convention. Plans should be made to attract as many members as possible.

Prior to the meeting you will want to have articles in your local bulletin. If your group is large, you may wish to break into smaller groups and brainstorm program ideas, then get back together and list them all, giving background when necessary, then come to a sense of the entire group as to which item most members feel is an appropriate topic to study.

For the local program planning, you may wish to have your program chairs or local government officials talk about local issues. You may also suggest some programs other Leagues have adopted.

For the state program planning, the ideas suggested in the Lively Issues are a starting point. The ideas that have been suggested are "food for thought." The hope is that these ideas will be a springboard - the state Board is not in any way recommending any of them.

Which column you mark beside each position statement should be determined by a consensus of members participating. If you use a telephone survey or questionnaire, it should be the majority of those participating. If there is no consensus or majority, you may wish to comment on the line provided. If there is a change or update suggested by one or more, you may report that under comments, indicating how many suggested the change or update.

There are four choices for each item currently on the State Program. If you wish to drop a position, only that box can be checked. It is possible to keep a position and request an update - additional information through a public or League meeting, an article in the *VOTER*, publication, etc.

DEFINITIONS:

Keep to retain the position and/or details, so we can take appropriate action, but have no further study at this time.

Drop the position would be dropped and no further action can be taken in this area without a new study.

<u>Update</u> obtain additional information on position but take no consensus (meeting, publication, etc.)

Action to assist the State Board and Action Committee to determine action priorities. It is advisory only.

Study to undertake a new study, with consensus, for the purpose of establishing a new position or expanding a current one.

NEW STUDY

Take care not to confuse national issues with state issues. The State League can do many things, but it cannot decide on its own to influence national policy. Our concern is with state issues, those within the province of state government.

The League has well-established criteria to help members decide on new studies:

- > League Policy Can the problem be solved by governmental action? Does the proposal fall within the League's Principles (see p.2, *Program for Action*)
- > Timeliness Is this a hot issue? Is the political timing right? Will it lead to effective action for the League? Will League involvement make a difference?
- > Appropriateness Is the League the organization best qualified to study the issue? Will it duplicate the work of some other organization?
- ➤ Membership Will the issue attract new members? Will it increase the interest and participation of current members?
- > Resources Does the League have the people and the money to address this issue effectively?

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call Jan Nelson, 612/938-7703 or Mary Dinneen, 612/941-0583.

LEAGUE PRINCIPLES

addition to the items adopted for LWVUS and LWVMN Programs, League Principles may be the basis for state and local League actions. The Principles have served two functions according to LWVUS Bylaws: 1) as authorization for adoption of national, state and local program, and 2) as a basis for taking action at the national, state and local levels. Action to implement the Principles is authorized by the appropriate League board once it determines that member understanding and agreement exist and that the action is appropriate.

- The League of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States.
- The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.
- The League of Women Voters believes that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education which provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination.
- The League of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.
- The League of Women Voters believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; that government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that effect the general welfare, promote a sound economy and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.
- The League of Women Voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems, and that the development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Program Adopted by League of Women Voters of Minnesota

I. CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Judiciary: Support of a judicial system with the capacity to assure a speedy trial and equal justice for all

Corrections: Support of a correctional system responsive to the needs of the individual offender and of society. Support of sentencing decisions based on circumstances in relation to the crime, the offender and the effect on public safety, made by the judge within legislative guidelines.

II. EDUCATION

Equal Opportunity: Support of increased state responsibility in creating equal public educational opportunities for all Minnesota children through measures to correct racial imbalance and ensure adequate financing of public schools.

Financing of Education: All Minnesota children should have equal access to a good public education. State funding for education should be at a level that makes programs of comparable substance and quality available to all. A student's access to a good education should not depend on the wealth of his or her school district.

Collective Bargaining and Tenure: Support of improvements in the collective bargaining and tenure laws of the state as they apply to K-12 teachers only.

Library Funding: Support for increased and restructured funding for public libraries.

III. GOVERNMENT

Citizen Rights: Support of improvements in election laws regulating election procedures, voting and school district elections. Support of improvements in election laws regulating campaign practices.

Organization of Government: Support of improved structure and procedures for the Minnesota Legislature and Executive Branch; support of an improved process for amending the Minnesota Constitution; support of apportionment based substantially on population of congressional districts and of all elected state and local governmental bodies.

Initiative, Referendum and Recall: Support of the continuation of legislative initiative and compulsory voter referendum on constitutional amendments; opposition to most forms of voter initiative and referendum of statutes; opposition to recall by

voters of members of the Legislature and state constitutional officers; support of strict procedural limits on any process of initiative, referendum or recall.

Financing State Government: Support of a balanced and diversified revenue system which relies on broad-based taxes and user fees. Support of an evaluation of all individual revenue sources to determine if it is competitive with other states. efficient, equitable, progressive, reliable, responsive and simple. Support of a broad-based sales tax with exemptions for essential items. Support of an equitable property tax as the primary source of financing services provided by local governments and a partial funding for education. Support of a corporation franchise tax competitive with other states. Support of achieving social goals through open and visible expenditures rather than by granting deductions, exclusions and credits. Support of the principle that state legislation mandating local government action should identify sources of revenue. Support of long-term financial management, budget projections and budget reserve.

LWVMN voted to adopt a new study of State Government Spending at the 1995 state convention.

Firearms: Action to support restrictions on the sale, possession and use of firearms by private parties in the state of Minnesota. Opposition to an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution granting an individual right to bear arms. Support for the ability of local municipalities to regulate ownership and possession of firearms and ammunition more strictly than state law allows.

IV. NATURAL RESOURCES

Water Resources: Support of a state role in the preservation and management of Minnesota's water resources through protection, allocation, conservation, pricing and interbasin transfer policies protective of Minnesota's current and future needs.

Solid Waste: Support of measures to reduce generation of solid waste.

Land Use: Support of an overall land use plan with maximum cooperation and implementation at the regional and local levels, with state help in developing and exercising land use management, with opportunity for maximum local decision making, and with regional planning and regulation for matters of more than local concern.

V. SOCIAL POLICY

Equal Opportunity: Support of policies to ensure equality of opportunity in employment, real property, public accommodations, education and other public services for all persons. Support of administrative enforcement of antidiscrimination laws. Support of state responsibility for and responsiveness to Indian citizens.

FAMILY ISSUES

Family Violence: Support for improved procedures for agencies dealing with family violence; support for improved services for the victims.

Child Support: Support of stricter enforcement of court-ordered child support payments.

Child Protection: Support of adequate staffing and resources for child protection services.

Child Health: Support access to comprehensive prenatal and child health care.

Child Care: Support of coordinated public policies and funding to ensure safe, affordable, quality child care throughout the state.

Teen Pregnancy: Support prevention efforts to lower the rate of teenage pregnancy.

Housing: Support an active state role in providing long-term decent and affordable housing for very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. Support incentives to local units of government to promote a mix of housing opportunities including home ownership and rental housing for people of all ages with very low-, low-, and moderate-incomes. Support of disincentives to local units of government that do not promote a mix of housing opportunities.

Mental Health: Support of a comprehensive and coordinated system of programs and services for mentally ill adults and emotionally disturbed children and adolescents (hereafter referred to as "persons with mental illness"). Priority should be given to persons with serious and persistent mental illness and/or acute mental illness. Minnesota public policy and funding should sustain an array of community-based services which are available and accessible to persons with mental illness. Administration of that policy should provide clients with appropriate and adequate services.

Violence Prevention: Support for violence prevention programs in Minnesota.

LIVELY ISSUES

Exactly what are "Lively Issues"? What in the world are we talking about? They are issues that are current and exciting; issues on which we may or may not have League positions; issues that we can get excited about studying or re-visiting in order to become informed, reach consensus and a position and be ready to lobby or take action.

The following are the most recent state studies:

1979-81:	Initiative	Referendum	and Recall
19/9-01.	Illitiative,	Kelelelldulli	and Recair

Family Violence (concurrence with LWV Mpls. position)

1981-83: Financing Public Schools in MN

1983-85: Water Resources

1985-87: Protecting MN's Children

Child Care in MN

Health Care for MN's Children

published INDIANS IN MINNESOTA, 4th edition

1987-89: Mental Health

Teen Pregnancy (concurrence with LWV Mpls., some additional information)

1989-91: Firearms

Financing Public Schools in MN

1991-93: Housing; update in Financing State Gov't; violence prevention (concurrence with LWV

Mpls. position)

1993-95: Financing State Government

1995-97: State Government Spending

Here are some ideas for a new State League study for your consideration. You are in no way limited to this list!

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Update: This update would propose a study to look at why Minnesota is not seeing a decrease in violent juvenile crime.

Questions:

- 1. Should Minnesota drop its long-held idea of the juvenile justice system of corrections and second chances for the harsher sentencing of adults as other states are doing?
- 2. Should Minnesota promote the "restorative justice" idea which involves families and victims at the local level developing consequences and holding the young offender accountable as well as seeking to resolve other issues in his/her life? How can communities get involved?
- 3. Should Minnesota look at a more unified authority and funding stream for dealing with kids who now may be in a school system, a county social service or mental health system, a county correctional system, or placed out-of-home in a private, county or state facility?
- 4. What kind of "prevention" and "early intervention" works?

ELECTION OF JUDGES

The study would examine (1) the present system of electing judges in Minnesota and (2) alternative proposals for appointing judges.

Ouestions:

- 1. What are the advantages and disadvantages to the present system of electing judges?
- 2. Could the election of judges be improved by:
 - different procedures for nominating judges
 - better media coverage of nominating process, election campaigns
 - more media attention to judicial matters
 - different procedures for censure and/or removal of judges
- 3. If judges were to be appointed, what safeguards would be appropriate to prevent undue influence by special interests and political cronyism on the appointment process?
- 4. What are the major factors for an appointing body or person to consider in making appointments to judgeships?
- 5. Should judges be appointed by:
 - the Governor
 - a special commission
 - either the House of Representatives or Senate, or both
 - some combination of the above

EDUCATION

PUBLIC POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

LWVMN has no position on higher education in Minnesota. A study of Minnesota's commitment to providing public post-secondary education to state residents and how that commitment is played out through funding priorities would allow the state League to lobby and speak out on behalf of public higher education.

The study would look at the relationship of the new system (Minnesota State Colleges and Universities or MNSCU, a recent merger of the state universities, community colleges and technical colleges) and the University of Minnesota system -- the objectives, roles and funding of the two systems.

Possible questions for study:

- 1. With 66 public campuses, are there "too many" colleges and universities in Minnesota, as some officials have stated? Should the number be reduced? If so, where should reductions be made and which state residents would be most affected?
- 2. Politicians and education specialists emphasize that job retraining is a major key in our national economic stability and growth. Job retraining is typically a phenomenon of mid-life or mid-career (when workers are older and place-bound, unable because of family obligations, etc. to move away to attend school). How will funding decisions, school closings and mergers affect access to job retraining for out-state as well as urban residents?
- 3. Minnesota public colleges and universities consume about 13% of the legislative general fund appropriations, the largest single category except for K-12 school districts. The U. of M. receives 49% of that 13% appropriation, leaving the MNSCU to share the remainder. Yet one-half of all state residents who go on to higher education start at the community or technical college. What is fair and equitable?

PUBLIC K-12 EDUCATION

The study would focus on the concept of developing and using a statewide (and perhaps eventually, a national core curriculum in our public schools. Such a study would involve researching education literature and interviewing education leaders for the pros and cons of developing and using a common core curriculum in our elementary schools. While education reform is constantly under discussion, very

little attention is paid to the most important education reform: powerful knowledge-based curricula in the hands of good teachers trained to use it.

There are no officially recognized and agreed on expectations for what knowledge students should learn in each grade. Even within one school building (not to mention between schools or districts), curriculum -- not just teaching style -- varies widely. The result is chaos and is exacerbated by the fact that nationally 20% of our students change schools each year.

Our national test scores are falling compared to other industrialized nations that have a core curriculum. More importantly, the very children who rely on our public schools for their knowledge suffer the most, and have the lowest scores, because their parents cannot make up the knowledge gap. Children from advantaged homes are exposed to literature and culture, home instruction, even tutors to make up for the gaps and inconsistencies in curriculum in early public school education.

The main issues in an education study focusing on curriculum would be:

- 1. Is there a correlation between the United State's falling test scores internationally and the lack of a standard core curriculum?
- 2. Do countries with core curriculum have a fairer educational system, with a smaller learning gap that exists in our country between privileged and less privileged children?
- 3. Would statewide (or national standards) conflict with local control of curriculum?
- 4. Who would develop the curriculum and what would it look like?

Why the League of Women Voters is the right organization to take on this issue: Education issues, like so many policy issues in American life, have become so polemic and politicized. Tax vouchers to "improve competition" are offered as a solution to our education problems. Much of the debate over curriculum focuses on the religious right objectives, rather than on what mainstream knowledge most people believe they would like their children to receive in schools. The League would be a perfect organization to study this issue because of our credibility in the community: we are non-partisan, and have a long history of support of public education.

GOVERNMENT

UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE

During the 1996 legislative session, the Minnesota senate introduced three bills proposing a unicameral legislature be adopted here. Presently, Nebraska is the only state legislature that is unicameral (one body). The Ethics and Campaign Reform Committee decided to table all three bills, reasoning that the issue required an in-depth study, and, perhaps a visit to Nebraska to see their system in operation and interview the legislators there.

The ultimate decision regarding a unicameral versus a bicameral legislature will belong to the voters, as it will require a constitutional amendment to institute this change.

This study would explore the advantages and disadvantages of a unicameral legislature for Minnesota and would address some of these questions:

- 1. How would a unicameral legislature be organized?
 - a. Role of committees
 - b. Role of staff
 - c. Length of session
 - d. Number of representatives and how apportioned
 - e. Expenses
- 2. What advantages would Minnesota see with a unicameral legislature?
- 3. What disadvantages would there be?

- 4. Has Nebraska's experience with its unicameral legislature provided a model for Minnesota?
 - a. Results of legislative study, chaired by Sen. Gary Laidig (R-Stillwater). The study committee is planning its first meeting for December and it will send a delegation to Nebraska for first hand observation.
- 5. What process is involved to make this significant a change in Minnesota's state legislature?
 - a. Constitutional amendment necessary
 - b. Vote of electorate to pass or reject the amendment

NATURAL RESOURCES

ONE-YEAR EXAMINATION OF THE ISSUE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO GROWTH

Drawing from the studies done by the Environmental Quality Board and MN Planning and other sources, through a series of *VOTER* articles, acquaint members with the growing problems created by population growth, agricultural practices, manufacturing, forestry and mining, energy consumption and recreation and possible solutions. Parallel to the production of the articles, the committee directing the study would review current positions to determine whether they provide the basis for action on the options for solving problems related to growth. If not, committee could propose addition(s) to current position to be adopted by membership through concurrence. Concurrence would be considered by 1998 Council.

Advantages to this atypical approach to a League study:

- * Much of the research has already been done. The committee could do the "study" distill the information for the *VOTER* articles a la National Voter articles.
- * Very likely, we don't need a new position on this issue, but if we should need one, the process would be expedited by reducing the research time and focusing local League member participation on education and laying the groundwork for concurrence in mid-biennium.
- * The issue has state-wide application. Leagues everywhere have a stake in it. (Urban expansion poorly managed yielding sprawl and threats to the environment, changes in agricultural economy and emerging "factory farms" creating environmental and aesthetic pollution, overuse of recreational areas, etc.)
- * Statewide applicability and timeliness could make it an attractive project to funders.
- * Abbreviated process would make League an informed player in solving problems at all levels. In the second year between conventions, the committee could develop a monitoring process for assessing policy development and implementation at state, county and local levels.
- * Leaguers could work as partners with other groups and decision-makers on implementation process.

WATER QUALITY IN MINNESOTA LAKES

LWVMN Position: Support of a state role in the preservation and management of Minnesota's water resources through protection, allocation, conservation, pricing and interbasin transfer policies protective of Minnesota's current and future needs.

The proposed study would examine the quality of lakes in Minnesota. Included would be the metro area lakes, the resort area lakes of central and northern Minnesota, as well as the lakes in our designated wilderness areas and state parks.

Questions for study:

- 1. What impact is milfoil having on recreational lakes in the metro and outstate areas? Will milfoil eventually affect the tourist industry?
- 2. What will the restorative effect on the metro area lakes be if the current plan to add a wetland buffer zone is implemented? What is the current state of metro area lakes?

- 3. What is the effect of motor boat use in the 21% of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness where it is currently allowed? How has motorized use affected Voyagers National Park? What is the water quality level in the Voyagers lakes compared to the BWCAW lakes where motor boat use is restricted? How is the quality of the lakes in our state parks in general?
- 4. Why has 24D been used to control weeds in our lakes?
- 5. What effect does the loss of wetlands have on our lake and drinking water quality? Do man-made wetlands offer the same benefits as natural ones?

SOCIAL POLICY

ADOLESCENT HEATH

According to Dr. David Aughey of Children's Health Care TeenAge Medical Services (TAMS), "adolescents make up the only age group in this country that hasn't experienced and improved health status during the last 30 years, despite important advances in medical technology and expertise."

This condition is reflected in the three leading causes of death for this age group, which are accidents (about half are motor vehicle/alcohol related), suicide and homicide. The threats to the health and well-being of adolescents involve the interplay of biological, psychological, and social factors. This deep interweave of multiple forces can include everything from destructive sexual behaviors, substance abuse, stress, depression, disordered eating, and the whole realm of mental health among teens. Issues related to school, family and peer relationships, issues of abuse, issues of disconnection and non-belonging are critical in considering the health of adolescents.

Adolescents present unique health needs that are not best accommodated through traditional medical delivery systems. Even though most teens in Minnesota have access to medical care through their parents insurance, Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCARE, they have the lowest rate of physician office visits of any age group. The problems of access, confidentiality of teen services and funding are played out in communities throughout Minnesota. Urban, small town, and rural families and health care providers face both common and unique barriers to meeting the health needs of teens.

Proposed study would examine how adolescent health needs are met in Minnesota.

Questions:

- 1. Why do adolescents have unique health needs?
- 2. What are the barriers to meeting health needs of teens?
- 3. What specific threats exist to adolescent health?

Accidents

Suicide

Homicide

Resource: MPSL/STP report. From Childhood to Adulthood: Putting Adolescents on a Healthy Lifetime Path

LWVMN PROGRAM PLANNING FORM

(based on LWVMN Program for Action 1995-97)

Loca	l League			Date	
# of	members participating	an cas a			
	Authorized Signature			Title	
	this form for your League's official recombe received by LWVMN, 550 Rice Stree				
		Keep	Drop	Update	Action
I.	Criminal Justice				
	A. Judiciary	-			
	B. Corrections	-			
II.	Education				
	A. Equal Opportunity	-			
	B. Financing Education				
	C. Collective Bargaining & Tenure				
	D. Library Funding				
III.	Government				
	A. Citizen Rights				
	1. Election Laws				
	2. Campaign Practices				
	B. Organization of Government				
	C. Initiative, Referendum, Recall				
	D. Financing State Government				
	E. Firearms				
	F. *MN State Government Spending*				
IV.	Natural Resources				
	A. Water Resources				
	B. Solid Waste				
	C. Land Use				

^{*}New Consensus scheduled in 1997

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V.	Social Policy				1
	A. Equality of Opportunity	_			
	B. Family Violence	_			
	C. Child Support	_			
	D. Child Protection				
	E. Child Health	_			
	F. Child Care	_			
	G. Teen Pregnancy				
	H. Mental Health				
	I. Housing				
	J. Violence Prevention				
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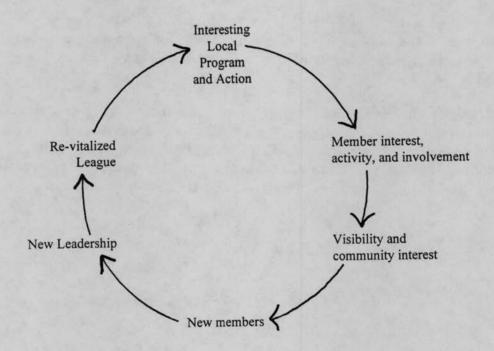
Remember that Health Care and Choice are national positions, and so are not included on state program planning.

To: Local Leagues

From: Jan Nelson

Re: Local Program Planning

This is the time of year for your local board and all members to begin thinking about the adoption of local program at your annual meeting. Exciting local program and action is crucial to the vitality of your local League. The following diagram illustrates the relationship between local program and the strength of your League.



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT LOCAL PROGRAM

- WE ARE HAVING TROUBLE FINDING MEMBERS TO DO THE PROGRAM AREAS WE ALREADY HAVE, WHY
 SHOULD WE LOOK FOR MORE TO DO? Burn-out most often occurs when people are going through the
 motions of doing a task because it <u>has</u> to be done, rather than because they are truly interested in it.
 Therefore a successful League tries to make sure their program offers options for members to get
 involved in issues they are truly interested in. In addition, exciting program involvement can help to
 recruit new people to share responsibilities.
- 2. Should we adopt a program item at the local level if it already appears on state or national program positions. Issues which become very specific within the community or which are quite controversial are best handled by adopting a local study which applies the position to the local level. For instance, the state League supported the new legislation requiring a study of school reorganization in all areas of the state. This position was based on the principle of citizen participation and equitable school financing. It is necessary for local Leagues to study the proposal for reorganization within their own community before they take a position on it. The state League position only supports the concept in general and does not address the pros or cons of a particular proposal.

- 3. MUST WE ADOPT NEW PROGRAM ITEMS? This is not necessary if current items are active and stimulate member interest. It is important to evaluate the status and interest level of all items and if things seem "blah" to consider if a new item might attract new members and the interest of current members.
- 4. How DO WE FIND NEW ITEMS? Consult with your observers and committees actively working in the community for upcoming issues. Talk to other groups in the community and ask what issues will be developing. Try to be leaders and not followers on community issues. Plan ahead so the League can be ready when controversy arrives. For instance, if there is discussion about future waste disposal for your community, do a study NOW of what is appropriate for your community, and be in a position to make responsible proposals, rather than waiting to react to the ideas of others.
- 5. Should we keep old program items? If you anticipate action on the issue, then it is important to readopt the item, or you will lose the position. On the other hand, if nothing is happening, if the study is old, or if members have lost interest, it is better to drop it or re-study the issue to make it current, rather than carrying "dead-wood."
- 6. How do we handle a proposed program item that is very controversial? Controversy is not always bad, it can make the League visible in the community and attract members who are impressed with the League's responsible approach. Controversy is most often a problem when it involves personalities and individuals. Sometimes an issue-oriented approach to the matter can be a constructive approach. Consider the wording of the item to handle it in a positive direction.

Thanks to LWV-Illinois for this information.

EVALUATION OF VOTER SERVICE PROJECTS FOR 1996

This evaluation is intended to help all of us in determining what works best and what to do in the future to improve both our effectiveness and efficiency in future election seasons. Whatever information we can share helps us help each other. We are also interested in finding out what everyone has done to get a better idea of the scope and reach of LWV work throughout the state.

Local League:
Person in charge of Voter Service:
List your League's 1996 Voter Service Projects (Other than candidate meetings):
List separately your candidates; meetings (use the back of this page if more space is needed):
List separately your candidates, meetings (use the back of this page if more space is needed).
We (did or did not) use the candidate criteria from the state League because:
Significant successes and/or challenges:
What we could change next time:
Did the state League offer enough help of a useful nature?
What could be done to improve that help in the future?

MARTIN FOUNDATION PASS-THROUGH GRANTS - for Congressional and Legislative Candidate Meetings

Our League (did or did not) apply for one because The grant forms were understandable to fill out (yes or no). The amount of the grant was (adequate, helpful, inadequate). If future candidate meeting grants are available, we would prefer to have fewer projects chosen but fund those fully. to include as many Leagues as possible even though funding is partial. Did you use your own education fund to help finance your candidate meetings? (yes or no) Did you secure funding from some other source for either candidates' meetings or other voter service projects? If so, please elaborate. PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION WCCO HOTLINE Does not apply to us . In general, we find this project to be useful as a fund raiser and appealing to our members (yes or no). ____ It is (relatively easy, relatively difficult) to get volunteers from our League. Did you (like or dislike) working with and at WCCO for this project? Why or why not? We would recommend the following changes for another year: GENERAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE Our League ordered copies. We distributed them to the following places or groups: We (did or did not) distribute them at candidates' meetings. Reaction to the format was

General reaction by our League and community was The broadcasts (did or did not) reach our area The LWVMN sponsored U.S. Senate debates were carried by radio station and TV station Comments and/or changes we would recommend for future statewide candidate debates: DEMOCRACY: On-line debates between candidates for the U.S. Senate. Someone in our League followed this project (yes or no) The reaction was Someone in our League who might be interested in playing a role in this kind of a project in the future might be: Phone: NNESOTA COMPACT COALITION Were members of your League familiar with this project (yes or no) Were the principles and goals of the project apparent in the campaigns in your area? (yes or no)	Were you aware the LWVMN Voter Guide was on the Internet?	Did you log on?
Someone in our League followed this project (yes or no) The reaction was Someone in our League who might be interested in playing a role in this kind of a project in the future might be: Phone:	VVMN DEBATES FOR THE U.S. SENATE	
The LWVMN sponsored U.S. Senate debates were carried by radio station and TV station Comments and/or changes we would recommend for future statewide candidate debates:	General reaction by our League and community was	
and TV station Comments and/or changes we would recommend for future statewide candidate debates:	The broadcasts (did or did not) reach our area.	
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NNESOTA COMPACT COALITION Were members of your League familiar with this project (yes or no) Were the principles and goals of the project apparent in the campaigns in your area? (yes or no)	Someone in our League followed this project (yes or no)	
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	Someone in our League followed this project (yes or no) The reaction was Someone in our League who might be interested in playing a role in this k future might be: Phone:	
Did your League participate in a discussion group with the Compact? (yes or no)	Someone in our League followed this project (yes or no) The reaction was Someone in our League who might be interested in playing a role in this k future might be: Phone: NNESOTA COMPACT COALITION	aind of a project in the
	Someone in our League followed this project (yes or no) The reaction was Someone in our League who might be interested in playing a role in this k future might be: Phone: NNESOTA COMPACT COALITION Were members of your League familiar with this project (yes or no)	aind of a project in the

MODERATORS USED BY OUR LEAGUE IN 1996

These names will be used to update a list of moderators kept on file at the state office. If you feel the person did a good job for you and might be willing to moderate once in a while in the future for other Leagues also, please add the names(s).

Name	League	Phone
OTHER COMMENTS WE WO	OULD LIKE TO MAKE:	
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR	1998:	

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this questionnaire, we do appreciate it!

Please return to:

Judy Duffy, Voter Service Chair LWVMN 550 Rice Street St. Paul; MN 55103

CAPITOL LETTER



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS 550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417

7

A VOICE

1919

FOR CITIZENS,

A FORCE

FOR CHANGE

1994

Volume XXIV

November 1996

President: Anne Borgen Action Chair: Carol Frisch

To: LOCAL LEAGUE BOARDS

The **CAPITOL LETTER** will be published six to eight times during the 1997 Legislative Session. It will keep you informed on League supported issues and their progress at the state Capitol.

ACTION TO TAKE:

Fill out this form and send it with your check for \$10 to LWVMN, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 by January 15, 1997.

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP
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Note: LL Presidents receive a CAPITOL LETTER.



action

10 MINUTE ACTIVIST

Make your voice heard on League issues that matter to you! Join Leaguers around the state as a Ten Minute Activist during the 1997 Legislative session. Fill out and return this form and we will notify you when the issues you want to lobby need action. You may be contacted 0-6 times per year. You can respond with a postcard or a phone call. This is an important part of our advocacy!

YES! I WA	ANT TO BE A TEN-MINUTE A	CTIVIST
Name:		
Address:	City:	7078-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11-11
State:Zip:Congression	nal District:Legislativ	ve District:
Phone: () e-mail add	dress:	
Issa	ues I will take action on:	
Financing Government/Taxes	Prevention of Violence	Criminal Justice
Election/Campaign Reform	Firearms	Health Care
Mental Health	Family and Children's Issues	Natural Resources
Equity Issues/Civil Rights	Housing	Education
Reproductive Rights/Teen Pregnancy	Term Limits	Other:
Mail to: LWVMN Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103	or FAX to 612/292-9417	Questions? Call 612/224-5445
If you wish to receive the FREE House and Senate Senate's BRIEFLY -call 612/296-0504. For the H	•	
I would like to subscribe to the CA mailing 6-8 issues with the latest inside form 1997 session. (It is not necessary to agree to	nation from League lobbyists on	

CITIZENS IN ACTION 1997

Saturdays, January 18 and 25, 1997 8:30 am - 1:00 pm State Capitol Building, St. Paul

Saturday, January 18

- Basics of Lobbying (offered twice) presenter to be named
- Computer Lobbying (offered twice)
 David Schultz, Common Cause
- 3) Track Legislation Henry Erdman, House Information Office Jane Tschida, lobbyist
- 4) How to Present Your Case Rep. Phil Carruthers, DFL-Brooklyn Center Todd Paulson, Common Cause
 - 5) Build and Maintain Grassroots Coalitions presenter to be named
 - 6) Maintain Relationships with Legislators & Staff presenter to be named
 - 7) State Spending Facts & Issues Pia Lopez, LWVMN

Saturday, January 25

- 1) Advanced Lobbying * presenter to be named
- Computer Lobbying (offered twice)David Schultz, Common Cause
- 3) Track Legislation Henry Erdman, House Information Office Jane Tschida, lobbyist
- 4) Write & Present Testimony (offered twice)* Jane McWilliams, LWV
- 5) Build Diversity in Grassroots Coalitions *
 Yusef Mgeni, Urban Coalition
 Laura Waterman Wittstock, MIGIZI
- 6) How to Work with the Media *
 Marcia Keller Avner, MN Council of
 Nonprofits
- 7) State Budget Choices Short & Long Range * Ned Crosby, Jefferson Center for New Democratic Process

CITIZENS IN ACTION 1997

Registration Form Due January 13, 1997

NAME	97: 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM REGISTRATION							
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\$5.00 Registration Fee, no one turned away for lack of funds. Please make checks payable to LWVMNEF, 550 Rice St., St. Paul, MN 55103. Deadline for reservations is January 19, 1997. Call 612/224-5445 for more information.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 F-MAU: www.mp@freepot.msp.mp.us

E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 19, 1996

TO: Local League Presidents

and/or Bylaws Committees

FROM: State League Bylaws Committee

Vera Dougher, Chair

RE: State and Local League Bylaws

DUE DATE - FEBRUARY 15, 1997

This is a reminder that it is time to review your local Bylaws and the State League Bylaws (copy enclosed) to determine whether any revisions are needed. Please refer to pages 3-1 and 3-2 of "In League" (LWVUS) to review the procedures.

Make sure the first three articles of your local bylaws conform exactly to the first three bylaws of LWVUS. This is required by LWVUS.

Any proposed changes to local bylaws must be approved by your local League Board. Should you propose such changes, please forward them to the state League office.

Forward all proposed changes to Vera Dougher, Bylaws Committee Chair, in care of the state office by February 15, 1997.

Please use the standard format in submitting your proposed changes:

- a) Quote the entire section that is being revised.
- b) Use parentheses () to indicate deletions.
- c) Underline the new wording/new punctuation/new numbering.
- d) Give the rationale (explanation) for the change(s).

As you review our/your bylaws, keep in mind that they deal with fundamentals; they shouldn't deal with details more appropriately spelled out in policies and procedures, such as the dollar amount of M.A.L. dues. Bylaws provide the framework within which an organization operates.

League bylaws reflect the Leagues purpose and how it operates to further that purpose. Your time and assistance are essential and appreciated.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

To: Local League Presidents
From: Vera Dougher, Chair, LWVMN Bylaws Committee
Re: Proposed State Bylaw Changes
Date: November 19, 1996
Due in State Office February 15, 1997
If your Board or your members have suggestions for bylaw changes to be enacted at the May Convention, please submit your specific ideas and precise wording for consideration by the State Board. Recommended and non-recommended bylaws will be returned to local Leagues at least six weeks before the State Convention.
Current Wording:
Article:
Section:
Proposed wording or new bylaw:
Article:
Section:
Reasons: (Use other side if necessary)
League of Women Voters of

Phone

Contact:

Name

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA BYLAWS

As adopted by the 1947 Convention and as amended by the 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1965, 1967, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995 Conventions.

ARTICLE I

<u>Section I</u>. The name of this corporation shall be the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. This state League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

ARTICLE II Purpose and Policy

<u>Section I. Purpose</u>. The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

<u>Section 2. Policy.</u> The League may take action on state governmental measures and policies in the public interest in conformity with the Principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States. It shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

ARTICLE III Membership

<u>Section I. Eligibility</u>. Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

<u>Section 2. How composed</u>. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be composed of members of the League of Women Voters of the United States who are,

- a) enrolled in recognized local Leagues within the state, or
- b) enrolled as members at large of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Section 3. Types of Membership

- a) Voting members shall be those citizens at least I8 years of age who are enrolled in recognized local Leagues or are members-at-large in the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
- b) Associate members shall be all other members who are enrolled in recognized local Leagues or the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

- c) Members-at-large shall be members who reside outside the area of and are not enrolled in any local League. Dues shall be determined by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
- d) Life membership may be granted to any voting member of the League of Women Voters who attains 50 years as a member of the League of Women Voters of the United States. No further dues will be collected, and all privileges will be retained as a voting member.

ARTICLE IV Officers

Section I. Enumeration and Election of Officers

- a) The officers of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be a president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president, a third vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer. They shall be elected by the Convention and shall hold office until the conclusion of the next regular biennial Convention or until their successors have been elected and qualified. Two individuals may be elected to share one position, or two positions may be held by one individual elected to the dual-position office.
- b) The officers of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall constitute the executive committee. In addition, the President may appoint up to two members of the Board to serve on the executive committee. The executive committee shall confer when immediate action is necessary and a meeting of the Board of Directors is not feasible, and shall in those instances have the powers and duties of the Board of Directors for planning and directing the Program and carrying out organizational responsibilities.

<u>Section 2. The President.</u> The president shall preside at all meetings of the corporation and of the Board of Directors unless the president shall designate another person to preside. The president may, in the absence or disability of the treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts or notes. The president shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee and shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the president and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

<u>Section 3. The Vice-Presidents</u>. The three vice-presidents, in the order of their rank, shall, in the event of absence, disability, resignation or death of the president, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office. In the event that no vice-president is able to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. The vice-presidents shall perform such other duties as the president and Board may designate.

<u>Section 4. The Secretary</u>. The secretary shall keep minutes of Convention, Council and of meetings of the Board of Directors. The secretary shall notify all officers and directors of their election and shall sign with the president all contracts and other

instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

<u>Section 5. The Treasurer</u>. The treasurer or a duly appointed representative, shall receive all money due, shall be the custodian of such funds, deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse them only upon order of the Board of Directors. The treasurer shall present periodic statements to the Board at its regular meetings. The treasurer shall present an annual report, including a report of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Reserve Fund, to the Convention or Council. The books of the treasurer shall be audited annually and the report made available to the membership.

ARTICLE V Board of Directors

Section I. Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, eight elected directors and not more than eight appointed directors. The elected directors shall be elected by the Convention and shall serve until the conclusion of the next regular biennial Convention or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding eight, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The term of office of the appointed directors shall expire concurrently with the term of office of the elected directors.

<u>Section 2. Qualifications</u>. Any voting member of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota can be elected or appointed to serve as an officer or director of this corporation.

<u>Section 3. Vacancies</u>. Any vacancy other than in the office of the president may be filled, until the next Convention, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the corporation with full power and authority to manage and conduct the same, subject to the instructions of the Convention. The Board shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program on selected governmental issues as adopted by the Convention. It shall accept responsibility delegated to it by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of the United States for the organization and development of local Leagues, guidance of inter-League organizations, for the carrying out of Program and for promotion of finance programs in the local Leagues. Such local finance programs are requisite to further the work of the League as a whole, including transmission of funds toward the support of adequate state and national budgets. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

<u>Section 5. Regular Meetings</u>. There shall be at least six regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President shall notify each of the directors of all meetings at least one week before any such meeting. No action taken at any regular Board meeting attended by three-fourths of the members of the Board shall be invalidated because of the failure of any member or members of the Board to receive any notice properly sent or because of an irregularity in any notice actually received.

<u>Section 6. Special Meetings</u>. The president may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board. Members of the Board shall be notified of the time and place of special meetings by personal telephone contact, telegram or letter sent at least six days prior to such meeting. At the time of a Convention the president may, and upon the request of five members of the Board shall, call a special meeting of the Board by handing the members of the Board a written notice of the time and place of said meeting.

<u>Section 7. Quorum</u>. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of the members in attendance at any Board meeting shall, in the presence of a quorum, decide its action.

ARTICLE VI Recognition of Local and Provisional Leagues and State Units

Section I. Local Leagues.

- a) Local Leagues are those Leagues which have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of the United States.
- b) The Board of Directors shall recommend to the national Board of the League of Women Voters of the United States that it recognize as a local League any group of members of the League of Women Voters of the United States in any community within the state, provided the group meets qualifying standards for local Leagues as adopted by the national Convention.
- c) In the event of recurring failure of a local League to meet these qualifying standards, the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota may recommend to the national Board that it withdraw recognition from the local League. All funds held by a local League from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. In the event the non-qualifying League is merging with another local League, its funds would go to the merged League minus a reorganization fee paid to and determined by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Section 2. Provisional Leagues.

a) Provisional Leagues are those which have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

- b) The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has responsibility for the establishment of new Leagues. For this purpose the Board may organize a group in a community in which no local League exists and shall recommend the group for recognition as a provisional League to the League of Women Voters of the United States when it meets the qualifying standards for provisional Leagues adopted by the national Convention.
- c) In the event of recurring failure of a provisional League to meet these qualifying standards, the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota may recommend to the national Board that it withdraw recognition from the provisional League. All funds held by a provisional League from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Section 3. State Units

- a) State units are those which have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.
- b) The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has responsibility for the establishment of new Leagues. For this purpose the Board may organize a group in a community in which no local League exists and shall recommend the group for recognition as a state unit when it meets the qualifying guidelines as set forth by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Board of Directors.
- c) In the event of recurring failure of a state unit to meet these qualifying guidelines, the Board of Directors of the LWVMN may recommend that recognition be withdrawn. All funds held by state units from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

ARTICLE VII

<u>Section I. Fiscal Year</u>. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall commence on the first of April each year.

Section 2. Budget. The Board shall submit to the Convention for adoption budgets for the ensuing two fiscal years. These budgets shall provide for the support of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The Per Member Payment amount shall be determined for the ensuing two fiscal years only by the delegates at the state convention. A copy of the proposed budgets shall be sent to each local League president at least six weeks in advance of the Convention. The budget shall be adopted by a majority vote of the delegates at the state convention.

Section 3. Budget Committee. The budgets shall be prepared by the elected chair and a committee which shall be appointed by the Board for that purpose at least six months

in advance of the Convention. The treasurer shall be ex officio a member of the Budget committee but shall not be eligible to serve as chairperson.

Section 4. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of a dissolution for any cause of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, all monies and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the absolute control of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of the United States, after the Board of Directors has paid or made provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal or mixed, which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, shall be disposed of by any officer or employee of the corporation for such public, charitable or educational uses and purposes as may be designated by the then League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Section 5. League of Women Voters of Minnesota Reserve Fund. The fund shall contain the \$1,000 restricted principal of the Jane Grey Swisshelm Fund and all other monies, securities and property of whatever nature, which the League of Women Voters of Minnesota may receive by gift, bequest or otherwise, which the Board of Directors may designate as reserve funds. Expenditures of monies from the fund and of interest earned on monies in the fund shall be for League purposes as may from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors subject only to restrictions which may have been imposed by the donor at the time the funds were received.

ARTICLE VIII Convention

Section I. Place, Date and Call. A Convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be held biennially at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. The president shall send a first call for the Convention to the presidents of the local Leagues not less than four months prior to the opening date of the Convention fixed in said call. Thereafter the Board of Directorsmay advance or postpone the opening date of the Convention by not more than two weeks. A final call for the Convention shall be sent to the presidents of the local Leagues and the delegates at least six weeks before the opening date of the Convention.

<u>Section 2. Composition</u>. The Convention shall consist of the delegates chosen by the members enrolled in the local Leagues, and delegates chosen by members-at-large of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, as provided in Section 4 of this article; the presidents of local Leagues or an alternate in the event the president is unable to attend; and the members of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

<u>Section 3. Qualification of Delegates and Voting</u>. Each delegate shall be a voting member enrolled in a recognized local Minnesota League whose State Per Member Payment is paid or be an at large member of the League of Women Voters of

Minnesota. The State Board may make an exception in the case of proven hardship. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote only at the Convention even though the delegate may be attending in two or more capacities. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted. The Convention shall be the sole judge of whether a delegate is qualified to vote.

Section 4. Representation.

- a) The members of the League of Women Voters of the United States who are organized into recognized local Leagues in the State of Minnesota shall be entitled to voting representation in the Convention as follows: Each local League shall be entitled to two delegates, in addition to the president of the local League or an alternate in the event the president is unable to attend; these additional delegates shall be chosen by the local League. The members in each local League having more than twenty-five voting members shall also be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional twenty-five members or major fraction thereof belonging to said local League on January 1st of said year. The record in the state office of paid voting members as of January lst of said year shall determine the official membership count for this purpose.
- b) Members-at-large of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be entitled to one delegate for each 25 members, chosen by a procedure determined by the Board of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

<u>Section 5. Powers</u>. The Convention shall consider and authorize for action a Program, shall elect officers and directors, the Budget Chairperson, Nominating Committee Chairperson and two Nominating Committee members, shall adopt budgets for the ensuing two fiscal years, and shall transact such other business as may be properly presented.

<u>Section 6. Quorum</u>. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered at the Convention provided that not less than ten local Leagues are represented.

ARTICLE IX Council

Section I. Place, Date and Call. A meeting of the Council shall be held in the interim year between Conventions, approximately twelve months after the preceding Convention at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. A formal call shall be sent by the president of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota to the presidents of the local Leagues in Minnesota at least thirty days before the opening date of a Council meeting. Special meetings may be called in the event of extreme emergency.

<u>Section 2. Composition</u>. The Council shall be composed of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, the presidents of local Leagues or an

alternate in the event the president is unable to attend, and one delegate chosen by each local League.

Section 3. Powers. The Council shall consider Program, and methods of work and review the budget as submitted to the Board of Directors. The Council is authorized to change the Program only in the event of an emergency, provided that notice of proposed modification of the Program shall have been sent to the presidents of the local Leagues at least two months in advance of the meeting of the Council, and provided also that a two-thirds majority of the members of the Council present and voting shall be required to adopt the modification. The Council shall review the budget for the ensuing year and may modify it to meet current needs and shall transact such other business as shall be presented by the Board.

<u>Section 4. Quorum</u>. A quorum shall consist of not less than twenty members other than the Board of Directors for the transaction of business at a Council meeting.

ARTICLE X Nominations and Elections

Section I. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The chairperson and two members, who shall not be members of the Board of Directors, shall be elected by the Convention. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. Further nominations may be made from the floor of the Convention. The other members of the committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately after the Convention. Vacancies occurring in the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. The president of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall send the name and address of the chairperson of the Nominating Committee to the president of each recognized local League.

<u>Section 2. Suggestions for Nominations</u>. The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee shall request through the president of each local League suggestions for nominations for offices to be filled. Any member may send suggestions to the chairperson of the Nominating Committee.

Section 3. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor. The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for officers, directors, chairperson of the Budget Committee, and the chairperson and two members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to local Leagues at least six weeks before the date of the Convention. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Convention on the first day of the Convention. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any member of the Convention, provided that the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

<u>Section 4. Election</u>. The election shall be under the direction of an Election Committee appointed by the president on the first day of the Convention. The election shall be by ballot, except that when there is but one nominee for each office, it shall be in order to

move that the secretary cast the ballot for every candidate. A majority vote of those present and voting shall constitute an election.

ARTICLE XI Program

<u>Section I. Principles</u>. The governmental principles adopted by the national Convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.

<u>Section 2. Program</u>. The Program of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall consist of:

- a) action to implement principles, and
- b) those state governmental issues chosen for concentrated study and action.

<u>Section 3. Convention Action</u>. The Convention shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:

- a) Local Leagues shall make recommendations for a Program to the Board of Directors at least three months prior to the Convention.
- b) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations and shall formulate a proposed Program which shall be submitted to the local League Boards at least six weeks prior to the Convention.
- c) A majority vote shall be required for the adoption of the Program proposed by the Board of Directors.
- d) Any recommendation for the Program submitted to the Board of Directors at least three months before the Convention, but not proposed by the Board, may be adopted by the Convention provided consideration is ordered by majority vote and on a following day the proposal for adoption receives a three-fifths vote.

Section 4. Council Action. The Council may change the Program as provided in Article IX.

<u>Section 5. Member Action.</u> Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

<u>Section 6. Local League Action</u>. Local Leagues and inter-League organizations may take action on state governmental issues only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. Local Leagues may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the League of women Voters of Minnesota and/or the League of Women Voters of the United States.

ARTICLE XII National Convention and Council

<u>Section 1. National Convention</u>. The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office, shall elect delegates to that Convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

<u>Section 2. National Council.</u> The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall elect delegates to the meeting of the Council of the League of Women Voters of the United States at its meeting preceding such Council meeting in the number allowed the League of Women Voters of Minnesota under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

ARTICLE XIII Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the corporation in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any Convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, using the following procedures:

- a) Proposals for changes shall be submitted by any local League Board in Minnesota to the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota at least three months prior to the opening date of the Convention.
- b) All such proposed amendments together with the recommendations of the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota shall be sent to the presidents of local Leagues at least six weeks prior to the opening date of the Convention.
- c) The presidents of the local Leagues shall notify the members of their respective Leagues of the proposed amendments. Failure of a local League president to give such notice or failure of any member to receive such notice shall not invalidate amendments to the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.

Holiday Sale

MANY VOICES ONE VISION poster	\$19.75	\$12.00
MANY VOICES ONE VISION note cards	10.75	6.50
License plate holders	3.00	1.00
Small notebook	4.00	2.50
League of Women Voters buttons		1.00





75th Anniversary mug \$9.95 \$6.00





Tee shirts

REBELS & REFORM medium size i extra large in	in blue	\$ 15.00	8.00
Children's sizes in		15.00	4.00
medium	(10-12)		
large	(14-16)		
extra large	(18-20)		
TAKE BACK THE SY extra large in		15.00	3.00

ORDER FORM

ORDER EARLY! LIMITED QUANTITIES ON ALL ITEMS.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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Order by Mail, or FAX. Include check or credit card number.

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\$ 5.00—\$14.99	\$3.00
\$15.00—\$34.99	\$4.00
\$35.00—\$54.99	\$5.00
\$55.00—\$74.99	\$7.00
Over \$75.00 To	be billed

Item	Color	Size	Number	Cost
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League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund

BENEFIT DINNER

Thomas L. Friedman

will speak on "American Foreign Policy and the Global Economy"

Mr. Friedman is twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize for international reporting and is now the Foreign Affairs columnist on the op-ed page of the *New York Times*. Friedman's book, *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, was named winner of the 1989 National Book Award for non-fiction.

Tuesday, March 11, 1997 Grand Ballroom Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Hilton 3800 East 80th St., Bloomington, MN

Pre-dinner Social 5:30 p.m.

Dinner and Program 7:00 p.m.

SINGLE TICKETS: \$50 BEFORE January 15, 1997 and \$75 AFTER that day

Purchase of a select table for ten persons listed below guarantees best-place in the banquet room and special mention in the formal invitation and event program.

Champion Tables at \$2,000 Advocate Tables at \$1,500 Patron Tables at \$1,000

Visa and Mastercard charges accepted
Fax reservations to 612/545-8440

Telephone Reservations to Connie Hondl, 612/944-1229
Mail reservations: LWVMN Education Fund
c/o Connie Hondl, 5209 Tifton Dr., Edina, MN 55435

Pre-payment is your reservation
Please indicate names of persons attending with you.

Seating is limited

DATE: November 14, 1996

TO: Local League Presidents and CHAIRS OF MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

FROM: LWVMN Program Chairs, Jan Nelson and Mary Dinneen

RE: MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

It has been noted that the amount of womanpower and time needed to complete the measuring phase of Making Democracy Work puts a strain on Local Leagues who have spent the past two months on intensive Voters Service efforts and working for consensus on the State Spending study. We congratulate all of you for these jobs well done and we hope you have had time to pause, relax and enjoy the sense of accomplishment which you have earned.

As for MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK, a pared down version of the jobs outlined by the LWVUS is recommended for Leagues with limited womanpower. On page 3 of the Getting Started Kit, July 1996, it says:

" Note: Leagues may decide that focusing on just one or two indicators best matches the interests and the resources of their members and community partners."

This is a suggestion to limit the number of measurements you use. Each of the Indicators lists the optimum number of measurements to be made with certain components starred (*) as items of higher priority. (See page 6, Getting Started Kit.) Your assessment of your community and your League should determine the width and depth of your efforts. If you find some parts of the project inapplicable or inappropriate to your community, omit them.

Please note, too, that regional Leagues are encouraged to choose one community from their member towns as their focus for measurements. You can measure one jurisdiction as representative of the issues facing the entire area.

If you have difficulties or problems please call either of us and we will try to work with you to solve them. Our home phones:

Jan Nelson, Edina: (612) 938-7703 Mary Dinneen, Edina: (612) 941-0583

CORRECTION TO THE OCTOBER, 1996 BOARD MEMO

SEE PAGE 4, VOTER SERVICE COLUMN: The U.S. Senate Debates are: Tuesday, October 8th in St. Cloud; Wednesday, October 16th in Rochester; Tuesday, October 22nd in Duluth and Tuesday, October 29th in Minneapolis.





THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

OCTOBER 1996

550 Rice Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 612-224-5445
Fax 612-292-9417
E-mail lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us



Calendar

75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change

A VOICE

Note: Numerous Congressional and Legislative Debates are scheduled throughout Minnesota in October; see the enclosures for the most up-to-date listing.

FOR CITIZENS,

A FORCE

A PORC

October 15 - Board Memo, Presidents' Mailing sent to local Leagues

FOR CHANGE

- 16 10:00 a.m. Voter Service Committee Meeting; LWVMN Office
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. U.S. Senate Debate; Edison Building, Rochester
 7:00-8:00 p.m. U.S. Senate Debate; WDSE-TV studio in Duluth;
- 29 7:00-8:00 p.m. U.S. Senate Debate; WCCO-TV, Minneapolis
- 30 10:00 a.m. Voter Service Committee Meeting

November

- 3 5:30 p.m. 11:00 p.m. Statewide Election Hotline with WCCO-TV slots filled
 - 4 6:30 a.m. 11:00 p.m. Statewide Election Hotline, help needed!
 - 9:30 a.m. LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; MWB
 - 5 General Election Day
 - 6:30 a.m. 8:00 p.m. Statewide Election Hotline, WCCO-TV help needed!
- 7 11:30 a.m. LWVMN Development Committee Meeting
 - 11:30 a.m. LWVMN Technology Committee Meeting
 - 1:30 p.m. LWVMN Member Resources Committee Meeting
- 11 Veterans Day, LWVMN Office open
- 13 10:00 a.m. LWVMN, -EF Board Meetings, MWB
- 19 Board Memo, Presidents' Mailing sent to local Leagues; includes: LWVMN Program Planning Packet

ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- > Preparation for State Program Planning/Nelson, Dinneen
- ➤ Local League Programs and Advocacy for 1996-97/Nelson, Dinneen
- ➤ Legislative Interview Packet/Frisch
- Position Paper on Recall Amendment/Frisch
- First Call to the 57th State Convention of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota/Matlock
- > Schedule of Congressional and Legislative Candidate Forums, updated/Duffy
- ➤ Minnesota Compact: What You Can Do to Improve the 1996 Election Campaign/Duffy
- Application for Service on the LWVMN Board of Directors/Cooper
- Nominations for the 1997 Hope Washburn and Peggy Thompson Awards/Cooper
- > Fundraising Within Your Boundaries/Walz
- ➤ Travel with the League/Walz



BOUQUETS TO:

- LWV St. Cloud for hosting a Minnesota Senate Candidate's Forum on Tuesday, October 8. They worked in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce. It was a big event with the three major party candidates answering questions posed by LWV moderator, Jesse Harper, before a packed hall as well as carried live on MPR. Congratulations to all of you!
- To all local leagues for the *incredible* schedule of candidate events now underway across the state. We will try to publish a list after the election so you can all share our pride.
- All of you who have participated in the annual fundraising calls. No one likes to ask for money, but it is truly amazing how much we do with what we raise. That, of course, is because of your countless hours of volunteer time. We thank you for both ways in which you support the League.
- Structure on the activities of the LWVMN Education Fund.
- Diane O'Connor who is the 1996 recipient of the Gladys Sinclair Brooks Scholarship in Public Administration from Hamline University and the Minnesota Center for Women in Government. (Sally Sawyer, Executive Director LWVMN and a member of the Board of Directors of the Center, presented the award.)



STATE BOARD HAPPENINGS

At its October 9,1996 board meeting your state Board:

- Approved the appointment of Cindy Berquist to fill the position of LWVMN/EF treasurer left vacant by the death of Sally Gibson.
- Accepted the Legislative Interview questions proposed by the Action Committee.
- Approved joining the Minnesota Wilderness and Parks Coalition a group whose purpose is to represent environmental organizations in the BWCA and Voyageurs Park mediation.
- Heard from Sandy Cooper, chair of the Nominating Committee that the committee is beginning to compile names for service on the 1997-99 State Board.
- Heard from Jan Nelson who is putting together the Program Planning Packet. She and Mary Dinneen are gathering a list of suggestions for the next state study to start off your discussions this winter.
- Heard from Sue Reynolds on the progress of the Education Fund annual appeal.
- Approved a funding proposal for the expanded Citizens in Action Workshop. There will be two this year January 18 and 25.
- Adopted a fundraising policy for state and local Leagues. (Local Leagues all have seen the draft.)



VOTER SERVICE

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake, Birchwood, 55110 612/429-9703)

<u>Voter Guide</u>: As you know, the Voter Guide is ready and being distributed. If you need more guides, contact Eydie Kargas at 612/473-8610. Eydie has done yeoman service in compiling, preparing and producing this valuable tool for voters. Our thanks to her!

<u>Voter Hotline</u>: Beginning 5:30 p.m. November 3 through 8 p.m. on November 5 at WCCO-TV studio in Minneapolis, we need volunteers to answer phones. This is a high visibility, volunteer-intensive project for which we need your help. If you haven't yet signed up and can, please do so. Erica Buffington is directing this project and would be delighted for your help. Contact Erica at 612/929-8168. Erica and Diane Gibson deserve accolades for their work in getting the computers set up and working out some significant glitches. Thanks!

<u>Debates</u>: Congressional and Senate Debates are occurring statewide. The LWVMN Senate Debates are including the Reform Party candidate and thus adding dimension none of the other debates has. The Senate debates are: October 8, St. Cloud; October 16, Duluth; and October 29 in Minneapolis.

The October 29 event culminates the LWVMNEF Senate Debates and will be broadcast on both WCCO television and radio at 7 p.m.

You should have received a copy of the schedule for all of the Congressional Candidate Forums. Thanks to all of you for your work in providing these forums for the public. It's a great service!



ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604)

LEGISLATIVE INTERVIEWS

Enclosed is a packet of Legislative Interview material which describes the biennial process we use to gather information about the positions of new and re-elected state legislators and to allow you a substantive opportunity to connect with your state representatives and senator. We ask that you follow the instructions in the cover memo and return a copy of the interview responses and the report sheet to LWVMN, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 by December 20, 1996. If you have any questions about the process please call Carol Frisch at 612/829-0604.

RECALL AMENDMENT

Amendment 2 on the November 5 ballot states "To provide for recall of elected state officials." Our Action Committee members Susan Weisbrod and Sara Schaefer followed the legislative committee discussions of this amendment carefully in 1996. The LWVMN Board voted in June on the advice of the Action Committee to actively oppose the ballot issue. Enclosed you will find a position paper explaining the LWVMN position.

INTERNS

Please continue to encourage persons interested in applying to be interns with the Action Committee. We are particularly seeking those with an interest in taxation issues, general state spending background, women's issues, and health care.



PRESIDENT

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076)

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



There are probably days when you feel like wearing a witch costume to match the season and your mood as you scramble to produce an amazing number of voter service projects. But when the election is over, you can look back with pride on the amount of voter information you have provided to fellow Minnesotans. I can't imagine an election without the League and I'm sure many candidates cannot either.

There is life after the election. A brief look ahead follows:

Action: Carol Frisch, Jane McWilliams, and the action committee have already prepared legislative interview questions on a wide variety of issues for the new state legislature. Look for the packet in this mailing.

Program Planning: Jan Nelson and Mary Dinneen have been collecting ideas for Lively Issues to start your thinking this winter on a new state study. Please encourage your league to submit their own ideas when the time comes. Look for preliminary information in this mailing.

National Planning: You have received material from the national board about their goal to have a new strategic plan ready by the 1998 Convention. Karen Young of our Board has agreed to plan a general meeting (or two) after the holidays. A facilitator will help us examine this organization we all support with so much time and effort and try to help us articulate a vision of how it should function in the future. What will the League be like in five years? in twenty years? Bring your comments, concerns, complaints and commitment, but do come. Look for more news in the next Board Memo.

State Convention: April 25 and 26, 1997

Circle your calendars for these dates next spring. The first Call to Convention is included in this mailing. The Member Resources Committee has set the date earlier in the spring and made the event shorter in an effort to meet your concerns about both issues.

Nominating Committee: There is a form in this mailing from Sandy Cooper, LWV Eastern Carver County, chair of the LWVMN nominating committee. Please do make recommendations for service on the state board. I know that you might be hesitant to "lose" your active members to another board, but I think that most state board members end up more committed to the League at all levels. Please don't hesitate to express an interest even if you have questions. We'll be happy to answer them.

Encourage members to consider serving on a state committee such as action, voter service, member resources, technology or development as well. Both the board and the committees need local voices to be true to our grassroots. Consider lending yours.

CITIZENS IN ACTION

The dates for the two 1997 sessions of the Citizens in Action Workshops at the State Capitol have been finalized. They are January 18 and January 25, 1997, from 8:30am-1:00pm. Last year's event was such a popular success that this year there will be opportunity to register for either or both days in order to take more full advantage of the range of choices -- from basics to more advanced offerings. The charge will be \$5.00 for each day.

MEMBER RESOURCES



(Jeanne Matlock, 1128 W. Montana Ave., St. Paul, 55108 612/488-0458)

See enclosed announcement of First Call to Convention.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, St. Paul, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417

E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 15, 1996

TO: Presidents and Program Planning Chairs

FROM: Jan Nelson, Vice President Program

Mary Dinneen, Program Co-Chair

RE: Preparation for state program planning

One of the most important and exciting tasks of the state convention is to select the critical and timely issues that League will concentrate on in the next biennium, positioning it where it can continue to impact public policy in Minnesota. Program planning is your opportunity to tell the state League what statewide issues your local League would like to work on in partnership with the state League and/or what new statewide issues you want to study. This memo provides an overview and schedule of the program planning process which will culminate at the convention on April 25-26, 1997.

THE PROCESS

The complete program planning packet will be sent to local Leagues in the <u>November Presidents'</u> <u>Mailing</u> and will include:

A summary of current state program

Guidelines for effective program planning

Details regarding the program adoption process, including consideration of non-recommended items

A report form for your League's state program recommendations, **due** in the state office by **February 15, 1997**.

The state board will consider the responses of local Leagues in developing the recommended program, which will be approved along with the budget and recommended bylaws amendments at the March board meeting. The recommended program and bylaws amendments and the budget will then be sent to local Leagues in the March Presidents' Mailing. In April, delegates will discuss and vote on these items at convention.

LOCAL LEAGUE PREPARATION

Leagues typically schedule a program planning meeting for December or January. Most local Leagues have probably set aside a date for program planning, but may not have decided on a specific format. The challenge is to plan a meeting that will attract members and generate a good discussion. A relaxed, informal meeting, perhaps built around a potluck supper, brunch, holiday evening brown bag lunch, wine and cheese party or dessert extravaganza, might help encourage a free flow of ideas and conversation. To accomplish two goals at once — consider combining state and local program planning in one meeting.

Prior to your state program planning meeting, your League may want to interview community leaders to learn their thoughts about the most serious problems facing Minnesota and what role they see for the League in addressing these problems.

The following questions can be used throughout the program planning and adoption process to help evaluate proposed program items:

- * Is there strong and broad member interest in the issue?
- * Is your League willing and able to work on the issue?
- * Is the issue state-wide?
- * Will timing and political realities permit effective League action?
- * Is League involvement likely to make an impact?
- * Is there an existing state or national position which can be used as a basis for action? (If yes, an action focus is needed; if no, a new study is needed.)

Useful resources for program planning include *Program for Action Handbook* (can be ordered from LWVMN) and *Impact on Issues* (can be ordered from LWVUS).

PROMOTING A STATE PROGRAM ITEM

Some Leagues may already have an idea for a state program item which they would like to promote as early in the process as possible. A memo outlining a program idea may be included in the November Presidents' Mailing with the other program planning materials <u>provided camera-ready</u> copy is received in the state office by November 6, 1996.

Local Leagues are highly encouraged to consult with Program Chairs Jan Nelson and Mary Dinneen prior to submitting a memo, or to discuss a program initiative at any time before or during convention. Leagues are, of course, free to promote ideas at any stage of program planning by mail or phone and at convention at their own expense rather than through the Presidents' Mailing.

QUESTIONS?

Please do not hesitate to call Program Chairs Jan Nelson (612/938-7703) or Mary Dinneen (612/941-0583).

STATE PROGRAM PLANNING SCHEDULE 1996-97

November 6	Deadline for local Leagues wishing to promote a state program item through the Presidents Mailing to submit camera-ready copy
November 15	Program planning packet is sent to local Leagues
DecJan.	Local Leagues develop their recommendations regarding program.
February 15	Local League program recommendations due in state office
March 18	Recommended program, budget and bylaws amendments and list of non-recommended program items and bylaws amendments are sent to local Leagues
April 25-26	State convention delegates discuss and adopt program, bylaws amendments and budget

LOCAL LEAGUE PROGRAMS AND ADVOCACY FOR 1996-97

To facilitate local League networking, LWVMN has summarized the responses received from local League program chairs/presidents regarding current program ideas and projects. It is our intention to add to this summary as we receive more responses.

ENVIRONMENT

Common vision for the bluff lands

Environmental Quality: action when needed using State &

National positions.

Winona

Freeborn County

DEVELOPMENT/LAND USE

Promoting Sustainable Democracy

Growth in Woodbury

"The Impacts of Current Development on Eastern Carver Co."

"Livable/Sustainable" Community

Cannon Falls Area

Woodbury/Cottage Grove

Eastern Carver County

Northfield

GOVERNMENT

Community Issues

City-Government-Committee Structure allowing also to consider County and Township Issues. Continuation of '95-'96 study Austin

Elections

"Walk About", Election '96. Bring candidates to the people.

Support & encourage female appointments to boards &

commissions.

Cannon Falls Area

Freeborn Co.

Financing

State governmental spending study, consensus

Tax increment Financing

Tax increment Financing

Red Wing

Cannon Falls Area

White Bear/North Oaks

"S.T.A.R." (Sales Tax Allocation), no consensus at this time

Is the special 1/2 cent St. Paul city sales tax accomplishing

what it was voted to accomplish?

St. Paul

Update of City Budget Cuts

St. Paul

Update of Civil Service-merit pay criteria, oppose residency

requirement

St. Paul

Re-study of Fiscal Disparities, Consensus

CMAL

Study allocation of county tax revenues

Jackson County

SCHOOLS

Year around schools, no consensus

Red Wing

Support quality of education for our citizens and support the

continuing existence of the Riverland Community College

Freeborn Co.

Education Finance/School Vouchers

Richfield

LWVMN K-6 & 7-12 Citizenship Curriculum Informational Mtg.

Richfield

Update on ESL position

St. Louis Park

FAMILY ISSUES

Chemical Abuse

Chemical Abuse and Dependency in Edina study-Alcoholism,

drug use/abuse, including tobacco & prescriptions

Edina

Social Policy

Action on "Feasibility of a One-Stop-Shop for Family Services

St. Louis Park

"Successful Kids Guaranteed" Gather information from twelve

service providers on how children are faring in our community.

This will be shared with public policy makers & the media. Wilmar

Health

Support continued Home-Health Care & Pre-School screening

in our county

Freeborn Co.

Ethical Issues re: Medical Spending Toward the End of Life Forum Richfield

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Violence Prevention-based on LWVMPLS new study update

St. Paul

Effects of Domestic Violence on Children

Brooklyn Park Osseo &

Maple Grove

Update on position

Edina

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

Action Project

Crystal New Hope &

E.Plymouth

Action Project

Minneapolis

CON

FIRST Packet - 1996

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The 57

of the

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

will be held

April 25th & 26th, 1997

at the

Best Western Northwest Inn & Conference Center in Brooklyn Park.

Mark your calendars now.

FIRST CALL TO CONVENTION

The 57th State Convention

of the

League of Women Voters of Minnesota

will be held

April 25th & 26th, 1997

at the

Best Western Northwest Inn & Conference Center in Brooklyn Park.

Mark your calendars now.

Local League Congressional Candidate Forums

10/7/96 - M. McCoy, report to LWVMN Voter Service Committee

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ONE:

- October 15, 1996 Mankato Free Press, Rochester Post Bulletin, public radio and public TV, with LWV Mankato, LWV Rochester. 7:00 p.m., Mankato Technical College, Mankato; for Information: Pixie Russell, Voter Service Chair, LWV Rochester, 507/282-4804.
- October 22, 1996 Rochester Post Bulletin, Mankato Free Press, public radio and public TV, with LWV Rochester and LWV Mankato, 7:00 p.m., Willow Creek Middle School, Rochester; for information: Pixie Russell, Voter Service Chair, LWV Rochester, 507/282-4804.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT TWO:

- October 17, 1996 KGAC and Mankato Free Press at Bjorling Hall, Gustavus Adolphus College; 7 p.m., for information: Mary Gover, LWV St. Peter; 507/931-1895.
- October 29, 1996 LWV New Ulm, Janet Rosenbloom, President, 507/354-8595; 7:00 p.m., Library Meeting Room, New Ulm.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT THREE:

- October 8, 1996 7 to 9 p.m.; live cablecast at Eden Prairie City Hall; cooperative effort with Leagues in Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins (MEPH), Edina, Wayzata/Plymouth, Golden Valley, Crystal/New Hope; for information: Cynthia Clish, LWV MEPH; 934-7796 or 937-5788.
- October 15, 1996 7:30-9:00 p.m., Bloomington City Hall, 1215 W. Old Shakopee Rd.; for information: Cynthia Clish, LWV MEPH; 934-7796 or 937-5788.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FOUR:

October 15, 1996 - 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Shoreview Community Center, Highway 96 and Victoria Ave, with KABL Merideth Cable; cooperative effort with Leagues in White Bear/North Oaks, Arden Hills/Shoreview, St. Paul, Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights (ROMAFH); for information: Carolyn Bong, President LWV White Bear/North Oaks; 481-8141.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FIVE:

October 23, 1996 - (Tuesday); 7:30-9:00 p.m., in the St. Louis Park City Hall chambers; Minneapolis and the nine Leagues in the West Metro Alliance coalition will co-sponsor the event; video taping for additional airings; for information: Rosemarie Kelly, LWV Minneapolis executive director; 612/333-6319.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SIX:

October 9, 1996 - 7:30-9:00 p.m., at the Washington County Government Center in Stillwater; will be cablecast live and copied for repeated airings on both local and metro-wide cable stations; co-sponsored by the Leagues of St. Croix Valley, Woodbury/Cottage Grove, and Mahtomedi; for information: Gladys Ritter, President and Voter Service Chair, LWV St. Croix Valley; 612/436-1873.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SEVEN:

- October 15, 1996 7:30-9:30 a.m., breakfast meeting; part of joint effort with St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce; probably even will be taped for later viewing on cable television; for information: Nancy Gunderson, President, LWV St. Cloud Area; 320/252-9651.
- October 20, 1996 4:00-5:00 p.m., on KCTO-TV, co-sponsored by LWV Alexandria and this TV station, which is an affiliate of WCCO-TV; for information: Kathleen Pohlig, 320/846-1032.
- October 22, 1996 7:30-9:15 p.m., Northwest Technical College, Conference and Media Room; joint congressional and legislative forum proposed by *LWV Detroit Lakes Area*. For information: Kathie Lundeen, President; 218/847-2260.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EIGHT:

October 30, 1996 - At Lake Superior College, Video Conference Center on Arlington Road, Duluth, 7:00 p.m. Joint video conference between LWV Duluth and the newly established Brainerd Lakes Area State Unit; link through the Brainerd State Hospital; videotaped and distributed to the other five Leagues in CD 8; Bemidji, Cass Lake/Walker, Grand Rapids, Hibbing and St. Cloud Area; for information: Nancy Anderson, Voter Service Chair, LWV Duluth; 218/724-0132 (Duluth League office).

Local League Legislative Candidate Forums

10/7/96 - M. McCoy, report to LWVMN Voter Service Committee

September 30, 1996 - 7:00 p.m., in three sites - two high school buildings; one community building.

Local League: Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids; for information: Barb Treska, Voter Service Chair, 612/421-0123; League cooperating with Anoka-Hennepin Parents Legislative Team, High School teachers, staff, students; potential: 24 candidates, to be live cast or rebroadcast on 12 cable systems.

Legislative Districts: Senate Districts 49 and 50: House Districts 49A, 49B, 50A & 50B.

October 1, 1996 - 7-9 p.m., in Red Wing, at Red Wing Public Library, East Ave. and 3rd St.; inviting extended community, including Hastings, location is compatible with local cable taping.

Local League: Red Wing; for information: Ann Seymour, Voter Service Chair, 612/388-0415.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 29 and House District 29A.

October 3, 1996 - American Heritage National Bank, St. Cloud, 7:30-9:30 a.m.

Local League: St. Cloud; for information: Nancy Gunderson, 320-252-9651.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 16 and House Districts 16A, 16B.

October 7, 1996 - Hopkins High School Theater, 2400 Lindbergh Dr., Minnetonka, 6:30-7:30 p.m..

Local League: Wayzata/Plymouth, LWV West Metro Area.; for information: Louise Speck, 473-4116

Legislative Districts: Senate District 45 and House Districts 45A & 45B

October 9, 1996 - Kennedy School, St. Joseph, MN, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Local League: St. Cloud Area, for Information: Nancy Gunderson, 612/252-9651.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 14 and House Districts 14A & 14B.

October 10, 1996 - in St. Louis Park, City Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m.

Local League: St. Louis Park; for information: Millie Johnson, 612/929-7972.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 44 and House Districts 44A and 44B.

October 15, 1996 - at Roseville City Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Local League: Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights (ROMAFH); for information: Ann Cleland, 612/490-5038, after 6 p.m.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 54 and House Districts 54A and 54B.

October 16, 1996 - Meridian Manor, 163 W. Wayzata Blvd., Wayzata (next to Redeemer Lutheran Church, 7-9 p.m.,

Local League: co-sponsored by Greater Wayzata Area Chamber of Commerce and Wayzata/Plymouth Area

Legislative District: House District 45A; also Wayzata City Council, mayor; Wayzata school board.

October 16, 1996 - 7-9 p.m., at Washington County Government Center in Stillwater; to be cablecast live and copied for repeated airings on both local and metro-wide cable stations.

Local League: St. Croix Valley; for information: Gladys Ritter, President and Voter Service Chair, 612/436-1873.

Legislative Districts: Senate Districts 51 & 56 and House Districts 51B, 56A, & 56B.

October 17, 1996 - Foley City Hall, Foley, MN, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Local League: St. Cloud Area, for information: Nancy Gunderson, 320/252-9651.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 17 and House Districts 17A & 17B.

October 22, 1996 - 7:30-9:15 p.m., NorthWest Technical college Conference and Media Room.

Local League: Detroit Lakes Area; joint congressional and legislative forum; for information: Kathie Lundeen, President, 218/847-2260.

Congressional District 7

Legislative Districts: Senate District 11 and House District 11A.

October 22, 1996 - Technical College, Albert Lea, 7:00 p.m.

Local League: Freeborn County; for information: Fran Skovlund, President, 507/373-7856; Sally Phillips, Voter Service Chair.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 27 and House District 27A. city and county candidates; school board candidates.

October 23, 1996 - 7 p.m., St. Peter High School Media Center.

Local League: St. Peter; for information: Mary Gover, 507/931-1895 (h), 507/931-0461 (w).

Legislative Districts: Senate District 24 and House District 24B and two contested judgeships in Judicial District 5.

October 24, 1996 - Plymouth City Center, Council Chambers, Plymouth Blvd., Plymouth, 7-9 p.m..

Local League: Wayzata/Plymouth Area; for information: Louise Speck, 473-4116.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 34; House Districts 34B & 45B, City office, county commissioner

October 29, 1996 - in Library Meeting Room, New Ulm, 7:00 p.m.

Local League: New Ulm; for information: Janet Rosenbloom, 507/354-8595.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 23 and House District 23A.

October 30, 1996 - KMSQ public TV station, 7-10 p.m.,.

Local League: Austin; for information: Margaret Hogan, Voter Service chair, 507/433-3166.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 27 & 31; House 27A, 27B, 31B.

Note: Pre-primary election candidates forums were held in September, 1996.



What You Can Do to Improve the 1996 Election Campaign

The Minnesota Compact is a nonpartisan effort to involve candidates, journalists and citizens in raising the level of political discourse in Minnesota.

· Register to Vote and Encourage Others to Register.

Make sure that you are registered to vote in Minnesota. Encourage your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to register. (In Minnesota, it's easy to do — including election day registration with the proper identification. A voter registration form can be found near the front of most local telephone books. Otherwise, contact your local county courthouse or city hall.)

· Talk about the Candidates and the Issues.

Take advantage of informal opportunities to listen and learn what other people are thinking about the candidates and the issues. Talk with your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. When you disagree, be respectful. Act as a personal role model in raising the level of political discourse.

· Call or Write the Candidate's Office with Your Praise or Criticism.

Candidates and their campaign workers need — and appreciate — direct feedback, both positive and negative, from the electorate. If you feel strongly that a candidate is acting irresponsibly or admirably by the standards of the Minnesota Compact, you should take a few minutes to call or write the candidate's campaign with your thoughts.

· Call or Write the News Media with Your Praise or Criticism.

Reporters and editors need — and appreciate — direct feedback, both positive and negative, from their readers, viewers and listeners. If you feel that a news organization is acting irresponsibly or admirably by the standards of the Minnesota Compact, you should take a few minutes to call or write with your thoughts. Most newspapers have a "letters to the editor" section set aside specifically for readers to contribute their opinions.

Ignore Opinion Polls that Focus on the "Political Horse Race"

Turn the page or tune out when the news media focus on "who's up, who's down" and other irrelevant campaign issues. If you're contacted to participate in a political opinion poll, ask who the sponsor is and what the information will be used for. Simply refuse to answer any poll questions that you believe overemphasize the "political horse race."

· Volunteer or Contribute Money to a Candidate or Party You Support.

Active citizenship means more than voting on election day. If you feel strongly about a candidate or a political party, you can show your support by volunteering or contributing money. One important way to check the power of special interest money in politics is to provide your own financial support to the candidate of your choice.

The Minnesota Compact is a nonpartisan educational project organized by the Humphrey Institute Policy Forum, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, 301 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Phone: 612/625-2530 Fax: 612/625-3513 Internet E-mail: compact@tc.umn.edu World Wide Web: http://www.umn.edu/compact





NEWS RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

WHO:

League of Women Voters of the U.S., Human SERVE

WHAT:

Press Conference to Release "Eighteen-Month Report on the Impact of the

National Voter Registration Act"

WHERE:

League of Women Voters National Office, 10th floor, 1730 M St., NW,

Washington, DC

WHEN:

Tuesday, October 15, 1996 at 2:00 PM

CONTACT:

League of Women Voters: Tracy Warren or Carla Bundy at (202) 429-1965

exts. 290 or 315

Human SERVE: Jo-Anne Chasnow at (212) 854-4053

National Voter Registration Act Produces Largest Increase in Voter Registration in American History

Twenty-two months after the National Voter Registration Act first went into effect and three weeks prior to the 1996 presidential election, the League of Women Voters and Human SERVE release the eighteen-month report on the numbers of citizens registered under the new law. Topics to be covered at the press conference include:

- Summary of the impact of the NVRA registrations on the 1996 electorate
- Trends in registration
- Status of implementation nationwide

Attendees will receive a copy of the report including a state-by-state breakdown.

For Immediate Release: October 15, 1996

13:44

Contacts: League of Women Voters, Tracy Warren or Carla Bundy 202/429-1965 exts. 290 or 315 Human SERVE, Jo-Anne Chasnow (212) 854-4053

National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) Adds Millions To Voter Rolls in Time for Presidential Elections

New law to change the face of the 1996 electorate

Washington, D.C. – In the first eighteen months since implementation of the National Voter Registration Act began, twenty million citizens have registered or updated their voter registration. The NVRA is resulting in the largest two-year increase in voter registration in American history.

According to a survey compiled by Human SERVE for the National Motor Voter Coalition, as of June 30 the new law had resulted in a net increase of nine million registered voters on the rolls. This number is expected to increase to 15 million additional voters in the second half of 1996. "By the end of the year we will see a 28 percent decrease in the number of adults who were eligible but unregistered as of January 1995," said Richard Cloward, executive director of Human SERVE.

"Motor voter has had a profound impact on the electorate," said Becky Cain, president of the League of Women Voters of the United States. "This increase lays the foundation for higher turnout in future elections. It represents an historic opportunity to make the electorate larger, more diverse and more truly representative."

States with the largest percentages of transactions relative to their voting age population are:

Highest		Lowest	
Alaska	28 percent	Hawaii	2 percent
Florida	20 percent	Mississippi	2 percent
Georgia	18 percent	Rhode Island	3 percent
Indiana	17 percent	Virginia	4 percent
Nebraska	17 percent	West Vîrginia	4 percent
Oklahoma	17 percent	Illinois	4 percent
Texas	17 percent	South Dakota	4 percent

13:45

The bulk of the additions and updates under the NVRA -- 8.8 million or 44 percent -- occurred in driver's license agencies. Mail-in transactions accounted for 4.8 million or 24 percent. Twenty-percent of transactions, or 4.46 million, occurred at other designated agencies such as unemployment offices, libraries and boards of elections. Ten percent, or 1.9 million, occurred at public assistance agencies. Finally, as stated above, fewer than 100,000 citizens registered or updated their registration at agencies serving people with disabilities.

The NVRA requires states to provide citizens the opportunity to register in driver's license agencies, public assistance and disability agencies, and by mail. At the end of eighteen months, registration in public assistance and disability agencies continues to lag as a result of states' failure to implement agency-based programs. Agencies serving people with disabilities registered fewer than one hundred thousand citizens nationwide.

One important provision of the law will prevent tens of thousands of votes from being disqualified on November 5th. This year for the first time, states are required to allow citizens who have moved within a registrar's jurisdiction and within a congressional district to update their registration and vote on election day.

In a letter to state election officials, the League of Women Voters and the NAACP have called on election officials across the country to inform voters that if they have moved within their district, they can update their registration and vote by going either to their former or their new polling place, according to state law.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, St. Paul, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417

E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE:	October 15, 1996
TO:	Local League Presidents
FROM:	Nominating Committee: Sandy Cooper, Chair

Judy Covey, Marylyn Deneen, Jeanne Matlock, Nancy Witta

RE: 1997-99 Officers & Directors

The entire LWVMN Board (6 officers, 8 or more directors, nominating chair and 2 members) will be presented at State Convention April 25-26 in Brooklyn Park.

We are asking your input both as to your own availability and desire to serve on the state board for the next two years, and your recommendations of others with talent and commitment who you may have noticed during your tenure. Please take a moment to fill out this form and return it to me at the address below.

Name		Local Leag	ue
Phone			
Are you intere	sted/available to serve on No	the LWVMN board	in the 1997-99 biennium?
Is there a part	icular portfolio that interest	s you?	
	er talented individuals you lecommend for nomination		ng your tenure who you
Name	Local League	Phone	Interest/Area Position

Return by January 4, 1997 to:

Sandy Cooper 9730 County Road 43

Chaska, MN 55318



550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (612) 224-5445

To: Local League Presidents

From: Sandy Cooper, Nominating Committee Chair

Date: October 1996

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1997 HOPE WASHBURN AWARD

Members of your League are invited to submit nominations for the 1997 Hope Washburn Award for outstanding service to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. This award will be presented at the LWVMN Convention in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota on April 25-26, 1997.

The award was established in 1956 to honor the service Hope Washburn gave to both her local League, St. Paul, as well as all Minnesota Leagues. It is presented each year at Convention or Council to a Leaguer who has performed outstanding service to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. In other words, the nominee could be someone who has been active on the local level as well as the state and/or national levels.

Any member may nominate another member (except those serving on the current LWVMN Nominating Committee). The nominee does not need to be a member of the nominator's League. A member who has been nominated in previous years, can be renominated by resubmitting the name with just an update of their League activities. You may write or phone me at 612/443-2743 if you have any questions about the material on file from a previous nomination. In 1974, it became a policy to keep the nominating material for four years or return it to a person making a request.

- * The deadline for nominations is March 1, 1997.
- * Please read this Call for Nominations to your Board. You will be seeking suggestions for a nominee plus someone to write up the nomination and submit it by the deadline date.
- * Publish it in your Bulletin. Explain to your membership how both the Hope Washburn Award and the Peggy Thompson Award bring great honor to the person as well as their League.

The criteria for the Hope Washburn Award are:

- · Outstanding Service to LWVMN;
- · Community Service:
- · Enthusiasm and Innovative Ideas;
- · Staying Power;
- Used League principles and/or positions as motivation to serve/enhance the League as a statewide organization.

Your Nominating Committee members greatly appreciate your attention to these awards. They are Sandra Cooper, Chair, LWV Eastern Carver County; Judy Covey, LWV Northfield/LWVMN Board; Marylyn Deneen, LWV St. Paul; Jeanne Matlock, LWV St. Paul/LWVMN Board; and Nancy Witta, LWV Minneapolis.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1997 HOPE WASHBURN AWARD

Name:		
Address:		
League:		
Please give reasons why this person is nominated. possible.	Relate the reason to one or mo	ore or the criteria, if
List nominee's League activities and positions held	. Please give approximate dat	es.
		*
List other community activities and awards (with a	pproximate dates):	
Your Name:	League:	Phone:
Please return by March 1, 1997 to: Sandra Cooper		
9730 Co. Rd. 43 Chaska, MN 55318		
It is important for the following information to accomp	omnany each nomination if at	all possible:

It is important for the following information to accompany each nomination if at all possible:

- 1. A picture of the nominee (black and white preferred, color okay)
- 2. A listing of community papers, radio, TV, with phone numbers and addresses if at all possible.
- 3. Information on family and/or other anecdotal items; how long this person has lived in the community, etc.
- 4. List name, address and phone number of your bulletin editor.



550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (612) 224-5445

To:

Local League Presidents

From:

Sandy Cooper, Nominating Committee Chair

Date:

October 1996

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1997 PEGGY THOMPSON AWARD

At LWVMN Convention, April 25-26, 1997, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota will present the Peggy Thompson Award which recognizes League members who have been nominated for "outstanding service to their <u>local</u> League." Peggy Thompson has a record of commitment to strengthening local Leagues. Therefore, this award focuses special recognition on Leaguers who have been instrumental in strengthening and/or stabilizing their local Leagues through varied actions which might include sustained enthusiasm, motivation of others or innovative ideas which have brought strength to both your League and perhaps your community and its citizens.

Attached is a form for your convenience. It is meant to give you an idea of the kind of information the Nominating Committee believes is essential. You may create your own format or send additional information. You may nominate more than one person. Please phone me at 612/443-2743 if you have any questions about material on file from a previous nomination.

- * Please read this Call for Nominations to your Board.
- * Publish it in your Bulletin. Explain to your membership how both the Hope Washburn Award and the Peggy Thompson Award bring great honor to the person as well as their League.
- * You will be seeking suggestions for nominees plus someone to write up the nomination and submit it by the deadline date. Your Board may want to decide how many to nominate, who to nominate for which award; who is to write the nominations but it does <u>not</u> need to approve the final written application to be submitted.
- * The deadline for nominations is March 1, 1997.

In summary, the criteria are as follows:

- Outstanding service to local League;
- Instrumental in strengthening or stabilizing local League;
- Initiated ideas, activities that have kept/made local League strong;
- Used League principles or positions as motivation to serve/enhance local community/citizens.

Your Nominating Committee members greatly appreciate your attention to these awards. They are Sandra Cooper, Chair, LWV Eastern Carver County; Judy Covey, LWV Northfield/LWVMN Board; Marylyn Deneen, LWV St. Paul; Jeanne Matlock, LWV St. Paul/LWVMN Board; and Nancy Witta, LWV Minneapolis.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE 1997 PEGGY THOMPSON AWARD

Name:		
Address:		
League:		
Please give reasons why this person is noming possible.	inated. Relate the reason to	one or more or the criteria, if
List nominee's League activities and position	ons held. Please give appro	ximate dates.
List other community activities and awards	(with approximate dates):	
Your Name:	League:	Phone:
Please return by March 1, 1997 to: Sandra Cooper 9730 Co. Rd. 43 Chaska, MN 55318		
It is important for the following information	n to accompany each nomin	ation if at all possible:

- 1. A picture of the nominee (black and white preferred, color okay)
- 2. A listing of community papers, radio, TV, with phone numbers and addresses if at all possible.
- 3. Information on family and/or other anecdotal items; how long this person has lived in the community, etc.
- 4. List name, address and phone number of your bulletin editor.

TRAVEL THE LEAGUE

Tour Update from Travel Concepts International • Winter '97 Edition

About Travel Concepts International...

Our company was formed 11 years ago when the New York State League was looking for a modest fundraiser which would also benefit its memors. For over a decade we have been bringing League members together to further the League's position of "promoting peace in an interdependent world". League members and friends have enjoyed exciting and exotic international destinations and have met with women's groups around the world.

Our cultural tours benefit State and Local Leagues and have fostered lasting friendships. The greatest compliment is that many members travel again and again, encouraging their friends to join us.

Of course, as League members, spouses and Friends of the League, men are more than welcome. The composition of the groups is usually about half couples and half singles - not all of whom are women. If you don't have a travel companion, let us to try and match you with a suitable roommate.

If you are not already on our mailing list, please make sure you return the tear off at the bottom of this page. We'll be happy to keep you informed of our latest destination.

We sincerely appreciate your trust, and we'll do our very best to make sure your travel experience is full, rewarding and great fun!

Gwen Erwood, LWV Placerville, CA

TRAVEL WITH THE LEAGUE





Travel Concepts International, Inc. — 5500 Bucks Bar Road, Placerville CA 95667 Tel 800-762-4216 Fax 916-621-3017

NORTH INDIA and NEPAL

Escape the cold winter. Come to the Land of the Maharajah! If a journey to India and Nepal is a life-long dream, NOW is the time! Our deluxe 15-day tour includes a good look at the princely state of Rajasthan. In Jaipur, get really comfortable as your accommodations are one of the famous Palaces! Continue to Udaipur for a stay at the famous



Lake Palace. Fly up to the Himalayas to Kathmandu for a 3-day visit to Nepal. Our exclusive small group of only 10 to 15 travelers will be conducted by Malathi Ramaswamy, who has lectured for the Smithsonian and Asian Societies. You'll see why we call her the "Soul of India" personified.

January 10-26 • \$4572 from Los Angeles via Cathay Pacific via Hong Kong and Bangkok.

COSTA RICA

Our favorite guide will escort our small group through Costa Rica's natural wonderland. Watch the spectacular Arenal Volcano perform at night! Nature reserves of Selva Verde and Manual Antonio are included! Take the Aerial Tram into a jungle canopy for a close-up look. Excellent small lodges. League of Women Voters will enjoy the visit to Parliament and the University of Peace.

Feb 19 - March 2 • \$1990 from Miami

INDONESIAN ODYSSEY

Vibrant cultures, unique arts and mystical ceremonies! From Yogyakarta, central Java, we'll tour Borobudur, the largest Buddhist temple in the world, and the Royal Palace of Solo. Spend four fantastic days in South Sulawesi, home to an amazing variety of indigenous peoples. In Toraja, you'll be introduced to their unique festivals and ceremonies. The island is filled with extraordinary mist-covered mountains, tropical jungles and emerald-green rice terraces. Visit magical Bali, where art abounds in the forms of architecture, music and dance. April 5-19 • \$2989 from Los Angeles.

Please send an update on future LWV tours. Updates: "Placerville Post" sent 3 times per year Please send more information of the Travel with the League Fundraising program				
Name	Address			
Tel #	Local League	Title		
Send the following brochures: N.India & Nepal Jan 10-26	☐ Road to 1000 Kasbahs April	 □ Russian Riverways June 6-21 □ French Barge Cruise July 11-18 □ Best of Ireland July 25- Aug 3 	☐ South Africa Oct 10-21 ☐ Mongolia Summer 1997 Other	
 □ Vietnam Feb 13-26 □ Cambodia Feb 26-March 1 □ Costa Rica Feb 19- March 2 □ Spain & Portugal 3/11-25 	 □ Greece with Cruise March □ Indonesian Odyssey April □ HollandApril 25-May 3 □ Istanbul-Black Sea May 8-25 	☐ Croatia 10 days in August ☐ Great West China Sept 6-26	☐ Please send an update to my friend(s):	

VIETNAM & CAMBODIA

Land of surprises, great food and a warm welcome. The war is over and there are no winners. We lost 50,000. They lost between two and three million! Vietnamese people are putting the past behind and looking to the future. Truly Vietnam is the most beautiful country of the Orient! Visit Hanoi with its French colonial architecture, Halong Bay, Hue, Danang and Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). Feb 13 - 26 \$2350 from LA. Optional Cambodia extension to Pnom Phen, Siem Reap and Angkor Wat 2/26 - 3/1 • \$890

The BEST of SPAIN & PORTUGAL

Discover our wonderful program! Barcelona, Madrid, Segovia, Toledo and Moorish Granada. Stroll through the Generalife Gardens and the step back into time in the awesome Alhambra and the Arab Mosque in Cordoba. Continue to Portugal's loveliest areas: the Algarve to fairytale-like Sintra. Parador lunches and excellent hotels. March 11-25 • \$2975 from New York via Air France

Magic of MOROCCO

Here's a trip that will dazzle your senses! Follow the Kasbah trail to the imperial cities of Fez, Meknes and Marrakech. Surprising Morocco has such diversity. Delight in a traditional Moroccan pageant feast and outstanding horsemanship at the Fantasia at Chez Ali. Royal Air Maroc March 27 - April 3 • \$ 1790 from NYC

Road to 1000 Kasbahs

Wow! Picture yourself with friends on an soft adventure as you set off from Marrakech via Land Rover, sipping mint tea in Berber villages, crossing the Atlas mountains, watching the sunrise on the Sahara! Explore oasis, caravanserai, and the surprising beauty of Morocco's mystical South! Limited enrollment! April 3 - 8 • \$895 as an extension to Morocco

Tulip Time in HOLLAND

For the sophisticated traveler, a cruise aboard the deluxe M.V. Queen of Holland, a 146-passenger river vessel. Price includes all sightseeing and virtually every tazste, smell and sound of picturesque Netherlands - and millions of tulips! April 25 - May 3 • \$ 2990 from New York via KLM

GREECE including Cruise

Beat the end-of-winter blahs! But it's springtime in Greece! Explore Thessaloniki, the 1997 cultural capital of Europe! Visit Pella, the ancient capital of King Phillip and birthplace of Alexander the Great, and the rock-hewn monastery of Meteora and Kalambaka. Explore the classical sites of Delphi, home of the Oracle and the charioteer, and Athen's where you too can climb the Acropolis for a breathtaking view from the Parthenon. A 4-day cruise whisks you across the Aegean from Piraeus to Mykonos, Rhodes, and Patmos...all the way to Turkey's Turquoise Coast and the port of Kusadasi. Explore the ancient Roman city of Ephesus, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world! March 29 - April 8 • \$2460 NY

Incomparable ISTANBUL # Danube - Black Sea Cruise

Fly to Istanbul for three fabulous days of sightseeing in the crossroads of the World. Topkapi, the Bazaar, the Hagia Sophia and more! Then it's off to Bucharest and a cruise down the Danube into the Black Sea. The Crimea, Yalta and more! An 18-day extravaganza with all the trimmings! Escorted by Gwen Erwood May 8 - 25 • \$ 3270 from JFK

RUSSIAN White Nights

No better time to cruise up the mighty Volga, than during the Celebration of Moscow's 850 anniversary of founding! The city is preparing even now for the event. Don't miss it! Start with three full days in St. Petersburg. Our 16-day tour explores the lakes, rivers and canals. Stops will be made at the medieval towns of Uglich, Kostroma and Yaroslavl. Spend a relaxing and educationally enriching week cruising Lake Ladoga, Moscow Canal, and the Neva and Volga Rivers. Leisurely enjoy cultural entertainment, music and Russian language lessons, a local guest lecturer - all aboard the MV Andropov. This is a unique and value-laden tour! June 6 - 21 • \$ 2560 from NYC via FINNAIR "finesse"

FRENCH BARGE CRUISE

We're chartering the 20-passenger river vessel *Litote* for a soothing cruise through Burgundy - exclusively for the League of Women Voters. Enjoy gourmet cuisine and walks through the vineyards and wineries of Burgundy. Wine tasting of course! Explore nearby villages and medieval chateaux. We'll travel at walking speed, so you're invited to stroll or bike ride along the Burgundy Canal. Price includes airfare from New York at the peak summer dates and transfers to Dijon via TGV. Return later from Parisl July 11 - 18 • \$ 2670 from NYC via Air France

Best of IRELAND

From Galway to Dublin at an enjoyable pace. Shannon, Killarney, Ring of Kerry, Waterford, Cork, and plenty of time in Dublin. Friday to Sunday is perfect for working folks too! July 25 - August 3 • \$ 2250 via Aero Lingus

CROATIA

The Dalmation Coast line is as beautiful as always and travelers are returning in droves. The medieval walled city of Dubrovnik overlooks the Adriatic's blue waters. It's included of course as well as Zagreb and much more. Airfare from USA via KLM or Swiss Air. 10-day vacation is perfect for working folks. Another Friday departure and Sunday return means taking just one week off work. Full sightseeing program and performances. August

Splendors of EGYPT

Take a five-day cruise on the Nile and fly to the fabled Abu Simbel, Ramses the Great's entrance to Upper Egypt. Our Nabila cruise ship features spacious suites, and you'll enjoy deluxe hotels in Cairo. Continue the ongoing League connection with dynamic

Egyptian women who want to start a League of Women Voters in Egypt! October 3-12 • \$2290 from NY





550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417

:

SEPTEMBER 1996 MINI-MEMO

1919

A VOICE

FOR CITIZENS,

A FORCE FOR CHANGE

1994

Calendar

75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change

Note: please see enclosures for schedules of local League public meetings on state spending and congressional and legislative candidate forums

- September 18 10:00 a.m.; Voter Service Committee; LWVMN Office
 - 19 LWVMN Technology Committee meeting; 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
 - 25 11:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m.; LWVMNEF/Financial Advisory Committee Luncheon; speaker, Tim Penny on the Minnesota Compact; MWB
 - 1:30 p.m.; Member Resources Committee Meeting

- 1 Noon-2:00 p.m. Development Committee meeting; MWB
- 7 LWVMN Action Committee meeting; 9:30 a.m.; MWB
- 8 LWVMNEF Annual Appeal, State Board; 6:00 p.m., State Office
- 9 LWVMN/EF Board meetings; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m., MWB
- 16 Mailing to local League Presidents

ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- > Schedule of League of Women Voters Discussions of Minnesota Government Spending: Challenges for the Future, Making Hard Choices/Berquist
- ➤ Local League Congressional and Legislative Candidate Forums/Duffy, McCoy
- ➤ Memo re Candidate Forum Questions/McCoy
- Minnesota Election '96: Eight Issues for the 1996 Elections and Questions for Candidates/Duffy
- ➤ Regional Long-Term Care Public Policy Forums flyer/Frisch
- > Fundraising within Your Boundaries/Walz
- Letter from the LWV of Montgomery County, Maryland, re United Nations/Nelson
- > flyer re 51st United Nations Rally & Seminars/Nelson
- > Packet re Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence/Frisch
- ➤ Legislative Intern application Form/Frisch
- > "We the People: Skills for Democracy" curriculum flyer/Covey
- ➤ Suggestions for Convention '97/Matlock



BOUQUETS TO:

- Erica Buffington, for a pioneering Election Hotline during the Primary Election; it was a first in several ways: the Hotline was located at WCCO-TV and featured during news broadcasts (the first shift being 6:00 a.m.); this is the first time we have had a state-wide precinct finder and the first time we used a computer program (from the Secretary of State's Office); the Hotline handled over 2,300 calls!
- Diane Gibson, for contributing her computer skills to the Election Hotline--we would not have been able to do this hotline without her help in working with the Minnesota Secretary of State's Technical Services Staff:
- ** Kathy Quandt, LWV of Minneapolis and member of the LWVMN Spending Study Committee, for her selection as a Humphrey Institute Public Policy Fellow;
- Mary Lewis Grow, LWV of Northfield, who successfully introduced a resolution at the LWVUS Convention in June to support the Day of National Concern about Young People and Gun Violence and is leading the national campaign;
- Diane O'Connor, LWV of Eastern Carver County, who will receive the Gladys Brooks Scholarship Award, presented annually by the Center for Women in Government at Hamline University to a female student in the Masters in Public Administration Program;
- Jo Nunn, LWV of A/B/C and a former member of the Metropolitan Council, who was presented with KARE-11 TV's Woman of Distinction Award in September.



PRESIDENT

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076)

It is my sad mission to announce that Sally Gibson, a member of LWV Duluth and the Treasurer of LWVMN, died unexpectedly in her sleep at home in Duluth on August 31st. A memorial service will be held Friday, September 20, at 3:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1710 Superior St., Duluth. We will miss Sally very much here and we know that the Duluth League will too. Sally had been an active member of the League since 1964 - in Ohio, Idaho, and Minnesota. If you would like to send a card to the family, their address is:

Professor Bill Gibson and family 1101 N. 40th Ave. E Duluth, MN 55804

Voter Service season is underway .. as you well know! We have enclosed the piece from the League of Cities that we told you about in the last mailing. There are questions which may be useful to adapt for your candidate events now and in other projects later.

Thanks to all who helped with the **Hotline**. The computers were generally a big improvement over heavy, awkward precinct locators. There are a few glitches in the programs, but Erica Buffington will be working on those. As always most people are grateful and we enjoy helping them get to the polls.

Good luck in all your fall projects --- voter service, public meetings and the study.



MEMBER RESOURCES

(Jeanne Matlock, 1128 W. Montana Ave., St. Paul, 55108 612/488-0458)

Please help us by providing your valuable ideas for making our Convention '97 a success. As you know, our time will be shorter than ever before (due to popular request!) and we need to make our program interesting and dynamic. We want to provide the speakers and workshops that you feel will be most useful to you and your League. Please notify the office by October 7, do that we may consider all of your suggestions in our planning process.



DEVELOPMENT

(Jeanne Walz, PO Box 606, Riverside Ct., North Branch, 55056 612/674-2587)

See enclosures for "Fundraising Within Your Boundaries." Please review this first draft and send us your comments and suggestions by November 1, 1996.



ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Ct., Edina, 55439 612/829-0604)

INTERNSHIPS

The Action Committee reminds local Leagues of the opportunity to recruit Action Interns who may become involved in following legislative issues during the 1997 Legislature. Applications for 1997 Interns are included in this mailing. We are especially looking for future lobbyists in the areas of taxation, reproductive choice, health care, and juvenile justice. We also are looking for action opportunities based on our soon to be established position on state spending. Please refer members who have become excited by this study to Carol Frisch, 829-0604.

STUDENT PLEDGE AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

The 1996 LWVUS Convention approved a resolution by Mary Lewis Grow, LWVMN lobbyists on gun control, to support October 10, 1996 as a Day of Concern about Young People and Gun Violence and to endorse the distribution of a Student Pledge Against Gun Violence throughout the nation's middle and high schools. Simultaneously, there is a Senate Resolution declaring the Day of Concern sponsored by Senators Bradley, Wellstone and Specter currently making its way through Congress.

Enclosed is a packet which you are asked to call to the attention of your local school superintendent. Please ask them to commemorate this day in your local schools.

HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE MOVEMENT AND STORAGE

The September Action Committee heard the concerns of Alice O'Donnell, LWV Eastern Carver County President, regarding the passage of SB 1936 and consideration of HB 1020 during the month of September. She brought us the LWVUS opinion and that of various environmental groups with which Alice is connected that this bill is receiving too little public attention and may be too hastily adopted without appropriate concern for citizen input and for health and safety provisions. We are writing letters of opposition to HB 1020 to the MN Congressional delegation and urge that you watch the media for information about this issue.

An excellent LWVUS issues brief was sent to local Leagues recently entitled *Transporting Radioactive Spent Fuel.* Please use this valuable guide in whatever way you can to involve your members in discussion or information sharing around this far-reaching topic.



VOTER SERVICE

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake, Birchwood, 55110 612/429-9703)

Schedules for MN Congressional and Legislative Candidate Forums are enclosed in this mailing.



STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING STUDY

(Cindy Berquist, 1501 Lia Dr., Northfield, 55057 507/663-0816)

Schedule for local League discussions of of MN Government Spending is enclosed with this mailing.

League of Women Voters

Discussions of Minnesota Government Spending: Challenges for the Future, Making Hard Choices

	ate	_Time	Public Meeting Locations Local League			
Me	Metropolitan Local Leagues:					
Se	pten	nber				
	9	7:30 p.m.	Wedgewood Sales Office, 3040 Woodbury Dr.	Woodbury/ Cottage Grove		
	11	7:00 p.m.	Mendota Heights City Hall	Northern Dakota County		
	21	9:00 a.m.	1st Minnetonka State Bank, Community Room, Mi	nnetonka		
			Mir	nnetonka/ Eden Prairie/ Hopkins		
	21	9:15 a.m.	Wayzata Senior High School- Teachers' Lounge	Brooklyn Center,		
				Crystal/ New Hope/ E.		
Ply	ymou	th,				
				Golden Valley,		
				St. Loius Park, South Tonka,		
				Wayzata/Plymouth		
	26	7:15 p.m.	New Brighton Family Service Center, Room 218	New Brighton		
	30	7:00 p.m.	Mahtomedi Middle School Mahtomedi			
		277				
00	tobe	er				
	15	6:30 p.m.	St. Anthony Park Library	St. Paul		
	17	8:00 p.m.	Colonial Church, Edina	Edina		
	22	7:00 p.m.	9	Maple Wood/ Falcon Heights		
	24	7:30 p.m.	Brooklyn Park City Hall Brook	lyn Park/ Osseo/ Maple Grove		
No	vem			Casal Annual Prince		
	12	7:30 p.m.	7331 Jackson Street NE, Fridley	Fridley -		
	12			Anoka/ Blaine/ Coon Rapids		
	13			Anoka/ Blaine/ Coon Rapids		
	18	5:30 p.m.	Check newspaper for details	Robbinsdale		
	20	7:30 p.m.	Bloomington City Hall	Bloomington		
	23	11:00 a.m.	Richfield City Hall- City Council Chambers	Richfield		
۰.						
			ocal Leagues:			
26	pten		Ct. Datas High Cahaal Cafatasia	Ct Dates		
	17	7:30 p.m.	St. Peter High School, Cafeteria	St. Peter		
	18	7:15 p.m.	Holiday Inn	Winona St. Craix Valley		
	24 25	7:00 p.m.	Bayport City Library	St. Croix Valley Bemidji		
	23	9:30 a.m.	Betty Berry's home	Dernich		
0	tobe					
	3	5:00 p.m.	Brainerd Public Library	Brainerd		
	17	9:15 a.m.	Pilgrim Congregational Church	Duluth		
	17	7:00 p.m.	Building for Women	Duluth		
25	19	9:00 a.m.	Call Joan Hicks 255-1353	St. Cloud		
	19	9:30 a.m.	First United Church of Christ	Northfield		
	21	7:30 p.m.	Brown County CourthouseNew Ulm			
		p	District Country Country Country Country			

_Date	Time	Location	Local League
Novem	ber		
6	Noon	Central Towers, 200 1st Avenue NW	Rochester
6	7:00 p.m.	Rochester City Hall, Room 104	Rochester
11	7:00 p.m.	Willmar Junior High School, Media Center	Willmar
19	11:30 a.m.	Crown of Glory Church, Chaska	Eastern Carver
19	7:00 p.m.	Crown of Glory Church, Chaska	Eastern Carver
19	5:00 p.m.	Trinity Lutheran Church	Detroit Lakes
mid Nov.		Check local newspaper	Red Wing
Check	local newspa	per Monticello High School	Buffalo
Check local newspaper for details			Bemidji

FYI

VOTER SERVICE CHAIRS SILE ADLER & COLVIN

THOMAS SILK
BETSY BUCHALTER ADLER
GREGORY L. COLVIN
ROSEMARY E. FEI
ROBERT A. WEXLER

205 MONTGOMERY STREET
RUSS BUILDING, SUITE 1120
SAN FRANCISCO. CALIFORNIA 94104
TEL:(415) 421-7555
FAX:(415) 421-0712

ERIK DRYBURGH

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Human SERVE: Campaign for Universal Voter Registration

FROM:

Gregory L. Colvin, Esq.

DATE:

March 12, 1996

RE:

Rules for Nonpartisan Voter Registration and Education

A 501(c)(3) organization¹ can operate a voter registration or get-out-the-vote (GOTV) drive in a nonpartisan manner. This means that it must be designed solely to educate the public about the importance of voting and must not evidence any bias for or against any candidate or party.

When choosing target areas for the drive, the criteria must be neutral and nonpartisan. For instance, targeting low-income, minority, low-turnout, homeless, or student populations is acceptable. Targeting based on party affiliation, past voting preferences, or impacting close races is not permitted. You can focus on registering people who live in the area you serve, or who are part of your natural constituency, such as the parents, clients, patients, or members of the public who come into your office or agency.

You can encourage people to participate in the drive by mentioning the critical issues involved in the election, so long as your presentation of those issues doesn't indicate you are trying to exploit a "fault line" between the candidates. Your selection and presentation of issues should not be a coded way of encouraging people to vote for candidates who are Democratic or Republican, liberal or conservative, or who are for or against certain public policies.

Many states have initiatives or other ballot measures on topics such as affirmative action, immigration, gay rights, or environmental protection under consideration during an election season. It is perfectly legal for 501(c)(3) organizations to campaign on ballot measures. If you publicize your position on a ballot measure as part of a voter registration campaign, you must treat this as a lobbying activity² and report the expense to state authorities. However, if positions on the initiative are closely identified with certain candidates, it is better not to take a position on the measure while you are registering voters.

On the reverse side are examples of what you can and cannot say to encourage people to register:

This memo covers charitable organizations that are <u>not private</u> foundations. Voter registration drives funded by private foundations are more tightly restricted under Internal Revenue Code Section 4945(f).

Lobbying must be an insubstantial part of your organization's overall activities. Many organizations have the option to report their lobbying only on an expenditure basis under Section 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code. If you do, your 501(h) ceiling for ballot measure lobbying may be as high as 20% of your budget.

Not Acceptable

- "Vote green. Register here."
- "Let's get out the pro-life (or pro-choice) vote. You can register here."
- "Don't let yourself be Newt-ered. Stop the Republican Congress. Register here, vote in 1996."
- "Support family values. 1994: Congress. 1996: The Presidency. Register now."
- "Budget cuts are reducing services provided by this agency. Register to vote here, and let the candidates know you won't take it anymore."
- "Vote no on Gov. Wilson's affirmative action initiative. Register here."
- "Stand up to Jesse Helms and his cronies. Vote to restore funding for the arts. Register here today."
- "You don't need a home to vote in this city. Do you care who the next Mayor is? Register now."

<u>Acceptable</u>

- "The next election will set the country's course on civil rights, health care, welfare, jobs, taxes, support for the arts and the environment. Your vote counts. Register now."
- "Challenge authority. You're 18, and you haven't registered to vote? Why not here? Why not now?"
- "You can have an impact on the decisions affecting your life. Register to vote now."
- "Did you vote in the last election? If not, people you didn't elect made decisions on welfare reform, school lunches, Medicare, the arts, and the environment without hearing your voice. Be heard this time. Register and vote."
- "Public policy is decided at the polls. Take a position on health care, nutrition, and other issues affecting our families, register to vote here today."
- "Funding for the arts is being reduced dramatically. Speak out on how you want your taxes spent. Register to vote here."
- "The future of affirmative action in this state will be decided next November. Register to vote today."
- "Save affirmative action. Stop the so-called California Civil Rights Initiative. Register to vote." (Reportable as a ballot measure lobbying expenditure; use care, may be a fault line between candidates)

Note: New federal FEC rules require posting a sign or giving a written notice to people registering:

K

Our voter registration services are available without regard to the voter's political preference. Information and other assistance regarding registering or voting, including transportation and other services offered, shall not be withheld or refused on the basis of support for or opposition to particular candidates or a particular political party.

SILE ADLER & COLVIN

Local League Congressional Candidate Forums

9/16/96 - M. McCoy, report to LWVMN Voter Service Committee

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ONE:

- October 15, 1996 Mankato Free Press, Rochester Post Bulletin, public radio and public TV, with LWV Mankato, LWV Rochester. 7:00 p.m., Mankato Technical College, Mankato; for Information: Pixie Russell, Voter Service Chair, LWV Rochester, 507/282-4804.
- October 22, 1996 Rochester Post Bulletin, Mankato Free Press, public radio and public TV, with LWV Rochester and LWV Mankato, 7:00 p.m., Willow Creek Middle School, Rochester; for information: Pixie Russell, Voter Service Chair, LWV Rochester, 507/282-4804.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT TWO:

- October 8, 1996 LWV Eastern Carver County, Alice O'Donnell, President, 612/448-3977, 7:00 p.m., Chaska Community Center, as of 8/29/96; with cable channel in Chaska.
- October 17, 1996 KGAC and Mankato Free Press at Gustavus Adolphus College; for information: Mary Gover, LWV St. Peter; 507/931-1895.
- October 29, 1996 LWV New Ulm, Janet Rosenbloom, President, 507/354-8595; 7:00 p.m., Library Meeting Room, New Ulm.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT THREE:

October 8, 1996 - 7 to 9 p.m.; live cablecast at Eden Prairie City Hall; cooperative effort with Leagues in Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins (MEPH), Edina, Wayzata/Plymouth, Golden Valley, Crystal/New Hope; for information: Cynthia Clish, LWV MEPH; 934-7796 or 937-5788.

.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FOUR:

October 15, 1996 - 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Shoreview Community Center, Highway 96 and Victoria Ave, with KABL Merideth Cable; cooperative effort with Leagues in White Bear/North Oaks, Arden Hills/Shoreview, St. Paul, Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights (ROMAFH); for information: Carolyn Bong, President LWV White Bear/North Oaks; 481-8141.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT FIVE:

October 22, 1996 - (Tuesday); 7:30-9:00 p.m., in the St. Louis Park City Hall chambers; Minneapolis and the nine Leagues in the West Metro Alliance coalition will co-sponsor the event; video taping for additional airings; for information: Rosemarie Kelly, LWV Minneapolis executive director; 612/333-6319.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SIX:

October 9, 1996 - 7:30-9:00 p.m., at the Washington County Government Center in Stillwater; will be cablecast live and copied for repeated airings on both local and metro-wide cable stations; co-sponsored by the Leagues of St. Croix Valley, Woodbury/Cottage Grove,

and Mahtomedi; for information: Gladys Ritter, President and Voter Service Chair, LWV St. Croix Valley; 612/436-1873.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SEVEN:

- October 15, 1996 7:30-9:30 a.m., breakfast meeting; part of joint effort with St. Cloud Chamber of Commerce; probably even will be taped for later viewing on cable television; for information: Nancy Gunderson, President, LWV St. Cloud Area; 320/252-9651.
- October 15 or 22, 1996 7:30-9:15 p.m., Northwest Technical College, Conference and Media Room; joint congressional and legislative forum proposed by *LWV Detroit Lakes Area*. For information: Kathie Lundeen, President; 218/847-2260.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT EIGHT:

October 30, 1996 - At Lake Superior College, Video Conference Center on Arlington Road, Duluth, 7:00 p.m. Joint videoconference between LWV Duluth and the newly established Brainerd Lakes Area State Unit; link through the state college system; videotaped and distributed to the other five Leagues in CD 8; Bemidji, Cass Lake/Walker, Grand Rapids, Hibbing and St. Cloud Area; for information: Nancy Anderson, Voter Service Chair, LWV Duluth; 218/724-0132 (Duluth League office).



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

FUNDRAISING WITHIN YOUR BOUNDARIES

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- 2. If you are soliciting funds of \$2,500 or more from ANY foundation or corporate giving program located in Minnesota, report your plans to the Director of Development at the State League Office.
- 3. The LWVMN will report to the local Leagues on fundraising solicitations made of Minnesota corporations and foundations.
- 4. Collaboration and cooperation among Leagues is encouraged. For major fundraising efforts a local League and the state League should consider joint approaches to foundations or corporate giving programs.

Please contact Jean Tews, Director of Development, LWVMN at 612/224-5445. A local League President list is available from the State Office at 612/224-5445.

Local League Legislative Candidate Forums

9/16/96 - M. McCoy, report to LWVMN Voter Service Committee

September 30, 1996 - 7:00 p.m., in three sites - two high school buildings; one community building.

Local League: Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids; for information: Barb Treska, Voter Service Chair, 612/421-0123; League cooperating with Anoka-Hennepin Parents Legislative Team, High School teachers, staff, students; potential: 24 candidates, to be live cast or rebroadcast on 12 cable systems.

Legislative Districts: Senate Districts 49 and 50: House Districts 49A, 49B, 50A and 50B.

October 1, 1996 - 7-9 p.m., in Red Wing, at Red Wing Public Library, East Ave. and 3rd St.; inviting extended community, including Hastings, location is compatible with local cable taping.

Local League: Red Wing; for information: Ann Seymour, Voter Service Chair, 612/388-0415.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 29 and House District 29A.

October 10, 1996 - in St. Louis Park, City Council Chambers, 7:00 p.m. (?)

Local League: St. Louis Park; for information: Millie Johnson, 612/929-7972.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 44 and House Districts 44A and 44B.

October 15, 1996 - at Roseville City Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Local League: Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights (ROMAFH); for information: Ann Cleland, 612/490-5038, after 6 p.m.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 54 and House Districts 54A and 54B.

October 15 or 22, 1996 - 7:30-9:15 p.m., NorthWest Technical college Conference and Media Room.

Local League: Detroit Lakes Area; joint congressional and legislative forum; for information: Kathie Lundeen, President, 218/847-2260.

Congressional District 7

Legislative Districts: Senate District 11 and House District 11A.

October 16, 1996 - 7-9 p.m., at Washington County Government Center in Stillwater; to be cablecast live and copied for repeated airings on both local and metro-wide cable stations.

Local League: St. Croix Valley; for information: Gladys Ritter, President and Voter Service Chair, 612/436-1873.

Legislative Districts: Senate Districts 51 and 56 and House Districts 51B, 56A, and 56B.

October 17, 1996 - at St. Peter Public Library auditorium, which is equipped for videotaping.

Local League: St. Peter; for information: Mary Gover, 507/931-1895 (h), 507/931-0461 (w); League to invite LWV Mankato Area to cooperate in this project.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 24 and House District 24B; in Mankato Area are Senate District 24 and House Districts 24A and 24B.

October 22 and October 29, 1996 - televised forums.

Local League: Austin; for information: Florence Vogel, President, 507/433-9467; Margaret Hogen, Voter Service chair, 507/433-3166; for legislative races, city, county, and some candidates in adjoining areas.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 27; House 27A, 27B, 31B.

Note: Pre-primary election candidates forums were held in September, 1996.

October 22 and October 29, 1996 - two forums at Technical College, Albert Lea; 7 or 7:30 p.m..

Local League: Freeborn County; for information: Fran Skovlund, President, 507/373-7856; Sally Phillips, Voter Service Chair; October 22nd - city and county candidates; October 29th - State Senate and State Representative candidates; school board candidates.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 27 and House District 27A.

October 29, 1996 - in Library Meeting Room, New Ulm, 7:00 p.m.

Local League: New Ulm; for information: Janet Rosenbloom, 507/354-8595.

Legislative Districts: Senate District 23 and House District 23A.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 Fax 612/292-9417 E-Mail: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

September 6, 1996

TO:

Local Leagues

FROM:

Mary Ann McCoy, Project Coordinator, Congressional and Legislative

Candidate Forums

RE:

Getting Into... Candidate Forum Questions?

Along about now, you and your planning committee will be questioning just which questions to select for your congressional, legislative, and local candidates forums.

Here is a booklet which may supplement your local issues and questions search:

Minnesota Education '96: Eight Issues for the 1996 Elections and Questions for Candidates -- Developed by a task force of the League of Minnesota Cities, this booklet is part of an election year project of this organization identifying issues and questions for candidates for elective office--local, state, and federal.

And do check your recent mailing from the LWVUS for:

Getting Into Issues: Your guide to the 1996 Elections -- Published by the LWVUS Education Fund, this lively compilation of issues and questions asks "What do you think?" about a wide spectrum of matters up close and personal to voters seeking to inform themselves and have a say in government.

<u>Dates, Places, and Times?</u> The LWVMN office is fielding questions like this about your local League events. We can aid your publicity by maintaining an up-to-date listing for public reference, so please keep us informed as you confirm your plans. And thank you for helping everyone... "Get Into the Issues and Vote!"

Public Policy Forums

The purpose of the Regional Long-Term Care Public Policy Forums is to educate current and prospective legislators and community members across the state of Minnesota on the experience of people using Long-Term care.

It is estimated that 80% of Americans have some experience, either in their own families or through a close friend, with long-term care—or expect to within the next five years.

Agenda:

Consumer Experiences
Information on Minnesota Law
Strengths and Weaknesses of Current Protections
Implications for Policy-Makers and Community Members

Minneapolis

Friday Oct. 4, 1996 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. Central Lutheran Church 333 S. 12th St.

St. Paul

Tuesday Sept. 17, 1996 1:00p.m.-3:30p.m. Ravoux Hi-Rise 280 Ravoux St.

Sponsored By

AARP

League of Women Voters
Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging
Minnesota Alliance for Health Care Consumers
Minnesota Board on Aging
Minnesota Council on Black Aging
Minnesota Gerontological Society
Minnesota Living At Home Block Nurse Program
Minnesota Nurses Association
Minnesota Senior Federation
Office of Ombudsman For Older Minnesotans
Older Women's League
Retired Educators Association of Minnesota

For more information

MN Senior Federation 612-645-0261
MN Alliance for Health Care Consumers 612-854-7304



FOR MORE INFORMATION Contact Susan Weisbrud 436-7528

LWVMN Position on Recall of State Elected Officials

LWVMN opposes recall of members of the Legislature and State Constitutional Officers.

Background: The position statement of the LWVMN was developed after an in-depth study and subsequent consensus on the issue in 1980. In 1996, the State Board reiterated its position against recall. Over the course of the 1996 session the Minnesota State Legislature faced an unusually high number of ethical misconduct allegations against members of both the House and Senate. By the end of the session, three Senators and two Representatives had been the subject of serious consideration for expulsion from the Legislature and an amendment allowing for the recall of state elected officials had been crafted and designated to be included on the November 5, 1996 ballot.

What is recall? Recall is the formal authority to remove elected state officers from their positions before the end of their terms in office, by following procedures stated in the Minnesota Constitution.

LWVMN believes that the voters in a representative democracy are entrusted with the right to elect their own state officers, and that the Legislature (as mandated in the Constitution) has the responsibility to monitor the conduct and sit in judgment of their colleagues.

LWVMN opposes recall of state elected officials for the following reasons:

- 1) The recall process is very cumbersome. In addition to taking up to six months to complete, the process involves as least 16 major and several minor steps.
- 2) The recall amendment, as stated on the ballot, is misleading to the general public. In fact, the enabling legislation for this amendment has already been written and is quite limiting.
- 3) The recall petition that is dismissed is potentially damaging to the official. Because there are no publicity restrictions during the process, a state elected official could suffer irreparable damage to his/her reputation, even if the Supreme court finds there is not the preponderance of evidence that is required to proceed with a recall election.
- 4) The recall amendment excludes certain behaviors in the list of grounds for recall.
- 5) Recall in Minnesota requires two elections one to recall the state official, and one to elect a replacement. According to 1996 figures given by the Secretary of State, the cost to the taxpayer per recall would be as follows: over \$45,000 for House members, \$90,000 for Senate members, and over \$6 million for statewide officials.
- 6) The Constitution of the State of Minnesota provides for the legislators to sit in judgment of their colleagues (Article IV, Section 6, of the Constitution). The constituency should not have to do this when, in fact, it is the mandated duty of the legislature to address this problem.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 Fax 612/292-9417 E-Mail: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us

http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 17, 1996

TO: Local League Presidents

FROM: Jeanne Walz, Development Chair

RE: Attached DRAFT Fundraising Within Your Boundaries

We have enclosed this <u>draft</u> policy for your review and comment. The intent is to maximize the fundraising capability of all local Leagues in Minnesota and to ensure cooperation where our fundraising efforts may overlap.

We welcome your suggestions. Please respond with your written comments by November 1, 1996, to Jeanne Walz, LWVMNEF, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, 55103 or by phone to Jean Tews, Development Director, at the State League Office, 612/224-5445.

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of Montgomery County

August 1996

To:

Members of the United Nations Network

League of Women Voters of the United States

From: League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, Maryland, Inc. (LWVMC)

Dear Sister Leagues:

At National Convention, your delegate(s) expressed an interest in receiving and sharing materials about the United Nations (U.N.). We are writing to alert you to the fact that our League is developing and will mail to you in September a packer which could be used as the basis for a meeting about U. N. issues.

The packet will contain an outline, a background document for the presenter, suggested discussion questions, and a "fact sheet" suitable for putting in your monthly newsletter to provide information for members before they come to a meeting.

We are appalled by suggestions that the U.S. should withdraw from the U.N. and by the Congress' refusal to appropriate the funds to pay our arrears of dues for the U.N.'s regular budget and for peacekeeping-which are U.S. Treaty obligations. Our intent is to provide the background necessary to evaluate the various criticisms being made against the U.N. in the United States in the areas of financing, management reform, attacks on the Secretary-General, and peacekeeping. The LWVMC packet will emphasize especially the latter topic because it was our International Relations Committee's study topic from 1993-1995. Because these issues seem to be entering the 1996 election campaign, we are working over the summer to prepare this material so that it is available before the November elections.

We recognize that your program schedule for 1996-1997 may already be planned. However, you may wish to present this material to your membership in some manner. It would be timely if basic information could be provided in early fall so that citizens supporting the U.N. could share their views with candidates for the Senate and House.

In addition to this material from the LWVMC to be sent in September, the District of Columbia League plans to have a mailing packet available next spring. We look forward to hearing about your own activities relative to the U.N., including areas of information which attract particular interest in your locality.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Marilyn Tinsman, IR Chair
Montgomery County Maryland

CC:Margery Cohen, LWV/U.N. Observer Sheila Keeny, IR Chair, LWV/DC Margaret Goldstein, IR Chair LWV/Chicago



51st UNITED NATIONS RALLY & SEMINARS

"THE UNITED NATIONS: A MODEL FOR UNITING COMMUNITIES"

Friday, October 25, 1996 Minneapolis Convention Center 1301 Second Avenue South Downtown Minneapolis, MN

PROGRAM: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
LUNCHEON: 12:00 noon
\$20.00 including seminars and luncheon
Parking ramp entrances:12th Street and 2nd Avenue South

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: SHARON CAPELING-ALAKIJA Director, UNDP Office of Evaluation and Strategic Planning

"THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE UNITED NATIONS"



As of May 1994, Sharon Capeling-Alakija is serving as Director of the newly-established Office of Strategic Planning in the Office of the Administrator, United Nations Development Programme. Previous to this, Ms. Capeling-Alakija served as Director for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) since 1989. Under her leadership, voluntary contributions to the Fund have nearly tripled, and UNIFEM has gained visibility as an important advocate for the advancement of the status of women. Throughout her career, Ms. Capeling-Alakija has demonstrated strong commitment to issues of equity and justice. She believes that a humancentered development approach is essential, and that gender must be a front-end consideration in all development initiatives. Ms. Capeling-Alakija strongly supports linkages between theory, research and practice, and development approaches that promote change at both the macro and micro levels. Ms. Capeling-Alakija serves on several international committees and advisory panels. Most recently, she was on the Executive Committee of the Board of Canada's North-South Institute and the International Advisory Committee for the London-based Panos Institute. She is among the few women at the senior management level within the United Nations system.

SEMINARS: Three 65 minute sessions, each repeated* 9:00 -10:05 a.m. and 10:15 - 11:20 a.m.

1. SUSTAINABLE CITIES: AN AMERICAN DREAM OR FUTURE REALITY

Organized by Zehra Avsar Keye with the United Nations Association.

2. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS' RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UN

Speaker: Willard McGuire, past President of the National Education Association.

3. MOCK SECURITY COUNCIL

Composed of students and adults experienced with Model UN organizations in the Twin Cities.

Audience participation strongly encouraged. *This seminar will last for two sessions

TICKET ORDER FORM RESERVATION DEADLINE - OCTOBER 15 TICKET PRICES: \$20.00 EACH (includes program and luncheon)

, . . .

RETURN TO:

Elaine Ploog 6670 Vernon Ave. S. #308 Edina, MN 55436 (612) 939-0545 Marion Bohling 6239 Morgan Ave. South Mpls, MN 55423 (612) 869-5946

	d is my check for \$	to cover tickets.
Rally.	d is my check for \$	as a contribution to provide student scholarships as well as to support the UN
Name		
Address		
City, State, Zip		
Organization		
Phone		

Please make checks payable to: UN RALLY FUND

^{**} NOTE: A limited number of free student tickets will be available due to the generosity of local businesses and organizations. Contact Mrs. Elaine Ploog (612) 939-0545 for information.

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance of the First Unitarian Society *American Assn. of Univ. Women Minnesota Division Mpls. Branch St. Paul Branch American Red Cross Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women Assn. of Universalist Womer Augsburg College Brandeis Univ. Natl. Womenis Comm.-Twin Cities Branch
*Business and Professional Women, MN Church Women United-Minnesota St. Paul/Mpls. College of St. Catherine *DFL Party of MN Edina Women's Club General Federation of Women's Clubs Girl Scout Council of Greater Mpls./St. Croix Valley *Hadassah, Mpls, &

Greater Mpls. Chamber of Commerce

Jewish Community Center of Mpls.

Hopkins Women's Club International Institute of MN *League of Women Voters: Alexandria, Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids, Arden Hills/Shoreview, Austin, Bemidji Area, Bloomington, Brainerd Lakes Area State Unit, Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove, Buffalo/Monticello Area, Cannon Falls, Cass Lake/Walker Area, Crystal/New Hope/E. Plymouth, Detroit Lakes Area, Duluth, Eastern Carver County, Edina, Freeborn County, Fridley, Golden Valley, Grand Rapids Area, Hibbing, Jackson Area, Mahtomedi Area, Mankato Area, Minneapolis, Minnesota, Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins, Moorhead Area, New Brighton, New Ulm, Northern Dakota County, Northfield. Owatonna, Red Wing, Richfield, Robbinsdale, Rochester Rock County State Unit, Roseville, St. Anthony, St. Cloud, St. Croix Valley, St. Louis Park, St. Paul, St. Peter, South Tonka, Wayzata/Plymouth Area, Westonka, White Bear Lake/North Oaks, Willmar, Winona State Unit,

Woodbury/Cottage Grove Lutheran Soc. Svc. Aux. Lutheran Soc. Svc. of MN *Mpls. League of Catholic Women Mpls. People to People

*Junior League of Mpls. & St. Paul

Mpls. Fed. for Jewish Service-Women's Division

Mpls. Library Board

*Mpls. Central Labor Union Council/AFL-CIO

Minnesota Education Association Minnesota AFL-CIO Minnesota International Center Minnesota Conference, United Methodist Women *MN Federated Women's Clubs, 5th Dist. Minnesota School of Missions *National Council of Jewish Women- Mpls. & St. Paul Sect. *National Council of Negro Women, Mpls. Pan Pacific & SE Asia Women's Assoc.

Planned Parenthood of Minnesota Retired Teachers of St. Paul St. Louis Park Women's Club Temple Israel Sisterhood *University of Minnesota Women's Club *Urban League Guild of Minneapolis United Nations Association - Minnesota *Women's Club of Minneapolis *Women's Int'l League for Peace and Freedom World Affairs Council of Greater Minneapolis World Citizen Inc. World Federalists Association

*Young Women's Christian Association-Mpls./St. Paul Zonta Club of Minneapolis

\$20.00 FOR

ENTIRE

DAY

MN Chapter

*ORIGINAL MEMBER

GENEROUS GRANTS FROM THE FOLLOWING DONORS MADE THIS POSSIBLE IN OCTOBER 1995: MARGARET RIVERS FUND, EDNA L. SCHWARTZ EDUCATION FUND, HAROLD STASSEN, THE STAR TRIBUNE, & UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

UNITED NATIONS RALLY

51st YEAR

> **FRIDAY** OCTOBER 25

> > 1996



MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION CENTER 1301 South Second Avenue Minneapolis

SPONSORED BY THE UNITED NATIONS RALLY AND THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

- To maintain international peace and security;
- -To develop friendly relations among nations;
- -To achieve co-operation in solving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems, and in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;
- -To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in attaining these common ends.

-The United Nations Charter

Printing donated by INSTY-PRINTS of Eagan





I will never bring a gun to school;

I will never use a gun to settle a dispute;

I will use my influence with my friends to keep them from using guns to settle disputes.

My individual choices and actions, when multiplied by those of young people throughout the country, <u>will</u> make a difference. Together, by honoring this pledge, we can reverse the violence and grow up in safety.

Student Name:			
Grade Level:			
School Name:			
School Address:			
Signature:	Date:		

Day of National Concern

STUDENT PLEDGE AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

What is it? A national observance giving students throughout the country the chance to sign a voluntary promise that they will:

- · never carry a gun to school
- · never resolve a dispute with a gun
- try to use their influence with their friends to keep them from resolving disputes with guns.

The Pledge will be followed by an acknowledgement of the importance of individual decisions, multiplied.

When is it? The Day of National Concern about Young People and Gun Violence and national distribution of the Student Pledge will take place on October 10, 1996. The initiative will be announced in June of 1996.

Who will participate in it? Every student in the country, from middle school through high school, should be given a copy of the Pledge on October 10. Schools and other community institutions such as churches and synagogues can use the weeks leading up to distribution of the Pledge to talk about the power that young people have to reverse the violence that is claiming so many lives. Every school and community will be free to create their own activities around distribution of the Pledge.

Every person in the country concerned about the toll of gun violence on our young can participate in this event -- by organizing community events prior to distribution of the Pledge, by making sure that their own local schools are distributing the Pledge, and by using the Pledge as a vehicle for letting young people know about our concern for them and our desire to see them grow up in safety.

Why a national observance? Why not deal with the issue on a school-by school, town-by-town-basis? The Day of Concern will empower young people to see themselves as part of a large national observance and to realize that they really can reverse the tide of violence and diminish one of the greatest threats to their health and safety.

There is power in large numbers acting together. While it is very valuable for students to study conflict resolution in their classrooms, they need to know that there will be millions of other young people making the same decisions they are at the same time. If they take the Pledge — and mean it — others will too.

The dialogue surrounding the Day of National Concern and distribution of the Pledge can bring Americans together in a kind of national town meeting, united in our concern for our young people.

Who is sponsoring this national observance? Senators Bill Bradley, Paul Wellstone, and Arlen Specter are sponsoring a Senate Resolution calling for the Day of National Concern about Young People and Gun Violence and national distribution of the Student Pledge. A number of organizations -- both public and private -- will be supporting their efforts.

104TH CONGRESS	C	DEC
2D SESSION	3.	RES.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Bradley (for himself, Mr. Specter, and Mr. Wellstone) submitted the following resolution; which was

RESOLUTION

To designate October 10, 1996, as the "Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence".

- Whereas violent crime among juveniles in American society has dramatically escalated in recent years;
- Whereas between 1989 and 1994, juvenile arrest rates for murder in this country skyrocketed 42 percent;
- Whereas in 1993, more than 10 children were murdered each day in America;
- Whereas America's young people are this country's most important resource, and Americans have a vested interest in helping children survive, free from fear and violence, to become healthy adults;
- Whereas America's young people can, by taking individual and collective responsibility for their own decisions and

actions, help chart a new and less violent direction for the entire country;

Whereas American school children will be invited to participate in a national observance involving millions of their fellow students and will thereby be empowered to see themselves as the agents of positive social change; and

Whereas this observance will give American school children the opportunity to make a solemn decision about their future and control their destiny by voluntarily signing a pledge promising that they will never take a gun to school, will never use a gun to resolve a dispute, and will use their influence to prevent friends from using guns to settle disputes: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 Resolved, That the Senate designates October 10,
- 2 1996, as the "Day of National Concern About Young Peo-
- 3 ple and Gun Violence". The President is authorized and
- 4 requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the school
- 5 children of the United States to observe such day with
- 6 appropriate activities.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES SURROUNDING THE DAY OF CONCERN

and

STUDENT PLEDGE AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

Schools and other community groups such as churches and synagogues can enhance the effectiveness of the Day of Concern about Young People and Gun Violence by building towards it with discussions and activities that might include the following:

- Art teachers might ask students to design posters or create quilt squares in memory of someone they know or have heard of who has been shot;
- · English teachers might encourage writing projects such as poems or song lyrics;
- Science teachers might lead students to plant daffodils or other bulbs -- even a tree -- in memory of young people who have been shot and as a form of commitment to new life and a safer future.

CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OLDER STUDENTS TO MODEL POSITIVE RESPONSES FOR YOUNGER STUDENTS. If it is true that people learn best by teaching, we could reinforce the impact of the Pledge by asking older students to take the message to younger ones.

Two new books for children, Sherri Chessen's Gorp's Gift for pre-school and lower elementary grades and Marybeth Lorbiecki's Just One Flick of a Finger are being released this summer. Chessen's book, in verse and child-friendly drawings, warns children to assume that any gun they see may be loaded and asks them, on a tear-out page at the end, to promise not to touch any guns they may happen upon. Lorbiecki's book, illustrated by Caldecott Award winning artist David Diaz, is for older elementary school children and tells the story of a boy who takes a gun to school and accidentally shoots a friend.

On the day that the Pledge is distributed, older students who have signed it could visit elementary school classrooms to discuss the decision they have just made and to read either Sherri Chessen's book or Marybeth Lorbiecki's -- whichever is age-appropriate -- to the younger children.

1996 LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP APPLICATION

Name:			
Address:			
Phone:			
LWV member? Ye	sNo		
Local League (please specify	v)		
Member-at-Large?			
Why do you want to be legis	lative intern?		
What kind of experience do	you bring to this job?*		
How does a legislative interr	nship fit in with your personal goals?		
What kind of time commitmed	ent can you make to lobbying?	# hours	
Please circle your area(s) of	interest:		
Education	Election Laws	Women's/Children's Issues	
Mental Health	Campaign Reform	Violence Prevention	
Taxes/Financing Gov't.	Government	Environment/Nat. Res.	
Health Care	Choice	Firearms	
Criminal Justice Civil Rights/Equity Housing			

· APPLICATION DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 30, 1996

^{*}Disclaimer: In true LWV fashion, we expect no lobbying or legislative experience -- we learn by doing -- and no one is asked to lobby without experience first as an intern with a seasoned LWV lobbyist.

CONVENTION '97 APRIL 25 & 26, 1997 BEST WESTERN NORTHWEST INN BROOKLYN PARK

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Speakers:			
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Workshops:	A STANK		
	H College	DE STATE	

Notify office by OCT. 7 Mail to: LWVMN, 550 Rice St., St. Paul, 55103

Phone: 224-5445 or 1-800-663-9328

FAX: 612-292-9417

e-mail: lwvmn@mtn.org





THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

AUGUST 1996

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417

Calendar

76 years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change

		/ U J units 12 / olds for Clambas, 12 2 0 101 Clambas
1919	August	19-20 - Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing prepared and mailed
1919		21 - LWVMN Voter Service Committee Meeting; LWVMN office,
A VOICE		- LWVMN Member Resources Committee; MWB; 1:00 p.m.
FOR CITIZENS,		26 - Women's Equality Day luncheon; MWB; noon
A FORCE		27 - Development Committee Meeting; MWB; 11:30 a.m 2:00 p.m.
FOR CHANGE	September	2 - Labor Day; LWVMN office closed
1994		3 - Second Quarter PMP due to LWVMN
		5 - Center of the American Experiment Workshop; see enclosure
		8 - Election Hotline at WCCO-TV; 5:30 p.m 11:00 p.m.
		9 - LWVMN Action Committee; MWB; 9:30 a.m.
		 Election Hotline at WCCO-TV; 6:00 a.m 11:00 p.m.
		10 - Primary Election Day
		- Election Hotline at WCCO-TV; 6:00 a.m 8:00 p.m.
		11 - LWVMN Executive Committee, if needed
		 LWVMN Voter Service Committee Meeting
		19 - CMAL Quarterly Meeting
		25 - LWVMNEF Board and Financial Advisory Board luncheon
		26 - CMAL Board Meeting; MWB; 9:30 a.m.

LWVMNEF Annual Appeal letter will be mailed in mid-September to members and contributors.

October

- 7 LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; MWB; 9:30 a.m.
- 8 LWVMNEF Board Annual Appeal Phonathon; MWB; 6:00 p.m.
- 9 LWVMN/EF Board Meeting; MWB; 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

ENCLOSURES

(included in this mailing with the BOARD MEMO; sent to LL Presidents and DPM subscribers)

- *Facts and Issues: Minnesota State Spending/Berquist
- *Facts and Issues: Minnesota State Spending order form/Berquist
- *Minnesota State Spending Study Packet and Discussion Guide/Berguist
- *The Decisions are made by those who show up Vote" poster/Duffy
- *Local League Information on the Internet/D. Gibson
- *Elections 1996 Bipartisan Discussions on Four Key State and National Issues"/Duffy

BOUQUETS TO

- The state study committee and chair, Cindy Berquist ---they have worked very hard indeed to get us the material on time for the fall meetings. Committee members are: Virginia Bodine, Edina; Sharon Borg, Arden Hills/Shoreview; Mary Ann Emery, Northfield; Mary Gover, St.Peter; Maryellen Leppink, Minneapolis; Pia Lopez, St.Cloud; Martha Micks, Golden Valley; Corrine Neururer, Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove; Pam Oddi, New Ulm; Victoria Oshiro, Northern Dakota County; Kathy Quandt, Minneapolis; Ady Wickstrom, Arden Hills/Shoreview.
- Judy Covey for her two years of directing the work on the elementary civics curriculum. I
 think you will be very pleased and proud when you see it.
- Carolyn Cushing for getting out the summer *Voter* while she prepared for her daughter's wedding --- she made the wedding dress!
- All those leagues who have responded to the Martin Grant request to hold Congressional candidate forums.

STATE BOARD HAPPENINGS

At the August 14, 1996 meeting your State Board:

- Approved the appointment of Susan Weisbrod, LWV St. Croix Valley, as a lobbyist.
- Agreed to write a letter of support for PFLAG's campaign against violence toward gay men
 and lesbians. Our support for this effort by PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of
 Lesbians and Gays) is based on our positions on antidiscrimination and prevention of
 violence.
- Agreed to the proposed name change for LWV Willmar to the LWV Willmar Area. This
 changes reflects the growth in the area they serve.
- Adopted a Homepage policy recommended by the Technology Committee concerning links to non-League resources. LWVMN/EF will provide links only to nonpartisan voting and election information and to official government resources.... plus temporary links to organizations with whom we are in partnership or coalition.
- Agreed to participate in a coalition formed by the Humphrey Institute-Minnesota Extension Service to carry out a project titled "New Directions in State and Local Fiscal Policy -Phase 2." It is a good fit with our study and enables us to reach a wider audience.
- Declined with regret a proposal by a LWV New York member to join LWVNY and LWV
 Texas in sponsoring presidential debates in Texas and Minnesota. It was an intriguing idea,
 but we already have many voter service projects that need our full attention, time and
 resources.
- Discussed the annual appeal which helps to raise funds for all of our projects.

PRESIDENT

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N., Golden Valley, MN 55427 612/545-7076)

This has been my kind of summer .. enough heat and sun for the daylilies but not too much for me to enjoy gardening. I hope you have had time to enjoy some fresh air and relaxation in your busy lives.

Study: This mailing contains the new state study materials -- Facts and Issues, a budget process calendar, the consensus questions, the study guide and tips for study leaders. The committee has worked hard to present this material in a way that is accurate, useful, and not weighed down by complicated funding formulas. We are asking you to do what we hope the Legislature and many citizens will do -- look at the big picture of state spending in light of changing demographics as well as potential changes in federal funding.

Facts and Issues paints that picture and raises some questions for all Minnesotans to consider. The budget calendar shows the procedural steps in the budgeting process and the times where public input is possible. These are Education Fund pieces intended for use by anyone interested in the issue. They do not state or refer to any League positions.

You may use Education Fund money to purchase them for your members and for distribution to the community.

The study leader's guide, tips and the consensus questions are for use by the League. You will find them full of information to guide you through a discussion and the consensus process with your members. Much of that discussion will be based on postions we currently hold and how we might prioritize spending. I think it will be a lively discussion! I encourage each of you individually and as Leagues to do a good job of considering this material. The credibility of our position as a result of this consensus depends on the widespread participation of our members.

You will find an order form with the study material. We at LWVMN are very disappointed that we must charge our members anything for the Facts and Issues. It was our intention to mail a copy to every member without cost but our initial funding simply did not reach far enough and we have been unable to raise more. The cost of \$1.00 per copy for League members is as low as we can get it. See the packet for details.

Voter Service: As voter service season begins in earnest the League pace picks up everywhere. Please never hesitate to call if you have questions about your projects or just need to talk something over with another Leaguer. If we don't know the answer, we'll try to find out for you.

See the Voter Service section of this memo for details about the projects coming up. I especially encourage you to take part in the hotline -- a project that offers the great combination of an opportunity to serve the public and to make money for your League. It will be a novel experience to use the computer program, to be on television, and to be able to give statewide information.

Board Memo, August 1996, page 4

Minnesota Compact: While not making headlines, the Compact coalition continues to meet and to plan for ways to get out the message about the need for clean campaigning.

One event is planned for September 10th, Primary Day, at the Mall of America with other possible sites around the state. It will encourage people to join a discussion group and to register to vote in the general election if they missed the Primary. It seems that only numbers will convince political campaigns that people prefer political ads and campaigns that spell out differences clearly and accurately without undue harshness and negativism. So participating in a one time discussion group sends a message the campaigns need to hear.

Good luck in your voter service projects and the study this fall.

ACTION

(Carol Frisch, 7025 Comanche Court, Edina, MN 55439 612/829-0604)

A new member of the LWVMN lobby corps was appointed by the Board at its August meeting. Susan Dyer Weisbrod has been an active intern during 1996, particularly attending to the progress of the Recall Amendment through the legislature. She has supplied the Action Committee and Board with helpful information throughout the process and in partnership with intern Sara Schaefer, written articles for the *Capitol Letter* and *Voter* on the subject. We are pleased to have her on the lobby team for 1997.

The LWVMN Board agreed to a request from PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) for a letter of support for their Project Open Mind which will be launched in the Metro area media in early September. The organization strives to reach mainstream, non-gay Americans with truthful, positive messages about gay and lesbian people as the key to changing damaging misperceptions. Project Open Mind is designed to do this by using the mass media as a vehicle for the message.

Our involvement in providing a letter of support enables PFLAG to use the LWVMN name in any list of supporters for this educational campaign and to include the letter in funding proposals in Minnesota. Our agreement to such a letter is founded in our Social Policy position: Promote social and economic justice, secure equal rights for all and combat discrimination and poverty," and our Prevention of Violence position: "Support for violence prevention programs in our community."

VOTER SERVICE

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake, Birchwood, MN. 55110 612/429-9703)

At this writing, Voter Service activities are taking off in all directions. Debates, Voter Hotline, Voter Guide, and a myriad of other election year questions and requests are coming in daily.

The good news is that Tuesday, October 29th, has been set as the date of the WCCO-TV broadcast debate for the candidates for U.S.Senate. Nailing down this date, I know, has been problematic for several of you so I hope this helps in your planning.

Board Memo, August 1996, page 5

We fielded a request for regional forums for U.S.Senate candidates in addition to the WCCO event. There exists the possibility that additional forums will occur in Duluth, St.Cloud and Rochester providing that all of the details can be worked out. We will keep you informed. Again, Virginia Sweeny is the project director who is on top of all the details.

At this time the Voter Service Committee has approved local League grant requests for Congressional candidate forums in all eight districts. We will fill you in on the names, dates, times, and places as soon as we know them. Many of these meetings include candidates for the legislature and local offices as well. Mary Ann McCoy is directing this project and has been very busy coordinating local League plans.

The Voter Hotline planning is in full swing. Erica Buffington is our experienced, capable, energetic project director. If she has not already contacted your League for volunteers for this traditional voter service project with a new, innovative twist, I know she will be. We will need volunteers for both the Primary and the General Election. You will earn money for your local League. If you want to save her a call and get involved in this fun project, contact her at the LWVMN office.

All of you should have received the information on this year's **Voter Guide**. Orders are due now so get yours in promptly. Eydie Kargas has been hard at work figuring out the format, questions and other details. They guides will be available the first week of October.

Eydie has also been at work coordinating the design and production of a **poster** for this election season. "The decisions are made by those who show up. VOTE." is the slogan. You should have received information for ordering this in last month's mailing. The cost is \$4.00. It can be used in a number of places to remind and urge people to vote on September 10 and November 5.

The Voter Information Packets (VIP) are also available for a cost of approximately \$10.00 (Packet: \$6.50; postage and handling is extra.) The packet contains information on voter registration, get out the vote suggestions, ideas for businesses and civic groups to involve and motivate voters. There is also ordering information for other materials for anyone planning more ambitious activities. (Please note: The price given in the Portfolio Update and Outlook for "Pick a Candidate" is wrong. It is the old price of of \$1.50 for 10. The current price is \$0.25 each.)

On August 12, we met with representatives of the League of Minnesota Cities regarding an election year project of their own design. They have developed a booklet identifying issues and and questions for candidates for elective office at all levels of government. Some of the questions might be useful to you as you plan your candidate forums. You will be receiving this information and you may also receive a call from someone in your local government to see about using this material. You might think about using it beyond the election season in your Making Democracy Work projects.

Board Memo, August 1996, page 6

In last month's mailing you should have received a copy of LWVMN Political Activity Policy. As a reminder in this election year, you might want to go over this with your board and any member in a visible position within the community. We have had some questions regarding this policy and exactly what members or board members can do regarding campaigns and other political activity.

Look for the flyers for **ELECTIONS** '96, sponsored by the Center of the American Experiment, included in this mailing. The Center would like to invite LWV members to attend this September 5th election issues workshop at **ONE HALF THE PRICE** listed on the flyer. Thus the full day price of \$40, including lunch, would be only \$20 for League members!

To: Local League Presidents

From: Sally Sawyer, Executive Director

Re: League of Minnesota Cities Minnesota Election '96

Date: August 21, 1996

We promised you a piece from the League of Minnesota Cities entitled "Minnesota Election '96, Eight Issues for the 1996 Elections and Questions for Candidates." We will forward it to you under separate cover as soon as the League of Cities receives it from the printer! Sorry for the delay, but we didn't want to delay the Presidents' Mailing as it includes study materials for the State Spending Study.

Minnesota State Government Spending Overview

Before the League can take action, members must agree in broad terms on what they think about various aspects of a program issue. A critical aspect of this process is study. Study brings to members the knowledge that makes League action uniquely credible and respected. During the study phase, members have an opportunity to examine the facts and key pro and con points. They respond to consensus questions as well-informed citizens, not experts. They are encouraged to discuss the political realities of action and to contribute ideas for the board to consider when it formulates an action strategy after a position is reached.

This mailing contains:

- o The Role of a Local Study Committee in the State Study
- o Facts and Issues
- Order Form for additional copies of Facts and Issues to distribute to local League members and members of the public at informational meeting
- o Minnesota Budget Process Summary
- o Consensus Questions
- o Leader's Guide
- o Tips For Discussion Leaders
- o Ideas for Fall Informational Meetings
- o Other Public Information Possibilities
- o Other Materials Available
- State Study Committee Continuing Activities
- o Article for local League bulletins- Citizens Jury on State and Local Fiscal Matters

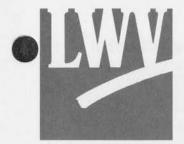
If you have questions, please contact: Cindy Berquist
1501 Lia Drive
Northfield, MN 55057
(507) 663-0816

Minnesota State Government Spending The Role of a Local Study Committee in the State Study

- 1. Organization of the committee
 - o Chair
 - o Board liaison (can be the Chair)
 - o Members
- 2. Read materials supplied by the state study committee.
- 3. Determine how to pass information on to members/public-Voter articles, letters to the editor, questions at candidate events, meetings, etc. Promote participation in both the information meeting and consensus meeting. We recommend that Consensus Questions be included in your local bulletin prior to the consensus meeting for member consideration.
- 4. Run informational meeting.
- 5. Recommend to Board how to conduct consensus. For the League position to be credible, we need a high percentage of participation in the consensus. To increase participation in the consensus, consider urging members who are unable to attend the consensus meeting to mail in their consensus responses to your study committee prior to the consensus meeting. Their input could be shared in the consensus meeting discussion and included in the local League tabulation. All members should be reminded of the benefit of sharing in dialogue with other members to help develop the local consensus.

For the membership consensus meeting, the following personnel will be needed:

- o A discussion leader
- o Someone to record the discussion, minority views and consensus.
- Conduct consensus and report consensus recommendations to local Board; the Board is responsible for determining where consensus has been reached. Local consensus results must be in the LWVMN office by January 20, 1997.
- 7. Keep consensus results confidential. The consensus is not valid until the consensus of the entire state has been taken.
- 8. After state consensus is reached February 12, 1997, report the new state position to your membership. Recommend what comes next (press release, etc.). Encourage study committee members and membership to work in support of the new position.
- 9. Make a file of materials to keep in local League files.
- 10. Be thorough, fair and objective at all times.



FACTS and ISSUES

MINNESOTA STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING

THE CHALLENGE

Minnesota is known as a state which spends more than the national average to provide a high quality of life for its citizens. However, changing demographic patterns and increased demand for services, combined with slower economic growth, have created growing alarm and a need to rethink how much Minnesota spends. In addition, the federal government may significantly reduce the funding it provides to states in the future.

A number of recent studies point out the extent of the problem. *Within Our Means*, prepared by MN Planning in January 1995, estimates that if no changes are made, state spending will outpace revenues by an average of more than \$600 million per biennium, beginning in July 1997. By the year 2005, if nothing is done, this pattern will create a cumulative budget gap of \$2.5 billion.

Based on those figures, the Citizens League in their August 1995 report, *Choose Reform, Not Declining Quality,* recommends major changes in state spending patterns. The Citizens League's suggestions focus on state spending for education, local government aids, and long-term health care for the state's aging population.

In November 1995, John Brandl and Vin Weber, in *An Agenda for Reform,* reach similar conclusions, although some of their assumptions are different. They predict that, over the next six years, expenditure demand will exceed state and local tax revenues by \$5.1 billion. Assuming a \$3 billion loss of federal revenue, they believe Minnesota may face a cumulative resource/spending demand gap of more than \$8 billion by 2001.

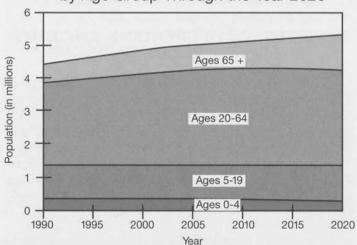
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

INNESOTA

The potential magnitude of this gap may necessitate significant changes in the programs and services funded. Citizens, as taxpayers and recipients of these services, should have input in the decision-making process ahead. In order to take part constructively, participants in the discussion must understand the forces which drive state spending. These forces include changing population demographics, eligibility guidelines for various government programs, levels of services provided, standards and regulations, infrastructure needs, and costs of labor, materials, etc.

Population forecasts point to the challenges Minnesota will face.

Projected Minnesota Population by Age Group Through the Year 2020



Source: MN Demographer's Office

In the next five years, the number of youth ages 5 to 19 will continue to increase, but at a declining rate. The overall need to accommodate these increasing student populations is likely to be concentrated in a few areas of the state – the Metropolitan, Southeastern and East Central regions. After the year 2001 the school age population will begin to decline slowly.

A potential byproduct of the growing youth population is an increase in crime, which may put a strain on the criminal justice system, and call for additional expenditures. According to *Paying the Price: The Rising Cost of Prison* prepared by MN Planning in March 1996, people under the age of 25 commit almost 70% of serious crimes.

The percentage of the population in their wage-earning years, ages 20 to 64, is projected to decline over the next 25 years. As this group comprises the majority of income tax payers, this will put downward pressure on tax revenues. At the same time, the number of Minnesotans over age 65 will increase. Because the largest segment of the state budget is devoted to health and human services, and the largest segment of health and human services spending is for health care for the elderly, this will contribute to the projected future spending/resource demand gap. In addition, if health care expenses increase faster than the general rate of inflation, as they have in the past, this will compound the problem.

These demographic changes will pose significant challenges in balancing the state budget in the upcoming years. This may be further complicated if the federal government reduces funding for state provided services.

CURRENT STATE SPENDING AMOUNTS, TRENDS, AND COMPARISONS

In order to understand how the future budget challenges facing Minnesota will impact citizens and the programs and services on which they rely, one needs a general understanding of what programs and services are currently funded by the state government. The state approves a new budget every two years. This section of *Facts and Issues* presents an overview of the **consolidated** state budget for the 1996-1997 biennium.

Minnesota's consolidated budget includes all state operating income and all expenditures by the state. The largest single funding source for state spending is the state's general fund, which receives its revenue primarily from state income and sales taxes. Other major revenue sources include federal funds, the Highway User Tax Distribution Fund, the Health Care Access Fund, the Workers Compensation-Special Revenue Fund, and the Game and Fish Fund.

By focusing on the consolidated budget, rather than the general fund, the implications of reductions from various sources, including the federal government, can be better understood. The state consolidated budget adopted for the 1996-1997 biennium calls for expenditures totaling \$29 billion distributed as follows:

1996-1997 State Consolidated Budget

Health and Human Services	\$10.2	35%
K-12 Education	\$6.5	23%
Transportation	\$3.0	10%
Property Tax Aids & Credits	\$2.4	8%
Higher Education	\$2.2	8%
State Govt., Debt Serv. & Other	\$1.5	5%
Economic Development	\$1.4	5%
Criminal Justice	\$.9	3%
Environment & Natural Resources	\$.9	3%

(in billions of dollars)
Source: MN Department of Finance

Many of the programs supported by state funds receive additional money from other government entities. Local governments (counties, cities, townships, school districts) make expenditures in the areas shown above, using revenues derived primarily from property taxes and user fees. The focus of this publication is primarily on state spending.

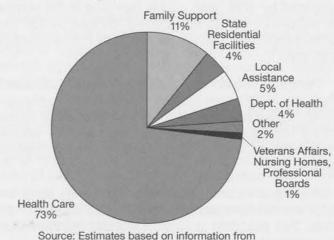
Health And Human Services

1996-97 Biennial Budget: Percent of Budget:

35%

\$10,161,290,000

Expenditures for health and human services constitute the largest segment of the 1996-97 consolidated state budget, allocated as follows:



Minnesota receives \$4.6 billion from the federal government to help fund the health and human services programs. If this aid is reduced, Minnesota will have to choose whether to reduce support to recipients or divert funds from other areas to make up the shortfall.

MN Department of Finance

In the 1996-97 biennium, health care expenditures are budgeted at \$7.5 billion. Health care is the fastest growing component of state expenditures. Spending for health care increased 89% during the period from 1980 to 1993 (adjusted for inflation), while overall general fund spending increased 26%. The number of Minnesotans over age 85, who are the greatest users of state funded health care services, is projected to grow five times as fast as the general population over the next 25 years. Therefore, health care will be a major contributor to the state's future fiscal challenge.

State health care expenditures fund four major programs:

Health Care Programs	% of 1996-97 Health Care Expenses
Medical Assistance (Medicaid)	88%
General Assistance Medical Care	5
Consolidated Chemical Dependen	су
Treatment Fund Entitlements	4
MinnesotaCare	3
Source: Estimates based on information from MN Department of Finance	

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is Minnesota's form of the federal Medicaid program, which was established in 1965 as Title XIX of the federal Social Security Act (Act). The Act delineates specific services which states must offer as part of basic health care for certain very poor people — those who are pregnant, aged, disabled or blind, and families with dependent children. The federally mandated services include early screening and diagnosis for children under 21, family planning, outpatient hospital services, nurse/midwife, physician and nursing home services.

Minnesota's MA program provides not only the services required by the Act, but many optional services as well. The cost of optional services provided under MA is partially funded by federal tax dollars. The MA program also covers some "waivered services," which are authorized in response to state requests.

MA reimburses medical providers using statedetermined reimbursement formulas which vary depending on the type of provider. In the 1996-97 biennium, the federal government will fund 58% of Minnesota's MA expenditures, while state funds will provide the remaining 42%.

Medicaid expenditures account for a large portion of health care spending in all states. In 1991, Minnesota's state expenses per MA recipient ranked 10th in the nation. Minnesota average expenses per disabled recipient were higher than those of any other state, and more than twice the national average.

From 1980 to 1993, the number of Minnesotans enrolled in MA increased from 190,000 to 388,000, almost 15 times what would be expected from the growth of the general population. This was a national trend. The proportion of MA funds spent in 1993 per type of recipient were as follows:

Clients	Funds	Enrollee
11%	39%	\$19,500
12	37	17,800
77	24	1,800
	12 77	12 37

Spending for health care is concentrated on elderly and disabled people. Of the \$19,500 spent per elderly recipient in 1993, 81% was for nursing home care.

General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC) provides physician and hospital services to low-income Minnesota residents who do not qualify for other medical programs.

The Consolidated Chemical Dependency Treatment Fund (CCDTF) serves chemically dependent Minnesota residents who meet financial eligibility criteria. The state distributes funds to the counties, which are responsible for contributing 15% of the total cost and administering the program.

MinnesotaCare provides subsidized health care coverage for persons who are underinsured or unable to afford medical insurance coverage. Premiums are set on a sliding scale. Created in 1992, eligibility and income limits are being expanded in stages, starting with children ages 1 through 17 where family incomes do not exceed 185% of federal poverty guidelines, and gradually adding parents, siblings, and later including single adults and couples without children. Covered medical services are also being phased in over a number of years, starting with primary preventive and outpatient services, and later adding others. In the 1996-97 biennium, all MinnesotaCare funding will come from the Health Care Access Fund, which derives revenues from MinnesotaCare premiums, cigarette taxes, and a 2% tax on hospitals and other health care providers.

In the 1996-97 biennium, the state is budgeted to spend \$1 billion for **Family Support** activities. These programs address a broad range of family needs, with funds allocated as follows:

Family Support Programs	% of 1996-97 Family Support Expenses
raining Support Flograms	Lybelises
Aid to Families with Dependent	
Children	65%
General Assistance	11
MN Family Investment Plan	10
MN Child Care Entitlement	9
MN Supplemental Aid	5
Source: Estimates based on information from MN Department of Finance	

Minnesota's Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program was established by the state Legislature following the federal Social Security Act of 1935. AFDC is intended to provide families sufficient income and resources to support a "reasonable subsistence with decency and health." AFDC is administered by counties following federal regulations. The Minnesota Legislature authorizes optional supplemental programs, and the state Department of Human Services (DHS) supervises program administration.

According to the Minnesota Taxpayers Association's State Government Spending, in fiscal year 1992 the majority of AFDC recipients were women and their children, with over 80% of the benefits paid to single parents. Trends in State and Local Government Spending, prepared by the Office of the Legislative Auditor, notes that between 1980 and 1995, AFDC per capita expenditures on a constant dollar basis declined by 17%, with a 22% increase in the number of recipients during that period. Of total AFDC program funds, over half are provided by the federal government.

Persons who do not qualify for federal assistance through AFDC may qualify for General Assistance (GA), if they are unable to work because of illness, injury, mental illness, advanced age or other specific qualifications. This program does not receive federal funds.

A program commonly associated with state and local human services spending is food stamps. However, that program is funded entirely by the federal government.

The Minnesota Family Investment Plan (MFIP) was initiated in 1989 as a pilot program to encourage DHS to improve the effectiveness of AFDC, GA and the federal food stamp program. The goal of MFIP is to eliminate complex rules, remove barriers to education, eliminate disincentives to work and give families more options.

Minnesota's Child Care Entitlement program aims to make child care services more accessible to low income families. To qualify for this program, parents must be employed, in training for employment or in education programs. This program receives federal funds, as well as state and county money.

Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA) is Minnesota's supplement to the federal program, Supplemental Security Income (SSI). To be eligible for MSA, persons must be 65 years of age or older, blind or disabled, and meet income and other eligibility criteria. In fiscal year 1992, 75% of clients were disabled, 24% were aged and 1% were blind according to *State Government Spending*.

Local Assistance includes human services programs such as Community Social Services, Group Residential Housing and Alternative Care programs. The Community Social Services Act funds county administered social services which assist children, youth and adults who are neglected, abused, vulnerable or chemically dependent. Group Residential Housing grants offer group living situations to certain

blind, aged and disabled persons who do not qualify for Medical Assistance. Through the Alternative Care Program, adult day care, personal care, nursing services and home health care services are provided to minimize entry into state-operated nursing homes. These programs provide alternatives to more costly institutional care, as well as reflecting the current trend away from placing persons in institutions.

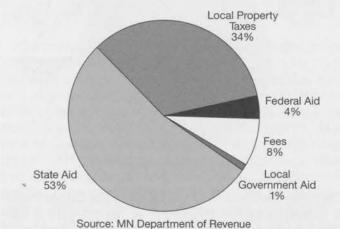
Minnesota operates ten **State Residential Facilities**. One is a nursing home. The other nine are Regional Treatment Centers for persons with severe mental and/or developmental handicaps, and/or chemical dependencies.

The **Department of Health's** mission is to safeguard, preserve and improve the health of Minnesota citizens. In this role, it is responsible for the coordination of federal, state and local health programs; regulation of health care delivery; investigation and monitoring of diseases; protection of citizens from environmental health hazards; and collection of data for health planning.

K-12 Education

1996-97 Biennial Budget:	\$6,529,311,000
Percent of Budget:	23%

In the 1996-97 biennium, the state of Minnesota will devote 23% of its consolidated budget to K-12 education. The following chart shows all sources of public school funding:



The following table identifies the functional categories of K-12 education expenditures per student for the years 1981 and 1994. The amounts for 1981 have been adjusted to reflect comparable purchasing power in 1994 dollars.

E	Expendit	ures Per	Student
			%
Spending Category	1981	1994	Change
Regular instruction	\$2,094	\$2,406	15%
Vocational instruction	373	130	-65
Special education	409*	716	75
Educationally			
disadvantaged/			
Assurance of Mastery	/ 48*	130	171
Gifted and Talented	5*	32	540
Pupil support	684	721	5
Instructional support	169	245	45
Administration	353	329	-7
District support	198	262	33
Facilities and equipmen	t 615	678	10
Debt service/other	599	604	1
Community education	113	221	96
Total	\$5,660	\$6,474	14

*Estimate based on 1982 spending disclosed in Trends in State and Local Government Spending.

Source: Trends in State and Local Government Spending

Special education funding provides services for students including those with learning disabilities. emotional and behavioral disorders, and mental or physical handicaps. Educationally disadvantaged students receive Title I reading instruction. The Assurance of Mastery program helps students (K-8th grade) who have not mastered basic skills in communications and mathematics. Pupil support includes expenditures for transportation services; food services; health, psychological and social work services; and guidance counselors. Instructional support includes expenditures for assistant principals, library/media centers, curriculum development, staff development and computer-assisted instruction. Community education includes early childhood and family services, extended day child care, and adult and family literacy instruction.

The table above shows that major areas of increased spending have been for students who are receiving special education services, or are educationally disadvantaged. These categories account for one-half of the total increase in K-12 spending during the 13-year period.

Another area of markedly increased spending is community education. While many people may not think of community education as a component of K-12 spending, it has become a significant category, exceeding spending on vocational instruction.

The major decrease in vocational instruction is attributable to the Legislature's discontinuing its practice of earmarking funding for specific areas of education spending, replacing that funding with block grants. Under the new approach, school districts determine local spending needs. Many districts have chosen to reduce spending on vocational instruction.

As noted previously, total per pupil expenditures increased from \$5,660 in 1981 (adjusted to reflect 1994 purchasing power) to \$6,474 in 1994. Components of this spending are as follows:

			%
Type of Expenditure	1981	1994	Change
Wages	\$3,226	\$3,666	14%
Employee benefits	579	912	58
Capital expenditures			
and debt service	558	768	38
Supplies and materials	543	385	-29
Other	754	743	-1
Total	\$5,660	\$6,474	14

Education is primarily a service activity. Therefore, the principle expenses for K-12 education are wages and related employee benefits, including health insurance and retirement. Wage increases for teachers, administrators and support staff, and especially increases in employee benefits, account for most of the increased K-12 spending. Expenditures for capital expenditures and debt service also increased sharply. On the other hand, spending for supplies and materials decreased significantly. In some school districts, teachers resort to purchasing some of their classroom supplies from their personal funds to compensate for reductions in school supplies budgets.

Through the year 2001, student populations are projected to increase as noted in the graph of population projections on page 1. Most of this growth will occur in the seven-county Metropolitan area and in Southeastern and East Central Minnesota. Districts experiencing high population growth will need to construct additional school buildings, as well as purchase additional computers, books, etc. These demographic changes will create pressure to devote a larger percentage of state revenues to K-12 education in the near future. After 2001, however, the school-age population is projected to decline, although not uniformly throughout the state.

Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, Minnesota ranked 22nd in per pupil spending for the 1992-93 school year. Per pupil expenditures as a percentage of the national average are as follows:

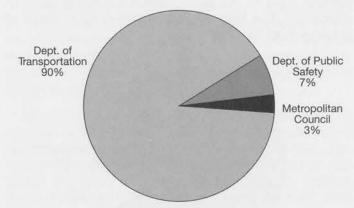
State	1993*	1994**
Minnesota	99%	101%
Wisconsin	116	118
Iowa	94	97
South Dakota	78	83
North Dakota	82	80
	r for Education Statistic ation Association 1993-	

Wisconsin is the neighboring state most comparable with Minnesota. Like Minnesota, it has a large metropolitan area, with the accompanying challenges of educating inner city children. Other neighboring states do not have large metropolitan areas.

Transportation

1996-97 Biennial Budget:	\$2,962,618,000
Percent of Budget:	10%

For the 1996-97 biennium, 10% of Minnesota's consolidated fund budget is allocated to transportation. Close to \$3 billion will be distributed as follows:



Source: MN Department of Finance

By law, the mission of the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is "to provide a balanced transportation system, ...includ[ing] aeronautics, highways, motor carriers, ports, public transit, railroads and pipelines." Of the \$2.66 billion allocated

to MnDOT for the 1996-97 biennium, 62% will come from the Highway Users Tax Distribution Fund (HUTDF), which is derived chiefly from gasoline taxes and the motor vehicle license tax. Another 27% will come from federal sources, 7% from airport taxes and other earnings, and the remaining 4% from the state general fund.

The Minnesota Constitution requires that 95% of the HUTDF be allocated to roads and highways. The Constitution further specifies how the 95% is distributed: 62% to the Trunk Highway Fund, 29% to the County State-Aid Highway Fund, and 9% to the Municipal State-Aid Fund. The use of the remaining 5% is at the discretion of the Legislature.

In addition to road construction and maintenance. MnDOT is responsible for supporting rail and waterway systems; purchasing and managing equipment; and administrative, engineering, legal and general services to support the work of the department.

Minnesota had the fifth largest network of roads in the country in 1993, with 130,000 miles of roads. Of these roads, 11% are in urban areas and carry 52% of the traffic. Interstates and freeways account for less than 1% of the mileage, but carry 27% of the traffic.

Minnesota spends 20% more than the national average for state-administered roads. Some of this additional expenditure can be attributed to the state's winter weather, but much is due to a greater number of paved roads and higher standards. In Minnesota. 79% of rural collector roads are paved, compared with 51% in other Midwestern states. Also, 85% of Minnesota's rural roads are at least 12 feet wide, while in other states in the region, only 30% of rural roads are that wide.

Concerns about the aging and deterioration of the state's roads and bridges have been heard for many years. The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration reported in 1992 that 68% of federal and state supported roads were in fair condition. In MnDOT's January 1996 report, Minnesota Statewide Transportation Plan, it was noted that in 1991 the Transportation Study Board identified two levels of service for meeting future transportation needs. They estimated that to address all identified transportation and transit needs would cost \$63.9 billion, in 1990 dollars, over 20 years. Of this amount, \$38.5 billion would come from state and federal funding, with the remaining provided by local governments. Maintaining only those needs critical to supporting current mobility levels would cost \$54.5 billion (1990 dollars), with \$32.1 billion funded through federal and state money, and \$22.4 billion through

local governments. Because the last state gas tax increase was in 1988, and because this tax is not indexed for inflation, the amount of funding for transportation has decreased in inflation-adjusted dollars.

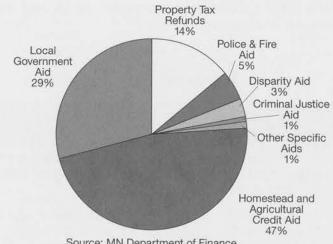
The major transportation responsibilities of the Department of Public Safety include the state patrol, driver and vehicle services, traffic safety and department administration.

The Metropolitan Council is responsible for public transit in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, including transportation for persons with disabilities. State funding accounts for only a small portion of the Metropolitan Council's transportation budget, with the majority supported by fees.

Property Tax Aids and Credits

1996-97 Biennial Budget:	\$2,407,377,000
Percent of Budget:	8%

Property tax aids and credits represent the fourth largest segment of Minnesota's consolidated budget. In the 1996-97 biennium, \$2.4 billion will be paid by the state to other levels of government and to citizens, allocated as follows:



Source: MN Department of Finance

State-paid aids to local governments are intended to provide property tax relief to property owners by having the state pay a portion of property taxes directly to cities, townships, counties and school districts. Currently, the two major components of state aid to local governments are Homestead and Agricultural Credit Aid and Local Government Aid. In addition, the state sends refunds to homeowners and renters, and provides several aids to local governments for specific purposes.

Homestead and Agricultural Credit Aid (HACA) was created in 1990 to replace existing homestead and agricultural credit programs. Counties, cities, townships, school districts and special taxing districts receive HACA. The amount paid to each entity is based predominantly on its previous year's payment, with some adjustments for fiscal disparities, net tax capacity, and to counties for growth. HACA funds are also provided to fund services previously funded at a local level which have been taken over by the state, and to reimburse local governments for taxes lost as a result of property class rate changes.

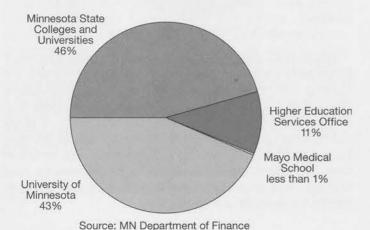
Local Government Aid (LGA) is a general purpose aid to cities and townships, intended for property tax relief, and not designated to any specific purpose. Like HACA, it is based primarily on past spending patterns. The complex formula starts with the amount received the previous year, and is adjusted by factors intended to reflect communities' needs for outside revenue. These factors include the percentage of pre-1940 housing, population, population decline, percentage of commercial and industrial property value, city levy, net tax capacity, and other aids received.

The state refunds property taxes directly to certain homeowners and renters based on the amount of their property taxes and income level. Aids are also paid to local governments to account for disparities and to fund specific needs, including police and fire pensions and criminal justice.

Higher Education

1996-97 Biennial Budget:	\$2,251,768,000
Percent of Budget:	8%

For the 1996-97 biennium, 8% of the state's consolidated fund budget is designated for higher education, allocated as follows:



According to state statute, the **University of Min- nesota's (U of M)** stated mission is to "offer undergraduate, graduate, and professional instruction
through the doctoral degree, and shall be the primary
state-supported academic agency for research and
extension services."

The U of M has undergone a number of changes in recent years. In 1987, it started implementing its "Commitment to Focus," which established priorities and shifted resources to the highest priority programs. Results included closing the Waseca campus, discontinuing a number of programs, and improving support programs for incoming students with educational disadvantages. Currently the U of M operates four campuses, with fall 1995 student enrollments ranging from 1,729 at Crookston to 36,995 in the Twin Cities.

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System (MnSCU) was formed in July 1995, bringing together the State University, Community College and Technical College systems. The intention was to streamline, coordinate and clarify missions of the three systems.

The State Universities offer undergraduate and master's degree programs at seven campuses. Individual campus enrollments ranged from 2,469 at Southwest (Marshall) to 14,128 at St. Cloud in fall 1995.

Minnesota's Community Colleges provide twoyear associate degrees as well as education in occupational fields such as accounting, law enforcement and nursing. As of fall 1995, there were 21 campuses with enrollments ranging from 770 to 7,718 students.

Technical Colleges provide training for skilled occupations that do not require a degree. In 1995, the state's Technical College system included 34 campuses, with total fall enrollment ranging from 660 at the smallest school to 6,109 at the largest.

The July 1995 MnSCU merger resulted in the consolidation of administrative functions within and between Community and Technical Colleges. As of 1995, three consolidated (Community/Technical) colleges enrolled 8,674 students, 992 at the smallest and 2,903 at the largest. Community and Technical College administrations continue to be consolidated as part of the MnSCU merger.

Type of Institution	1995 Enrollment	% Change Since 1991
U of M	48,091	-5.5%
MnSCU		
State Universities	52,646	-14.9
Community Colleges	47,735	-9.1
Technical Colleges	41,393	5.5
Consolidated Colleges	8,674	10.1*

*Based on enrollments before July 1995 merger

Source: MN Higher Education Services Office

The Higher Education Services Board (HESB) is charged with the responsibility of analyzing and planning for the higher education needs of the state.

Since 1983, higher education's share of the total state budget has tended downward. As a result, tuition has contributed an increasing proportion of instruction costs, growing faster than both the rate of inflation and growth in personal income. According to *Trends in State and Local Government Spending*, the state financed 78% of Minnesota's higher education instruction costs in 1978, with tuition revenue providing the remaining 22%. By 1994, the state contribution to instruction costs had dropped to 63%, with tuition revenue increasing to provide the remaining 37%.

During this same period, however, the state funded sizable increases in research conducted by the higher education institutions, particularly the U of M. The state also increased its commitment to need-based student financial aid.

Minnesotans' participation in higher education is 40 students attending per 1,000 residents, compared with 33 per 1,000 nationally. Responding to a 1950 recommendation by the Minnesota Commission on Higher Education, state policy makers have favored access to higher education over cost containment. The policy was to enable 90% of the state's residents to be within 35 miles of an institution of higher learning. As a result there are 66 campuses throughout the state, compared to a national average of 31. The MnSCU merger efforts have reduced the number of administrations managing those campuses.

In 1993, Minnesota ranked 20th in state and local contributions per capita to higher education. Because the state contributes less compared to other neighboring states, tuition in Minnesota is higher.

	dergraduate	Per Capita	
State	Tuition*	Spending**	Rank
North Dakota	\$2,128	\$582	1
Iowa	2,352	445	9
Wisconsin	2,318	427	12
Minnesota	2,780	371	20
National average	2,543	331	
South Dakota	2,288	258	44
Source: *Digest of Edu **How Does Mi	cation Statistics 1 nnesota Compare	1994 9?	

Economic Development

1996-97 Biennial Budget:	\$1,399,164,000	
Percent of Budget:	5%	

Budgeted expenditures for economic development will total \$1.4 billion during the 1996-97 biennium, or 5% of state spending. Much of this spending, however, will be funded by grants from the federal government. The economic development sector of consolidated state spending includes the following:

	Economic Development Programs	1996-97	Federal Funding
1		(in mi	llions)
	Department of Economic Security Department of Labor and	\$612	\$462
	Industry, Mediation Servi Workers' Compensation, Court of Appeals, Labor		7
	Interpretive Center Department of Trade and Economic Development, Minnesota Technology,	263	7
	World Trade Center Corp Department of Commerce,	. 225	134
	various professional boar Historical Society, Humaniti		-
	Commission, Arts Board Iron Range Resources	68	3
	and Rehabilitation Department of Public Service Public Utilities Commissi Secretary of State, Councils on Minority Affa	on,	-
ı	other boards	50	2
١	Total	\$1,399	\$608
	Source: MN Department of Finance		

The mission of the Department of Economic **Security (MDES)** is to help people help themselves achieve economic security. MDES is organized into four branches: Rehabilitation Services, Services for the Blind, Job Service/Re-employment Insurance and Community-Based Services. These branches provide employment and independent living assistance for people with disabilities, disability determination, employment assistance, veterans' employment services, labor statistics, re-employment insurance, job training, displaced homemakers' services, youth employment and training services, lowincome weatherization and energy assistance, emergency food and housing, and economic opportunity programs. Seven different federal agencies, primarily the Department of Labor, provide 77% of the funding for MDES. The state general fund provides 15% of funding, with the remaining 8% coming from a special revenue fund provided by a surtax on employer reemployment insurance.

The **Department of Labor and Industry** is responsible for the workers' compensation fund, which provides for employees who are injured on the job if their employer is underinsured. They are also charged with ensuring safety and fairness in the workplace. More than 95% of the department's budget is funded through fees and penalties assessed to insurers. Most expenses pertain to workers' compensation. The department receives \$6.7 million from the federal government and \$7.7 million from the state general fund to cover administrative costs. The Bureau of Mediation Services assists unions, employees and employers in negotiating contracts.

The goal of the **Department of Trade and Eco- nomic Development (DTED)** is to facilitate an economic environment that produces net new job growth
in excess of the national average and increases nonresident and resident tourism revenues. The DTED
provides regional business and community development programs, small business assistance and economic analysis. It also includes the Minnesota Trade
Office and the Office of Tourism. Bond revenues provide for 66% of DTED expenses; the state general
fund provides the remaining 34%.

The **Department of Commerce** regulates insurance companies, the real estate industry, state banks, credit unions and other state financial institutions. Fees charged to companies and agents more than cover the operating cost of the department.

The **Historical Society** exists to preserve and share the state's history. Almost 70% of funding is provided by state appropriations. Other governmental grants (federal, county) provide 11% of funds;

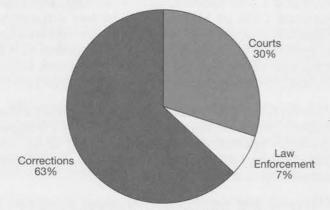
earned income, 12%; and support from individuals, corporations and foundations, 7% of the society's revenue.

The Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB), founded in 1941, exists to enhance the economic viability of northeastern Minnesota. The IRRRB receives its funding from the Taconite Production Tax, which is paid by mining companies on each ton of taconite produced, in lieu of property taxes. It does not receive operational funding from the state's general fund.

Criminal Justice

1996-97 Biennial Budget:	\$898,252,000
Percent of Budget:	3%

The 1996-97 consolidated budget allocates 3% of state spending to the three major components of criminal justice as follows:



Source: MN Department of Finance

In addition to state criminal justice funding, cities and counties also fund expenditures for each of these three categories. The bulk of cities' spending goes to local police departments, with a small amount for local jails. Counties fund sheriffs' departments, county attorneys, probation officers and supervision and court security. Costs of district courts are shared by counties and the state.

The largest portion of the state's criminal justice budget goes to the Minnesota **Department of Corrections** to support institutions, community services and the victim services unit.

State correctional facilities are located in Faribault, Lino Lakes, Oak Park Heights, Red Wing, St. Cloud, Sauk Centre, Shakopee, Stillwater and Willow River/Moose Lake. Almost 70% of the Department of Corrections 1994-95 budget was devoted to the operation of correctional facilities.

Community services expenditures encompass probation and supervised release, Community Corrections Act, Community Correctional Alternatives, Sentencing to Service, facilities planning and inspection, and support services. The Victim Services Unit funds programs for battered women, sexual assault survivors, general crime victims and abused children.

State appropriations for **Courts** fund appellate courts (the State Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Tax Court of Appeals), boards and commissions (Board of Judicial Standards, Sentencing Guidelines Commission, Private Detective Board, Board of Public Defense), as well as judges' retirement funds.

Law Enforcement expenditures falling under the Criminal Justice budget include support for the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (crime lab and investigators), the state Fire Marshal and gambling and liquor control.

According to Minnesota Planning's March 1996 report, *Paying the Price: The Rising Cost of Prison*, "For years, Minnesota successfully limited the use of expensive prison space for only the most violent and habitual criminals, while using community-based intermediate penalties for more than 75% of felony offenders." Along with low violent crime rates, this policy has kept Minnesota's per capita prison costs at \$25 per citizen, the third lowest in the nation, and the state's correction budget at less than half the level of other states. Because fewer people were incarcerated, Minnesota could afford to lock up violent offenders for longer periods than all but one of 26 other states reporting data.

However, it should be noted that Minnesota's adult prison population has more than doubled over the last 10 years. In the 15-year period from 1980 to 1995, spending for state adult and juvenile correctional facilities increased from \$37 million to \$162 million, more than twice the rate of inflation. This cost is projected to increase to \$234 million by 1999, not including the cost of prison construction.

Factors contributing to the projected growth in prison inmates include: a growing number of 15- to 24-year olds (projected increase of 14% between 1995 and 2005) coupled with an increasing arrest rate for serious crime in this age group; increasing crime rates, especially for violent crimes; increasing arrest rates for violent crimes; and new or increased crimi-

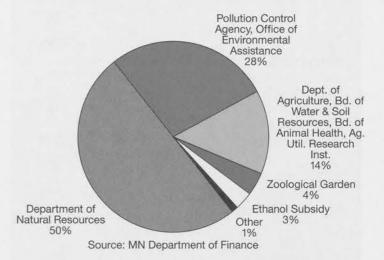
nal penalties – longer sentences and a greater percentage of convicted offenders receiving prison or jail sentences.

Currently, the state is short 300 prison beds, and projections show a shortage of about 1,200 prison beds by the year 2000.

Environment And Natural Resources

1996-97 Biennial Budget:	\$858,463,000
Percent of Budget:	3%

Minnesota, the "Land of 10,000 Lakes," has a historic commitment to its natural resources. For the 1996-97 biennium, the consolidated state budget allocates \$858 million to the following environmental and natural resources activities:



The largest expenditure of state funds in this area is through the **Department of Natural Resources** (**DNR**). The DNR is responsible for preserving, protecting and enhancing Minnesota's natural resources through its management of state-owned lands and navigable waters and maintenance of surface and ground water supplies for basic use, environmental protection and economic production.

The mission of the **Pollution Control Agency** is to protect and improve the air, water and land in Minnesota. Its responsibilities include setting standards, providing regulatory approvals, completing environmental assessments, monitoring and enforcing compliance with environmental standards, responding to environmental threats such as spills, and sponsoring educational activities to encourage protection of the environment.

The **Department of Agriculture** promotes the development of agriculture and related industries. It provides services to family farms to encourage their continued existence, regulates non-farm corporate or foreign ownership of land and strives to increase markets for Minnesota agricultural products, while meeting public health, safety and environmental protection requirements. The **Water And Soil Resources Board** works with Soil and Water Conservation Districts and local governments to manage water and soil resources. Some conservation activities include floodplain management, erosion control and wetland conservation.

As is the case with most segments of the state budget, environment and natural resources programs receive money from local governments, as well as from the state. Considering state and local funds together, Minnesota environmental spending compares to other states nationwide as follows:

	Expend Per C		%
	1972*	1992	Change
Minnesota			
Parks and recreation	\$42	\$90	114%
Natural resources	50	68	36
Sewerage	88	80	-9
Solid waste			
management	12	48	300
	\$192	\$286	49
United States		New Services	
Parks and recreation	\$37	\$62	68%
Natural resources	50	51	2
Sewerage	52	80	54
Solid waste			
management	25	47	88
	\$164	\$240	46

*The 1972 amounts have been adjusted to reflect 1992 purchasing power.

Source: Trends in State and Local Government Spending

As reported in *Trends in State and Local Government Spending*, Minnesota spends 45% more per capita for parks and recreation than the national average. At both the state and local levels, park spending is a priority. Minnesota's parks and recreation facilities are major attractions for tourists from other states.

Expenditures for natural resources include fish and game, forestry, soil and water resource programs. Again, Minnesotans spend 33% more per capita than the national average.

Much of the increase in environmental and natural resources spending has been funded through fees, rather than general taxes. In all four categories of spending noted above, fee revenues have risen dramatically. In 1992, 42% of expenditures were funded through fees, compared with only 19% in 1977.

APPROPRIATE RESPONSIBILITIES OF STATE GOVERNMENT

In light of the predicted shortage of state funds to pay for the current level of services, a number of questions will need to be addressed. What programs and services are appropriately the responsibility of state government? Should some services be provided to all citizens who meet eligibility criteria, regardless of the ability of the state to fund them? What levels of government are best suited to supplying services?

The Minnesota State Constitution provides a starting point for answering these questions. Article I, Section 1, states that "...government is instituted for the security, benefit and protection of the people...." The Constitution also specifies a few responsibilities of State government.

Article XIII, Section 1 states that "...it is the duty of the legislature to establish a general and uniform system of **public schools**. The legislature shall make such provisions by taxation or otherwise as will secure a thorough and efficient system of public schools throughout the state."

Article XIII, Section 3 affirms the state's responsibility to the **University of Minnesota**, which was established in 1851, six years before the state's Constitution. "All the rights, immunities, franchises and endowments heretofore granted or conferred upon the university of Minnesota are perpetuated unto the university."

Article XIV, Section 2 addresses the matter of transportation, requiring "...a trunk highway system which shall be constructed, improved and maintained as public highways by the state." Section 1 establishes that "The state may construct, improve and maintain public highways, may assist political subdivisions in this work and by law may authorize any political subdivision to aid in highway work within its boundaries." (Note the use of "may" in this Section, rather than "shall.") Further, Section 3 calls for "a county state-aid highway system [which] shall be constructed, improved and maintained by the counties as public highways in the manner provided by law. The system shall include streets in municipalities

of less than 5,000 population where necessary to provide an integrated and coordinated highway system and may include similar streets in larger municipalities," and Section 4 proclaims that "[a] municipal state-aid street system shall be constructed, improved and maintained as public highways by municipalities having a population of 5,000 or more in the manner provided by law."

In sum, the Constitution requires state funding of public schools, the U of M and trunk highways, and suggests partial state funding of county and municipal streets. Lacking any change in the Constitution, the people of Minnesota are entitled to receive these services, and state government is responsible for determining the appropriate level of service to be funded.

In addition, state and local governments currently provide many additional programs and services. If future spending needs exceed state revenues as projected, continuation of all state and local government services in their present forms may not be possible.

That prospect raises several philosophical questions: to what extent do the additional programs and services fulfill state government's objective of providing for the "security, benefit and protection of the people," as Article I of the Constitution directs? Is it appropriate for state and/or local governmental entities to assume responsibility for:

- providing a basic level of support (food, clothing, shelter, medical care)?
- providing opportunities for higher education?
- promoting trade, economic development and job opportunities?
- enforcing laws?
- protecting the environment against pollution or degradation?
- · providing recreational facilities and opportunities?

If these programs are appropriate responsibilities of government, which level of government should have responsibility for each? How should standards for delivery of the services be determined? And how should the programs be funded?

MODELS FOR CHANGE

To achieve the most cost-effective delivery of services, some have suggested that government make revolutionary changes in the way it provides services. These proposals include reinventing government, performance-based budgeting, privatization and increased competition.

Reinventing Government

The idea of reinventing government is an outgrowth of Michael Hammer and James Champy's concept of "reengineering" corporations. In Reengineering the Corporation, they urged corporate executives to "throw out their old notions about how businesses should be organized and run" in order to deal with the competition they face in the new global economy. David Osborne and Ted Gaebler send the same message to government officials in Reinventing Government: How the Entrepreneurial Spirit is Transforming the Public Sector, asserting that nothing less than a change in mind-set is required. Governments must become customer-driven (meeting the needs of customers not the bureaucracy); mission-driven (not ruledriven); results-oriented (funding outcomes, not inputs); enterprising (earning rather than spending); and anticipatory (preventing rather than curing). Reinventing government is the objective of the National Performance Review panel, headed by Vice President Al Gore.

Performance-Based Budgeting

Another revolutionary approach to achieving costeffective delivery of government services is performance-based budgeting. A frequently cited example of its use is in the city of Sunnyvale, California, which met the challenge presented by Proposition 13 by adopting three essential business principles: longrange planning, performance budgeting and performance auditing. Osborne and Gaebler describe Sunnyvale's procedures as follows: "Sunnyvale's managers measure the quantity, quality, and cost of every service they deliver.... The City Council...no longer votes on line items: it votes on service levels. It does not tell the Department of Public Works: 'We want to spend \$1 million reconstructing highway A, \$500,000 repairing roads B, C, and D, and \$250,000 filling potholes throughout the city.' Instead it defines the results it wants... 'We want every road surface now at level A maintained at that level; every road surface now at level B brought up to level A within X years and every surface at level C brought up to level A within Y years.' The department tells the Council exactly how much that will cost, depending on the numbers used for X and Y and the Council decides how much to spend to achieve the results it wants and how fast." Managers are on a pay-for-performance compensation system. Depending upon goal accomplishment, the pay-for-performance system can result in an annual reduction in pay range of up to 5 percent or a one-time bonus of as much as 10 percent. Despite the ongoing California budget crisis,

Sunnyvale has continued to provide its high level of services with no service reductions, no tax increases and no staff layoffs. Ongoing user surveys indicate high levels of constituent satisfaction.

Privatization

Privatization is a third method suggested for increasing the cost-effectiveness of government programs. Taxpayers expect government to "provide" for the delivery of certain goods and services but the distinction between providing a service and producing it is often overlooked. Privatization is defined by E. A. Savas, in Privatization, The Key to Better Government, as "the act of reducing the role of government, or increasing the role of the private sector, in an activity or in the ownership of assets." Providing a service at collective expense does not necessarily mean producing it using government equipment and government employees. Governments may produce a service, or contract with a private or third sector (not-for-profit) organization to supply it, or issue vouchers that enable recipients to utilize the privatesector marketplace to obtain goods and services on a subsidized basis. Governments have made use of all these alternatives to provide housing to lowincome persons.

Osborne and Gaebler argue that "Privatization is one answer, not the answer." They point out that "business does some things better than government, but government does some things better than business." Most efforts to increase the role of the private sector in the production of government-supported services seek to harness the efficiencies associated with competition among providers.

Competition

According to John Moffitt, Chief Secretary to Massachusetts Governor William Weld, "The issue is not public versus private. It is competition versus monopoly." Many observers of government agree that competition breeds efficiency and forces public (or private) monopolies to respond to the needs of their customers. Competition rewards innovation and can ultimately boost pride and morale of public employees.

Competition can take many forms. Private vs. private competition is standard practice. When a governmental entity contracts out for goods or services, it invites multiple private firms to compete with one another for the contract. Public vs. private competition has become more common as governments

invite public employees as well as private companies to enter bids. In the late 1970s, the Phoenix Public Works Department was invited to submit a bid for solid waste collection. Private contractors won the first round of bids, but during the 1980s the Public Works Department found new ways of increasing productivity and brought all the work back in-house. In the latest bidding round, a private sector contractor beat out the Public Works Department for a portion of the city's work. A decade of public-private competition has saved the city an estimated \$20 million (Finding New Heroes for a New Era, by John Huey). Public vs. public competition is also increasingly common. Some places now use competition between public schools or between traditional and charter schools, and, in other circumstances, governmental units bid to provide services to each other.

REVENUE APPROACHES

Besides changing the way government provides services, or reducing the number of services governments provide, another approach to modifying state spending is to link program expenditures closely to program revenues. Under such an arrangement, a decline in revenue would have a direct effect on the level of service provided. Proponents of this stratagem argue that it would give people greater choice about how much they are willing to spend on particular programs. This system suggests that user fees, rather than taxes, become major sources of funding for some programs, such as higher education and parks.

Price of Government

Yet another strategy suggested to control state spending is to limit government revenues. In line with this concept, a 1994 state law, known as the "Price of Government," requires that the Governor and Legislature set revenue targets during the legislative sessions in odd-numbered years (which are the budgeting legislative sessions) for the following two bienniums. These targets specify the maximum percentage of total personal income which may be collected in taxes and other revenues by the state and local (county, city, township and school district) governments in Minnesota.

The Price of Government target is calculated using the following formula:

(State and local tax revenues + Non-tax revenues) ÷ Minnesota personal income In fiscal year 1995, state and local tax revenues included the following sums received from all classes of taxpayers:

Type of Tax Revenue	Fiscal Year 1995 (in millions)
Property tax Individual income tax General sales tax Corporate income tax Gasoline and special fuels tax Motor vehicle license tax Motor vehicle excise tax Health care tax All other taxes	\$4,079* 3,753 2,790 666 469 452 348 146 807 \$13,510

*Property taxes included in the price of government computation do not reflect property tax refunds.

Source: State and Local Revenues, C. Y. 1990-1998

State and local non-tax revenues during the same period included the following sums received from all classes of taxpayers:

Type of Non-Tax Revenue	Fiscal Year 1995
	(in millions)
Selected local enterprise	
revenues	\$1,786**
Local charges for services	479
Post-secondary tuition	418
Investment earnings	363
State fees and charges	358
Local special assessments	255
School sales and fee revenue	127
Local licenses and permits	79
Other miscellaneous revenue	1,278
	\$5,143

**Selected enterprise revenues include charges to users for hospitals, nursing homes, ambulance, water, sewer, and cultural and recreational activities.

Source: State and Local Revenues, C. Y. 1990-1998

Minnesota personal income, for the purposes of the target calculation, includes personal income from the following sources: wages and salaries; other labor income, including fringe benefits for health insurance, pensions, etc.; self-employment income; rental income for properties, including imputed rental

income from home ownership (rental value of home less cost of owning and maintaining home); dividend and interest income; payments received from social security, disabled citizens, veterans, government pension, aid for dependent children, Medicaid and Medicare. From these sources of personal income, personal contributions to social security, Medicare and government pensions are deducted. Capital gains are not included in Minnesota personal income for purposes of this calculation.

In 1995, total Minnesota personal income was \$102.18 billion. Therefore, according to the above formula, the 1995 "price of government" was 18.3%.

The "Price of Government" law is intended to encourage state and local governments to set their budgets within an acceptable range of taxation. The targets adopted by the 1995 Legislature are as follows:

Fiscal Years	Price of Government	State Portion	Local Portion
1996-1997	18.2%	57%	43%
1998-1999	17.8	56	44

However, these are only targets. The law contains no enforcement mechanism. Therefore, some local jurisdictions may consistently exceed or fall below these targets without incurring any consequences (other than constituent protest).

Besides the law's lack of any enforcement mechanism, critics point out shortcomings in the "price of government" computation. Although, the price of government is understood by many to be the percentage of their personal income which is used to pay for state and local taxes, the computation of government revenues includes taxes and user fees paid by businesses as well as individuals. Also included are investment earnings, post-secondary tuition, and enterprise revenues from users of hospitals, nursing homes, ambulance, water, sewer, and cultural and recreational activities. Most people would not consider these user fees to be a part of their tax burden, since an obligation to pay such charges is the result of choosing to use particular services. Furthermore, the property tax revenues included in this computation are gross figures, not reflecting property tax refunds made by the state. All of these inclusions may overstate the actual tax burden and unfairly foster taxpayer concern over excessive taxation.

MAKING CHANGES: CRITERIA FOR SPENDING DECISIONS

Developing a Vision

In order to decide how state funds will be allocated in a period of projected shortfalls, citizens must assist elected officials to establish criteria for setting spending priorities. The custom of looking at the worthiness of each program individually does not serve well the state's need to control spending. Rather, budgeting decisions should be driven by a vision for the state's future.

State leaders, with broad participation from ordinary citizens, should develop a vision of the state's future. Once key features of the vision are identified, specific goals can be named. Those goals can be used to prioritize legislative spending decisions. Some goals will be more important than others. As resources shrink, key goals should be funded more completely than those of lower priority. Each program's level of funding should be decided on the basis of its importance in achieving the overall vision.

Criteria

Brandl and Weber, in *An Agenda for Reform*, urge "fundamental changes in the way Minnesota delivers taxpayers' services." The reforms they advocate are "based on achieving results through competition, encouraging communities and concentrating spending on people most in need." They assert that "...debate on priorities for funding among program areas should occur only after Minnesota institutes serious and far-reaching reform and restructuring."

In its 1990 report, Remaking the Minnesota Miracle: Facing New Fiscal Realities, the Citizens League recommended four principles to guide decisions about financing and managing state and local programs:

- Accountability: Responsibility for services should be assigned to the entity that is accountable to the electorate, the recipient of the service, and the governmental unit or persons paying for the service.
- Effectiveness: Responsibility for services should be assigned to the entity, public or private, that gets the job done well and measures for results.
- Economy: Responsibility for services should be assigned to the entity, public or private, that can supply the service at the lowest possible cost. For instance, in developed areas, water treat-

- ment and sewage facilities can be provided less expensively on a regional basis than on an individual city basis.
- Equity: Responsibility for services should be assigned to the entities that can finance the service equitably, and ensure equity in the delivery of services to all persons.

Consideration of these four principles may help determine which level of government should have primary responsibility for particular services and which governmental entity should provide the funding. The determination of whether the governmental entity should supply the service or simply have oversight responsibilities is another consideration. It must be understood that these four principles cannot be equally achieved. Indeed they may conflict with each other. According to Remaking the Minnesota Miracle, the goal is to structure a system that optimizes these four principles.

Monitoring Government Programs

Monitoring the value and effectiveness of government programs is essential. Cities, counties and school districts are required to report to the state on their expenditures, both from state funds and from local revenues. The State Auditor assesses those reports. Citizens may petition to have the State Auditor investigate specific local expenditures. The Legislative Auditor also monitors, evaluates and audits state funded activities.

Citizen groups, such as the League of Women Voters, the Citizens League and the Minnesota Taxpayers Association, and the media play an important role in encouraging adherence to guidelines. Accountability can be enhanced by the action of citizens asking questions, such as, "Why is this program provided?" or "Is there a better way?" Effectiveness may be encouraged by citizens or the media comparing results of their own school system to results in other districts, or comparing the rate at which their own police solve crimes to the rates in other communities.

"Sunset" provisions in legislative authorizations call public attention to programs nearing expiration, and encourage examination of their effectiveness, economy and equity. Consideration could be made to set up all state funded programs with sunset provisions to prompt a comprehensive review of whether the programs are meeting their objectives, and if the benefits justify the costs.

Alternatives for Change

For many of the programs and services currently provided by the state, issues have been raised and alternatives proposed. In order to have a substantial impact on the state's fiscal challenge, proposals for change must focus on the major forces driving state spending: eligibility guidelines, levels of services provided, standards and regulations, infrastructure needs, and costs of labor, materials, etc.

Brandl and Weber recommend, as one of five guiding principles for reform of state spending, that "eligibility for government benefits should be limited to the most needy." This recommendation implies changing the eligibility guidelines for a wide variety of state programs and services, such as health care for elderly and disabled, financial aid for higher education and financial aid to local governments.

Other approaches address additional forces that propel state spending, such as the level of services provided — optional Medical Assistance services, multiple higher education sites, paved rural roads, etc. Further suggestions include reducing standards and regulations, such as for prison construction

guidelines and road widths. And, changing the rules for bidding or negotiating union contracts could result in substantially reduced labor costs.

Tradeoffs will be necessary as a part of any fundamental rethinking of state responsibilities. For example, several recent Legislative sessions have considered proposals to increase state funding to K-12 education while reducing or eliminating local government aid (LGA). Proponents believe that such changes would help equalize educational opportunities across the state. Reduction of LGA would increase accountability of city governments by forcing them to rely more on local revenue sources. Local taxpayers might better understand the costs of services they receive, and act as a control mechanism to eliminate inefficient or unnecessary local governmental spending. Opponents argue that such a shift would decrease the accountability of local school boards to the recipients of their services. It would also cause large increases in property taxes in property-poor cities, and increase the disparities among cities, since their property tax bases range from \$224 to \$1,434 per capita (1994 figures, from the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities).

CONCLUSION

In the near future, Minnesota will face significant fiscal challenges. While the exact magnitude of the overall resource/spending gap remains to be seen, the demographics and trends make it clear that changes in state services and/or revenue raising policies will be necessary. To ensure the continued high quality of life Minnesotans enjoy, as well as future balanced state budgets, elected officials and citizens must start planning now.

Citizens will need to become better informed about current state spending practices. Only then can they

play a vital role with elected officials in the process of developing the state's broad goals and spending policies for the future. Through their participation, citizens will gain a better understanding of the rationale for making changes. This will facilitate the transition to future reductions in state services and/or increases in taxation or fees.

Now is the time to give thoughtful attention to this challenge – before the crisis occurs.

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STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING FACTS AND ISSUES

If your League has enough money in your Education Fund, you may use that to pay for the copies for your members and to distribute to the community. The LWVMNEF Board passed a blanket approval for that use. Please fill out the Education Fund Form attached — using the information below to calculate your costs.

You may also order for your League and just pass the charge on to your members using your own regular bank account to pay by check. If you choose that route, you can complete the order with this page alone.

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- 2. Have them sent in bulk to one location ... \$1.00 /copy plus shipping
- 3. Have them mailed first class to individual members ... \$2.00 / person

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The BUDGET PROCESS and OPPORTUNITIES for CITIZEN INPUT

Schedule of Significant Dates Fiscal Year 1998-1999 Biennial Budget Process (Biennium Beginning July 1, 1997 and ending June 30, 1999)

<u>Date</u> <u>Action</u>

1996

January - June

Commissioner of Finance prepares budget forms and instructions for all state agencies, subject to the approval of the Governor.

June

Executive budget guidelines and instructions issued to state agencies.

October 15

Each state agency must file the following reports with the Commissioner of Finance:

- 1) a budget and departmental earnings estimate for the most recent and current fiscal years.
- 2) the upcoming biennial budget and department earnings estimates
- a comprehensive and integrated statement of agency missions and outcome and performance measures
- 4) a concise explanation of any planned changes in the level of services or new activities.

Late November

Revised economic forecast completed by Department of Finance. The revised forecast provides the basis for preparation of the F.Y. 1998-1999 budget recommendations.

November 30

The Commissioner of Finance must send the final budget format, departmental earnings report, agency budget plans, or requests for the next biennium and copies of the field material cited above to the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance committee.

December 1

The Governor must submit to the Legislature a debt capacity forecast. The forecast must show the actual amount of state debt service for at least the past two fiscal years, and the estimated amount for the current fiscal year and the next six fiscal years. The report must also show the state's borrowing capacity for the next six fiscal years.

Date

Action

1997

January

There is an opportunity for citizen input at this stage of the process.

Contact the Governor's office at 612/296-3391 or 7-800-657-3717.

By the fourth Monday in January of each odd- numbered year, the Governor must submit to the Legislature a recommended revenue target for the next two bienniums. The revenue target, known as the "price of government" must specify:

- the maximum share of Minnesota personal income to be collected in taxes and other revenues to pay for state and local government services,
- the division of the share between state and local government revenues, and
- 3) the appropriate mix and rates of income, sales, and other state and local taxes and other revenues, and local property taxes and the effect of the recommendation on the incidence of the tax burden by income class.

January

By the fourth Tuesday in January of each odd-numbered year, the Governor must deliver a budget message and submit a detailed operating budget.

March 15

The House and Senate are required to pass a joint budget resolution adopting revenue targets, as defined above for the next two bienniums.

January-May

There is opportunity for citizen input during this time. Contact the appropriate legislative committees.**

The legislature convenes for a "long session." After the Governor submits the proposed budget, the legislative committees conduct hearings and concur with or modify the Governor's proposed budget. The final Legislative budget is incorporated in a number of spending bills that originate in each of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over a particular spending area.

May

The biennial budget is generally finalized by the close of session on the 3rd Monday in May. House and Senate conference committees meet to reconcile differences in spending bills, and the Governor signs tax and spending legislation. The state constitution requires that the budget be balanced for the upcoming biennium.

July 1

First day of F.Y. 1998-1999 biennium.

^{**} See attached sheet "Distribution of Budget Review Responsibility."

Distribution of Budget Review Responsibility

Estimate F.Y. 1998-1999**

Senate and House Legislative committees*	Major Spending Items	Percent of General Fund*** Expenditures
Tax committees	o Property Tax Relief o Aid to Local Government	12.6%
K-12 Education Finance committees	o K-12 School Funding	32.1%
Higher Education Finance committees	o U. of M. o State University System	11.3%
Health and Human Services Finance committees	o Aid to Families w/Dependent Children o General Assistance o Medical Assistance o State residential Facilities	28.9%
Environment & Natural Resources Finance committees	o Dept. of Natural Resources o Pollution Control Agency o Dept. of Agriculture	2.2%
Economic Development and Transportation committees	o Dept. of Transportation o Metropolitan Council Transit o Dept. of Commerce o Dept of Trade and Econ. Development	2.4%
Judiciary Finance comittees	o Correctional Institutions o Dept. of Corrections o Courts	4.9%
State Gov't Finance committees	o Legislature o Dept. of Revenue o Dept. of Administration o Other State boards and offices	2.8%
House Ways and Means Senate Finace	o Debt Service	2.8%

* Committee names change from year to year. For correct name and phone number/address call:

State 296-6013 Senate 296-0504 House 296-2146

- ** Department of Finance
- *** Not Consolidated Fund

To: League of Women Voters of Minnesota 550 Rice Street St. Paul, MN 55103 FAX: (612) 292-9417

From: LWV	of		

DEADLINE IN LWVMN OFFICE: JANUARY 20, 1997

CONSENSUS ON MINNESOTA STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING

Note: If your League participated in a joint consensus meeting with other Leagues, please fill out a separate form for each League.

How did your board determine member thir	nking on this consensus report?	
Unit meetings	Questionnaire	
General meetings	Telephone poll	
Bulletin tear-off	Other, please specify	
Number of members participating in this me	ember agreement process:	
Please print the following information:		
Form completed by:		
Board position:	Phone number	

If you have comments, minority positions, etc. to send to the study committee, please write them separately- NOT ON THE CONSENSUS FORM- and attach the sheet(s) behind the consensus questions, being sure to identify your League on each page. Thank you.

Keep consensus results confidential. The consensus is not valid until the consensus of the entire state has been taken.

From: LWV of	
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MINNESOTA STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING STUDY CONSENSUS QUESTIONS

The consensus questions address issues associated with spending by the State of Minnesota. Answers to these questions inevitably have important implications for all levels of local government. The objective is to develop a LWVMN state spending position that emphasizes broad principles that can be used as a guide for lobbying efforts for many years to come.

What broad goals should guide state spending?

	High Priority	Lower Priority	Not A Priority	No Consensus
1. Provide high quality K-12 educational opportunities for Minnesotans				
2. Provide high quality post-secondary educational opportunities for Minnesotans				
3. Limit state and local expenditures to a legislated percent of personal incomes				
4. Create a business climate that will allow Minnesota businesses to compete nationally and internationally				
5. Protect the state's environment				
6. Provide for a basic level of health and human services for all Minnesotans				
7. Reduce the size of the government sector				
8. Provide for the public safety				
9. Ensure that all Minnesotans receive a basic level of local public services without regard to individual or community wealth				
10. Ensure timely resolution of court cases				
11. Maintain a viable transportation system state-wide				
12. Ensure that public services are available to all Minnesotans within a reasonable driving distance				
13. Allow all Minnesotans greater choice in selection of service providers				
14. Encourage economic self-sufficiency				
15. Preserve the state's public spaces				
16. Ensure that spending decisions include long-term vision as well as immediate concerns				

From: LWV	of	
	01	

Assuming state government has limited resources, what criteria should be used to allocate funds when the state has to "ration" its activities?

		5.00	No
	Agree	Disagree	Consensus
1. Make across the board cuts first.			
2. Provide services first to the most needy citizens			
3. Services for children should take priority over services for the elderly			
4. Services for the elderly should take priority over services for children			
5. Place more reliance on non-government organizations (such as churches and not-forprofit organizations) to deliver services			
6. Allow private companies to provide and charge for services that have, in the past, been supplied free of charge by government.			
7. Programs directed toward individuals should take priority over programs directed toward businesses	at:		
8. Programs to enhance the business climate should be preserved so that we can "grow out of the problem"	7	7 1	
9. Capital investments should first be directed toward projects that serve the greatest number of people			
10. Maintenance of existing infrastructure should take precedence over expenditures to increase the infrastructure			
11. Capital expenditures should be focused on areas essential to future competitiveness			
12. State subsidies for sports teams, convention centers, and similar projects should be among the first items to be curtailed.	1		
13. Direct property tax relief programs to those with lower household incomes			
14. Increase fees for services			
15. Adjust sentencing to reduce need for prisons			
16. Adjust standards to reduce cost of building public facilities			
17. Reduce state funding for higher education and increase reliance on tuition			
18. Offer state services at fewer locations 19. Adjust eligibility guidelines for public services to increase individual responsibility			

From: LWV	of
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Considering only those rationing criteria with which you agreed:

- 1. List the three criteria which received the greatest support:
- 2. List the two criteria which received the weakest support:

What broad steps should state government take to enhance efficiency and cost effectiveness in the provision of quality government services?

High Priority	Lower Priority	Not a Priority	No Consensus
	1 1		

From:	INAA	of	
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Indicate the level of priority for the following areas of state spending.

	High	Lower	Not A	No
	Priority	Priority	Priority	Consensus
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES: Health Care Nursing Home Care Family Support (AFDC etc.)				
K-12 EDUCATION:				
Regular Education Special Education Vocational Education Community Education and Recreation				
TRANSPORTATION: Roads Transit Highway Patrol				
PROPERTY TAX AIDS AND CREDITS Homestead and Agricultural Credits Local Government Aids Property Tax Relief Related to Income				
HIGHER EDUCATION				
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Economic Security (Job Related) Economic Development (Business Incentives)		- In		
CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Correctional Institutions Court System Law Enforcement (Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, etc.)				
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES: Environmental Protection Parks and Recreation				

Minnesota State Government Spending Leader's Guide

Thank you for agreeing to be the discussion leader for the LWVMN study of Minnesota State Government Spending. Your role as a leader of the consensus process is very important. The activities and member agreement undertaken by your League in this study will provide critical information needed to formulate a position on Minnesota State Government Spending. This Leader's Guide is designed to assist you in planning and conducting discussion meetings (unit or general meetings).

Please read all materials provided by LWVMN for this study:

- o Facts and Issues
- o Minnesota Budget Process Summary
- o The Role of a Local Study Committee in the State Study
- o Ideas for Fall Informational Meetings
- o Consensus Questions
- o Leader's Guide
- o Tips For Discussion Leaders
- o Other Public Information Possibilities
- o Other Materials Available
- o State Study Committee Continuing Activities

Consensus

The consensus process was selected as the method of reaching member agreement for the Minnesota State Government Spending study. It is a process whereby members participate in a group discussion of an issue. The "consensus" reached by members through group discussion is not a simple majority, nor is it unanimity; rather it is the overall "sense of the group" as expressed through the exchange of ideas and opinions. This consensus is more than a simple majority of opinions- approximating 2/3 to 3/4.

At the consensus meeting, a designated member should record the number of members participating, list areas of strong agreement (consensus), and record comments and minority opinions, indicating their strength. If a strong minority exists, the board will want to discuss whether or not there is enough agreement within the membership to include that issue in the consensus. If members unable to attend the consensus meeting have mailed in their responses, please incorporate their responses into the discussion as appropriate.

Determining consensus of the members within a local League is the responsibility of the local board. It is an interpretive process whereby the board evaluates the reports of member thinking and then determines the broad areas of agreement and disagreement that emerge among its members.

Study Focus

This study identifies fiscal challenges facing Minnesota as the result of projected demographic changes and spending patterns. Those projections, as well as potential reductions in federal funding, will necessitate changes in current government spending patterns and/or increases in state revenues to ensure future balanced state budgets.

Current LWVMN Positions

Included in this Leader's Guide are references to current state positions contained in *Program for Action 1995-1997* (mailed to local Leagues in the June 1996 President's Mailing). It is not necessary for your consensus responses to conform to these positions if your membership believes that these points should now be reconsidered. The local League consensus discussions may provide substantial input into the state program planning process in winter 1996-1997. Recommendations for position updates, deletions or new studies may come from these discussions.

Instructions for Consensus Meeting

Please review "Tips For Discussion Leaders." Make sure your presentation is appropriate for all members- those with expertise in government spending and those new to the issues. You may wish to use an easel/tablet for visual assistance during the discussion.

This Leader's Guide is keyed to the consensus questions. Discussion leaders can follow it and proceed step-by-step through the consensus questions.

Part I: What Broad Goals Should Guide State Spending?

Time Guideline: 30 minutes

Part I refers to possible goals for Minnesota state government spending. It is a broad philosophical question, and Parts II-IV expand on some of these goal statements. Key steps in developing state spending policy are the selection and definition of the policy goals and the recognition that tradeoffs are often required when making choices. Part I lists 16 possible goals that various proponents advocate for Minnesota's spending system. These goals are **not** listed in any particular order.

Your local League is to identify whether each possible goal should be given high, lower or no priority or whether you could not come to a consensus. Please keep in mind that your responses will give direction to LWVMN in determining priorities among these goals. We hope you will fine tune your preferences so that not all 16 questions are "high priority."

1. Providing high quality K-12 educational opportunities for Minnesotans. (See pages 5-6 of Facts and Issues, pages 7 and 18 of Program for Action 1995-1997.) This goal refers to providing state funding to ensure an above average K-12 educational system for Minnesotans. It does not specify that these opportunities be provided exclusively through the public schools. However, as noted on page 12 of Facts and Issues, the Minnesota Constitution specifies the commitment to fund public schools.

- 2. Providing high quality post-secondary educational opportunities for Minnesotans. (See pages 8-9 of Facts and Issues.) This goal refers to providing state funding to ensure student access to an above average post-secondary educational system in Minnesota. It does not specify that these opportunities be provided exclusively through the public universities and colleges. As noted on page 12 of Facts and Issues, the Minnesota Constitution affirms the state's commitment to the University of Minnesota.
- 3. Limiting state and local expenditures to a legislated percent of personal income. (See pages 14-15 of Facts and Issues.) This concept supports the notion of capping the overall size of government. The "Price of Government" law is a first step toward establishing a limit to the revenues to be collected from the citizens. This law now requires the governor and legislature to set non-binding revenue targets which specify the maximum percentage of total personal income which may be collected in taxes and other revenues by all state and local governments. Supporters of this goal would give teeth to the current law. They believe there must be an absolute limit to the size of government. Critics of the current law question both the concept and the formula. They cite the inclusion of the following in the price of government target: tax revenues and user fees from businesses, investment earnings, post-secondary tuition and enterprise revenues from users of hospitals, nursing homes, ambulance, water, sewer, and cultural and recreational activities. Most people would not consider these to be a part of their personal tax burdens. Furthermore, property tax refunds are excluded from the computation. These items all serve to inflate the target and unfairly foster taxpayer concern over excessive taxation.
- 4. Creating a business climate that will allow Minnesota businesses to compete nationally and internationally. (See pages 9-10 of Facts and Issues.) This goal can include several factors. Having a highly educated work force is very important for attracting and retaining good jobs in the state. Also, having a competitive tax structure and regulatory climate are important factors. The quality of life is also considered a factor in corporate location decisions.
- 5. **Protecting the state's environment.** (See pages 11-12 of *Facts and Issues* and pages 15-17 of *Program for Action 1995-1997.*) This goal includes regulating, monitoring and enforcing air, water and land use policies and preserving the state's natural resources to be enjoyed by current and future generations. Some Minnesotans support strengthening the regulations protecting the environment (e.g. feedlot regulations) and natural areas. Critics believe there is already too much environmental regulation and favor allowing land owners to have more control over their properties.
- 6. Providing for a basic level of health and human services for all Minnesotans. (See pages 3-5 of Facts and Issues and pages 18-20 of Program for Action 1995-1997.) Choosing this goal means that one favors providing for an environment in which all Minnesotans have access to a baseline of health care and human services. A minimum basic level of health care might include various areas of care or treatment, such as disease prevention, health promotion and education, primary care, acute care and long-term care to name a few. A minimum basic level of human services might include funds to

enable families to have sufficient resources to support a reasonable subsistence with decency and health, funds for child care to assist parents to work, and assistance for disabled, aged or blind meeting prescribed criteria. There are many criteria that can be included in a minimum basic level of care, and individuals differ on the importance of the various criteria. Accepting this goal does not imply that state employees must produce the basic services (see discussion of goal #13). Critics of this approach cite the cost and feasibility of providing a minimum level of health care and human services. Also, some people have a philosophical opposition to such government activities.

This will be a prime issue during the next legislative session due to passage of the new Welfare bill at the federal level. Whether to continue providing the current services will be central to this discussion because reductions in federal funding will necessitate cutting funding to other areas of the state budget or decreasing human services. The hard choices will soon begin.

- 7. Reducing the size of the government sector. This can refer to a number of things. It can mean reducing the number of governmental employees, which can be achieved through decreasing services or contracting out the services to private entities. It can refer to the scope of activities in which government is involved. It can simply refer to the magnitude of government sector expenditures.
- 8. **Provide for the public safety.** (See pages 10-11 of *Facts and Issues* and pages 5-7, 18-21 of *Program for Action 1995-1997.*) This refers to providing law enforcement services to protect Minnesotans and apprehend law breakers, courts to adjudicate proceedings and corrections facilities and systems to punish convicted criminals. This also includes prevention activities to reduce the potential criminal behavior of citizens thereby increasing public safety and reducing the burden on the criminal justice system at all governmental levels.
- 9. Ensure that all Minnesotans receive a basic level of local public services without regard to individual or community wealth. (See pages 7-8 of Facts and Issues and pages 13-15 of Program for Action 1995-1997.) Because local services are financed primarily through property taxes, the ability to provide services is linked to the wealth of the community, as defined by the property tax base. Communities with few industries and large businesses rely primarily on residential property values which are much lower than commercial and industrial values. In order to provide a basic level of local services, they must assign much higher levies to the lower property tax base. Minnesota's property tax aids and credits, as described in Facts and Issues, are intended to assist communities with low property tax bases in providing basic services.

The system has its critics. Some have suggested changes in the current system ranging from minor adjustments to abolition of certain components. Some contend that most aid is based on historical collections of aid, not on local need. Therefore, LGA and HACA payments may encourage unnecessary local spending. The reliance of individual cities in Minnesota on LGA ranges from 0-35% of local city revenues. Sixteen percent of the cities in Minnesota (all in the Metropolitan area) receive no LGA.

In 1993, the Governor's Commission on Reform and Efficiency (CORE) recommended that Minnesota continue the policy of providing general purpose aid to cities, but that the system for distributing aid be improved. The CORE report specified that aid amounts should be sufficient to provide a basic, minimum and adequate level of services for those cities that do not have the capacity to finance basic services with local revenues. The report advocated that the formula for distribution of state aid to cities have the following characteristics:

- 1. It must be based on objective, reliable data.
- 2. It must use valid statistical techniques and be replicable from year to year.
- 3. The measure of basic spending need in the formula must be defined as a function of factors outside cities' control, such as population demographics.

In recent legislative sessions, several proposals have been made to change the LGA formula. These proposals would greatly reduce the significance of past expenditures, and would give added weight to other factors, such as population changes and net tax capacity, or tax capacity per capita, which are believed to be more accurate reflections of need. No changes have been adopted.

Support of this broad goal indicates agreement with the concept of state aid for local services. It does not imply that you endorse a specific formula for distribution of state aid.

- 10. **Ensure timely resolution of court cases.** (See pages 10-11 of *Facts and Issues* and pages 5-7 of *Program for Action 1995-1997.*) This means providing adequate funding to the court system enabling them to process the case loads in a reasonable time frame.
- 11. **Maintain a viable transportation system state-wide.** (See pages 6-7 of *Facts and Issues.*) The state constructs and maintains not only state roads but collects revenues through the state gasoline tax to aid county and local roads. The Department of Transportation's responsibilities also include the interstate highways, airports, public transit, ports and pipelines. As noted in *Facts and Issues*, concerns have been expressed about the aging and deterioration of the state's highways and bridges. With the principle funding source, the gasoline tax, remaining unchanged since 1988, the funding in inflation-adjusted terms has decreased. Significant funding also comes from the federal government. If this source is reduced, our state's continued commitment to its extensive road system may come under pressure.
- 12. Ensure that public services are available to all Minnesotans within a reasonable driving distance. (See pages 8-9 of Facts and Issues.) One aspect of this possible goal that is currently being debated relates to the 66 campuses of higher education throughout the state. As noted in Facts and Issues, a policy adopted following the 1950 recommendation by the Minnesota Commission on Higher Education favored access to higher education over cost containment. The policy was to enable 90% of the state's residents to be within 35 miles of an institution of higher learning. We must now determine whether this remains an appropriate policy.

Critics would counter that there are too many campuses, far exceeding the national average of 31, and that technology advances have made distance less a barrier to access than in the past. Politically, it is difficult to close campuses.

13. Allow all Minnesotans greater choice in selection of service providers. (See pages 3-5 of Facts and Issues and pages 18-20 of Program for Action 1995-1997.) The issue of choice can relate to many segments of the state budget. Leaguers are familiar with the issue of choice of health care providers. This can be expanded to include human services such as child care and housing assistance, higher education and K-12 education. Some believe that by giving people state assistance directly, they will find the best quality provider at a reasonable cost. They advocate choice of doctors, as well as hospitals and nursing homes, to encourage efficiency.

Higher Education- The Citizens League in *Choose Reform, Not Declining Quality*, recommends changing the way Minnesota supports its higher education system to encourage efficiencies achieved through giving students greater choice. Currently, 90% of the state's higher education funding goes directly to the institutions, with the remaining 10% given to students in the form of direct financial assistance. The Citizens League recommends:

- Appropriating only 30% of the state's higher education funding directly to the institutions. A portion of this would be in the form of incentive funding tied to specific performance objectives. This would cause tuition to increase significantly.
- o Thirty percent would be appropriated to all Minnesota students in the form of "lifetime learning grants." These learning grants would partially replace the taxpayer subsidies which currently go to the institutions. The students could then use these grants at any public, private or alternative institution in Minnesota. Thus the dollars would follow the students to campuses that offer quality programs.
- o An additional 30% of the state funds would go to need-based financial aid. This would provide substantially increased financial support to low income students and expanded eligibility for lower-middle- and middle-income students. Continued financial aid would be contingent on the student's satisfactory performance.
- o Five percent of state funding would go to research activities, primarily at the U of M.
- o The remaining 5% would be available to fund new initiatives and new technologies in delivering higher education services.

The Citizens League believes this fundamental shift toward student choice would enable students to attend the highest quality programs, rewarding those campuses striving for excellence. The less effective campuses would suffer enrollment losses and close, contributing to greater efficiencies in the higher education system.

Brandl-Weber in An Agenda For Reform offer a similar recommendation:

30% to higher education institutions

60% directly to students through lifetime learning grants and financial assistance

10% for research and statewide programs

Again, Brandl-Weber's recommendation concentrates more funding on the needy and encourages competition among the institutions for students.

K-12 Education- Choice in K-12 education would enable students to attend the schools of their choice and allow the state per student funding to follow the students to their new schools. Currently, the state offers open enrollment enabling students to attend a public school outside their normal school district upon application and acceptance by the receiving school district. Students can also elect to attend charter schools, with state funds flowing to those schools.

There are proposals to take K-12 choice even further. In the last legislative session, Governor Arne Carlson proposed to allow state funds to follow students to private and parochial schools. Also, students currently attending private and parochial schools would be allowed to receive state funding, on a phased-in basis. The funding sent to private and parochial schools would be set at a percentage of normal per student funding.

The Citizens League argues "that a service need not be wholly owned or operated by the government to be a public service. What makes a service 'public' is that government ensures the service is provided, determines the results it must achieve, sets the basic framework of rules within which it is delivered, arranges for financing and pays for all or part of the cost." They contend that a voucher program should be structured to enable Minnesota to reduce the growth of K-12 education spending over time, maintaining or improving education outcomes. Brandl-Weber also recommend K-12 education choice be expanded.

Supporters claim this would give all students, not just wealthier students, the opportunity to choose schools which they believe would provide the best education. They also believe the schools that do the best job of educating students will be rewarded with full enrollment and the competition will improve all schools over time. Also, private and parochial schools can educate at less cost, therefore we could reduce K-12 education spending demands if we relied more heavily on the efficient private and parochial schools.

Critics claim this would remove the highest achieving students and the students with the most active parents from the public schools, leaving behind those students with social and economic disadvantages and special education requirements. Also, private schools are not required to accept all students, they may be selective. Additionally, they are not subject to the same regulations which make public schools less competitive.

As noted in Facts and Issues, page 12, the Minnesota Constitution provides for the funding of public schools, not private and parochial schools.

- 14. **Encouraging economic self-sufficiency.** (See pages 9-10 of *Facts and Issues* and page 19 of *Program for Action 1995-1997.*) This refers to the state providing programs which enable citizens to get jobs that pay living wages, and therefore to become self-supporting. By providing assistance with education, job service, child care and health care and other human services, this goal would stress the importance of enabling people to become permanently self-supporting, contributors to the economic well-being of the state.
- 15. Preserve the state's public spaces. (See pages 9-12 of Facts and Issues and pages 16-17 of Program for Action 1995-1997.) This goal refers to providing public spaces for the benefit of all Minnesotans which highlight our heritage, community, natural resources and recreation. This includes parks, museums, public buildings (including the state capitol), etc. Supporters believe the state should provide and preserve these public spaces for the benefit of all Minnesotans. User fees are often charged to help defray a portion of the costs. Critics claim the state has grown too big and is not needed to provide all of these spaces, some of which can be adequately provided through the private sector.
- 16. Ensure that spending decisions include long-term vision as well as immediate concerns. (See pages 16-17 of Facts and Issues.) As we approach a time of significant fiscal challenges, it will be necessary to make many hard choices about state government spending. Supporters of this goal believe that it is necessary to have a vision for what type of a place Minnesota will be in the future. Then we can identify those goals necessary to attain success. Some state programs will be integral to achieving that vision and should be funded more completely. Other programs, while worthwhile, may not be able to be funded as completely or at all. As we approach significant shortfalls in revenues to fund programs at current levels, fundamental choices will have to be made. This goal deals with whether those choices should be made viewing the goals of state spending as a whole or on a program by program basis.

Part II: Assuming state government has limited resources, what criteria should be used to allocate funds when the state has to "ration" its activities? What Broad Goals Should Guide State Spending?

Time Guideline: 40 minutes (including responding to the questions at the top of page 3 of the Consensus Questions)

Part II assumes it is doubtful that the state will find new, major sources of state revenues to cover the projected shortfall in state resources. Therefore, this section begins the discussion of the hard choices which will be made in the future and strives to identify criteria to be used in the "rationing" of funds for state activities. Part II lists 18 possible rationing criteria that various proponents advocate. These criteria **not** listed in any particular order.

Your local League is to identify whether you agree or disagree with the individual techniques or whether you could not come to a consensus.

- 1. Make across the board cuts first. Supporters of this approach would defend it as easy to determine, equitable (since all programs are treated the same) and allows for smaller cuts in individual programs because the total to be cut is spread over many program areas. Critics contend that this approach does not take into account the relative importance of the various state programs. Some programs are arguably less important to the overall mission of state spending than are others. Also, by fine tuning cuts to each program individually, more inefficient programs will face larger cuts than those operating more efficiently.
- 2. **Provide services first to the most needy citizens.** Brandl-Weber, in *An Agenda for Reform*, include this approach as one of their three criteria for reform. They state, "Much government spending is almost randomly distributed; some is even directed away from the disadvantaged." Their term is to "concentrate" public spending on those people most in need.

Critics point out that state programs should provide basic services available to all because all citizens pay into the state treasury and they all deserve to receive benefits. For example, the current policy concentrating state aid in the higher education institutions is good because it allows tuition to stay low and this benefits all taxpayers, not just the needy.

- 3. Services for children should take priority over services for the elderly. Under this approach, programs benefiting children (educational programs including K-12 and preschool; child care assistance and job training; AFDC providing basic subsistence, school lunch financial assistance, programs to help collect child support, housing assistance; violence prevention, juvenile justice and child abuse programs; etc.) would have priority. Proponents claim this to be a necessary criterion because children do not have a voice in electing officials. Sometimes this translates into lack of influence and protection of their interests. Today's children will be tomorrow's wage earners who must be able to carry the burden of supporting the services for the elderly. Therefore, their interests must not be shortchanged.
- 4. Services for the elderly should take priority over services for children. Many state programs benefit the elderly. Years ago, the elderly often lived in/or near poverty. Human services programs, at all governmental levels, were initiated to make the their lives better. The elderly population paid taxes throughout their working years. Many count on the human services now available to them. They are also active participants in the political system and accordingly demand respect and attention.

Services for the elderly are a major factor in the projected fiscal challenge for Minnesota. Spending for health and nursing home care has increased at a greater rate than inflation. If this trend continues and state revenues do not increase, other areas of the state budget will have to be trimmed to sustain current service levels. The demographics of increased numbers of those 65 and older will only compound the problem.

5. Place more reliance on non-government organizations (such as churches and not-for-profit organizations) to deliver services. Supporters of this approach point out a two-fold reasoning. Non-profit organizations often operate programs at less cost than the government sector. By relying on these non-profit organizations to provide some government services, less funding would need to be appropriated for those programs. Also, some argue that non-profit organizations do a superior job of providing services.

Brandl-Weber include community as one of their three criteria for reform. They define community as "an organization, membership in which ordinarily draws people to work for the welfare of others. Whether in a family, a religious organization, an ethnic affiliation or a civic association, the ties that bind a community together are usually far stronger than any that government engenders." They recommend that government carry out much of its work through communities.

Critics warn that there may not be enough funding available to the non-profits to take on major new activities. Their organizations are dependent on outside contributions to help fund their activities. In addition, complete reliance on community organizations may leave some geographic areas unserved. It may also be cumbersome and expensive to monitor and audit a multitude of providers.

6. Allow private companies to provide and charge for services that have, in the past, been supplied free of charge. A good example of this approach is the current proposal to have a private company construct a new 11-mile extension to Highway 212 in the Metropolitan area. When completed, drivers would pay a toll to drive on the new road.

Supporters of this approach note that the state transportation budget could not fund this project for many years into the future because of a backlog of projects designated as higher priority. (See pages 6-7 of *Facts and Issues*.) The state transportation budget, as previously noted, has not kept up with inflation. This new funding approach would allow residents who travel on this highway the opportunity to benefit from an improved highway, but at a cost. This cost would be paid by the users of the highway. Many consider this to be a fair funding approach.

Opponents claim that highways are the responsibility of the state and they should be constructed for the benefit of all, not just those able to pay the fee. Also, the added cost of toll collection makes these projects more expensive than they first appear. (Concerns are also expressed about hastening "leapfrog" development.)

7. Programs directed toward individuals should take priority over programs directed toward businesses. This means that state funded programs that deal with individuals (e.g. education, human services, criminal justice) should take priority to programs providing incentives and assistance to businesses.

Supporters point out that the Minnesota Constitution states "...government is instituted for the security, benefit and protection of the people..." (See Facts and Issues page 12.) They contend it is not the responsibility of the state to become involved in the finances of

private businesses and businesses should not look to the state to "bail them out" when they get into trouble. Assistance to businesses should only be given if the state has sufficiently funded its core responsibilities. Indeed, many business proponents oppose government subsidies to selected businesses as a matter of principle. They prefer "free market" solutions.

Critics note that government is already involved in the finances of businesses by taxing their operations. In order for Minnesota to attract and retain its job base, they believe the state must be a player, as in other states. Also, they contend the policy of assisting sizable businesses experiencing financial difficulty is a good one because it keeps Minnesotans employed. This state assistance should not be considered to be last in priority, but an integral part of the state's responsibilities.

- 8. Programs to enhance the business climate should be preserved so that we can "grow out of the problem." This option suggests that programs supporting business viability are an appropriate function of the state government. Their desireability assumes that investment now will generate returns later.
- 9. Capital investments should first be directed toward projects that serve the greatest number of people. If this suggestion is adopted, the League would encourage the state to tackle capital improvement projects affect large numbers of people ahead of those that touch fewer citizens. This probably means that many Metropolitan area projects, such as roads, would move to the top of the list and some scheduled outstate projects would be delayed or cancelled.
- 10. Maintenance of existing infrastructure should take precedence over expenditures to increase the infrastructure. This criterion recognizes the value of our current infrastructure and makes certain its maintenance is adequately funded. In the transportation area, the maintenance budgets are sizable (see pages 6-7 of Facts and Issues). Supporters of this approach assert that ignoring maintenance is shortsighted and that expansion of the existing infrastructure is unwise if we are not capable of funding both its cost and future maintenance. Critics believe it is all right to hold off on maintenance and fund expansion of the infrastructure if there are immediate, pressing needs for the expansion.
- 11. Capital expenditures should be focused on areas essential to future competitiveness. This criterion establishes a goal for capital expenditures. Expenditures that enhance our competitiveness would be preferred and those seeking state support for capital projects would have to show how the project contributes to future competitiveness. Critics note that "enhancing future competitiveness" is difficult to define. They also note the quality of life in Minnesota should be considered an important factor in our competitive position. Also, prison construction may be a major capital need in the future due to increases in the 15-25 year old population.

12. State subsidies for sports teams, convention centers, and similar projects should be among the first items to be curtailed. Proponents of this position point out that the state has too many primary responsibilities already to allow such pet projects to receive any state funding or tax breaks (which ultimately reduce state revenues). Also, they believe that providing funding to sports teams for stadiums in order to attract or retain privately-owned professional teams is a waste of taxpayer dollars. They contend there is a finite amount of public discretionary spending available. Providing assistance to a particular team only serves to draw revenues from other entertainment venues, most of which receive no such taxpayer assistance. Also, there is the geographic argument that funds from taxpayers throughout the state are used for such projects, mainly in the Metropolitan area. Is it fair to ask outstate taxpayers to finance these ventures?

Critics claim these types of projects bring tourism dollars into the state and increase the visibility of the state. Also, by attracting and retaining professional sports teams in the Metropolitan area, it is easier to lure corporations to locate here because of the variety of cultural and recreational activities available.

13. Direct property tax relief programs to those with lower household incomes. Similar to #2, this method would concentrate property tax relief programs on the most needy taxpayers. These programs include HACA and property tax refunds (see pages 7-8 of Facts and Issues). According to the Citizens League's Choose Reform, Not Declining Quality, "Of \$1 billion in annual undesignated state aid for property tax relief, only \$150 million is means-tested through the circuit-breaker (Property Tax Refund) program, which provides property-tax refunds directly to individuals based on the relationship between the individuals' incomes and property-tax liabilities. To the extent that the remaining general aid reduces levies, relief is provided to all property owners, many of whom are not needy."

Cutbacks in property tax relief would be felt primarily by more affluent taxpayers if this criterion is adopted.

14. **Increase fees for services.** Currently, some programs rely heavily on user fees. As noted in *Facts and Issues* (pages 11-12), user fees covered 42% of environmental and natural resources spending in 1992. Other program areas also rely heavily on user fees. Many of the programs contained in the economic development budget segment receive considerable fee income to sustain their activities (see pages 9-10 of *Facts and Issues*).

Proponents of this approach believe fees could be charged in other areas, including perhaps highway tolls. Traditional fee collecting services, such as state parks, colleges and universities, etc., could charge higher fees. Those who use the services could contribute more to operate those services.

Critics of user fees argue that this is a regressive form of revenue. Lower income citizens who are required to pay the user fees will pay a disproportionate share of their expendable income to have access to the state services. The impact of the user fees could create an insurmountable barrier for lower income citizens.

15. Adjust sentencing to reduce the need for prisons. (See pages 10-11 of Facts and Issues and pages 5-7 of Program for Action 1995-1997.) This method would enable the state to reduce its criminal justice spending by relaxing sentencing guidelines. Minnesota has been very successful at limiting the use of expensive prison space to only the most violent offenders. The state has held down the criminal justice portion of the state budget. However, the state's adult prison population has more than doubled over the last ten years. Currently, Minnesota is short 300 prison beds and projections show a shortage of about 1,200 prison beds by the year 2000. One of the factors contributing to the projected growth in prison inmates are new or increased criminal penalties. According to Minnesota Planning's March 1996 report, Paying the Price: The Rising Cost of Prison, "In each of the past 10 legislative sessions, new laws have been passed that have the effect of sending more offenders to prison or keeping inmates in prison longer." In Minnesota, the Sentencing Guidelines Commission sets statewide guidelines for judges to follow for felony crimes. The guidelines indicates the upper and lower limits of sentence length. Judges may vary from the guidelines if there are compelling reasons. Sentences for first degree murder are set by the legislature. Judges may not give shorter sentences for crimes for which the legislature has established mandatory minimum sentences. The Commission has proposed a two-part change in the guidelines which could save 270 to 470 prison beds annually.

"Three strikes and you're out" laws have become popular in a number of states and have been proposed in Minnesota. According to *Paying the Price*, depending on how such a proposal is structured, passage "could require building one to five additional prisons over the next 40 years and would create major state budget obligations far into the new century."

The report also states that, "Prison is the most expensive corrections option, currently costing \$82/day, not counting administrative and health costs. This compares to daily costs of \$56 for local jails, \$38 for work release, \$13 for intensive supervision and \$3 for probation."

Costs for elderly inmates are high because of their chronic health care needs. Relaxing medical release criteria would allow some nondangerous geriatric inmates to enter the community and have their medical and living costs paid by Social Security, Medical Assistance or other federal funds or private insurance.

16. Adjust standards to reduce cost of building public facilities. Minnesota has set relatively high standards for its buildings and infrastructure. In the area of highways (see pages 6-7 in Facts and Issues), Minnesota had the fifth largest network of roads in the country in 1993. In this system, 79% of rural collector roads are paved, compared to 51% nationally, and 85% of rural roads are at least 12 feet in width, compared to 30% in other states in the region. Reducing these standards would save money.

In the criminal justice sector, other states make more extensive use of multiple occupancy, which includes dormitories and cells housing two or three inmates. This is done at all security levels. *Paying the Price: The Rising Cost of Prison* states that "Under tightening

budget conditions, Minnesota may want to revisit the statutes that limit the use of multiple occupancy without giving up its commitment to safety."

As the Governor continues to push for K-12 school vouchers, state requirements which apply to public schools should be revisited. When constructing new schools, large acreages of land are required by the state for any new location. If the public schools are to be placed in the position of competing with private and parochial schools, requirements for building construction should be reviewed to determine if they place public schools at an economic, competitive disadvantage.

On the other hand, one can argue that high standards for public facilities makes an important contribution to our quality of life and enhances the public safety.

17. Reduce state funding for higher education and increase reliance on tuition.

Supporters of this position believe that the state's commitment to education is to the core K-12 education. Any education beyond that is primarily the responsibility of the individual students, not the state. Some also view low tuition as a subsidy to higher income taxpayers who use secondary education more heavily than low-income households. They would prefer higher tuition coupled with more financial aid for needy students.

Critics respond that post-secondary educational opportunities are necessary for all Minnesotans to be able to work in our increasingly technical workforce. Therefore, if Minnesota is to attract livable wage jobs, it must continue to have a skilled workforce able to staff those jobs. It is critical to the future well-being of our state.

- 18. Offer state services at fewer locations. Supporters of this option would point to the higher education system. Refer to Part I, Question #12. Others areas which might be considered for reduction are the number of counties in the state, the number of state parks, clustering the location of prisons to consolidate administrative duties, and reducing the number of state supported roads.
- 19. Adjust eligibility guidelines for public services to increase individual accountability. This option would most dramatically affect health and human services programs. Stricter eligibility guidelines are sure to be discussed during the next state legislative session because of the recently passed federal Welfare reform. With block grants to states, reductions in federal funding can be expected. Minnesota must decide if it will continue to provide the current level of services, which would necessitate funding reductions in other budget areas, or whether it will adjust its eligibility guidelines to control costs. (It will certainly be more complex than that, as a hybrid of options may be merged into the plan.)

Another issue deals with reforming rules relating to nursing home care. Currently, elderly are able to shield assets from nursing homes thereby forcing the state to pick up the tab. Stricter guidelines would reduce state expenditures and provide some relief to an overstretched state budget.

Supporters of this alternative believe that eligibility guidelines must contain the proper incentives for Minnesotans to strive for self-sufficiency and personal responsibility. Critics charge that the safety net may no longer be there to catch many vulnerable Minnesotans, especially children.

To sum up your responses to Part II, there are two final requirements (located at the top of page 3). Considering only those rationing criteria (on page 2) with which you agreed:

- 1. List the three criteria which received the greatest support and
- 2. List the three criteria which received the weakest support.

Part III: What broad steps should state government take to enhance efficiency and cost effectiveness in the provision of quality government services?

Time Guideline: 30 minutes

Part III asks you do think about steps to improve efficiency. More efficient and costeffective delivery systems stretch dollars and allow government to provide service at lower
cost. Efficiency improvements have received considerable attention at all levels of
government as taxpayers have become less willing to pay higher taxes to sustain
services. You are asked to rate each of the suggested methods of improving
governmental efficiency as high, lower, not a priority or no consensus. Your rating should
reflect two things: your willingness to try the method and your optimism about the
likelihood that use of the method will succeed in reducing the cost of delivering quality
government services. Keep in mind that there is no single best way to improve efficiency
in all circumstances. On method may be more appropriate in one situation than in
another. Do not exclude a method entirely because it is not universally applicable. Your
League may feel that a method is useful but it should not be applied in specific areas.
Please provide specific concerns to the LWVMN study committee on a separate sheet of
paper attached to your consensus response. These methods are **not** listed in any
particular order.

1. Emphasize prevention over treatment of problems. Many observers contend that an "ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" and that this holds true for many of the problems that governments try to solve. It is more efficient to fix a pothole now than replace a road later. Studies indicate that early intervention with children prevents later, much more expensive problems. The difficulty with enacting this recommendation is that it involves significant "up-front" expenditures. We have to deal with the failures of the past while, at the same time, preventing problems of the future. It is not clear that taxpayers are willing to invest now. This is not a short-run solution to our budget woes.

Paying the Price: The Rising Cost of Prison concludes that "In the long run, preventing crime through supporting services to children and troubled families, education and youth diversion programs may prove to be the best investment. In the short run, however, other steps must be taken if Minnesota is to avoid the need to keep building new prisons."

2. When possible encourage competition (private-private, public-private and public-public) to enhance efficiency. (See pages 13-14 of Facts and Issues.) Fostering competition has become a much talked about method of improving governmental efficiency. It is important to note that competition can take many forms and has been tried with mixed success in many places. Opening projects up for bid (private-vs private) competition is required for most major construction projects and has been expanded to service areas traditionally provided by civil servants. Private vs public competition forces government employees to produce services at a cost that matches the cost of buying the service from a private contractor. Public employees can often compete favorably with private contractors when given flexibility to manage their own work. (See broad step #5.) Public vs public competition refers to new ideas such as "open enrollment" and "charter schools" which allow public entities to compete with each other for "consumers."

Critics point out that competition can be wasteful and that private entities may reduce costs by "exploiting" workers.

3. Assign responsibility for arranging for delivery of public services to the level of government that is closest to recipients of the service. Many observers claim that rules established at some distance are often inappropriate for solving essentially local problems. Indeed, governments setting rules from afar may feel obligated to set up excessive requirements which appear ridiculous in the local context. Mounds of paperwork may accompany the regulations and auditors stream in to make sure all of the regulations have been followed. Many observers of government activities support moving responsibility for services closer to the recipient to reduce "wasteful" and unnecessary regulation and paperwork. Afterall, supporters claim, who knows how to solve local problems better than the local people?

Allowing localities to set standards may generate a host of different problems. Standards and availability of service may vary dramatically from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. Eligibility rules may also differ from community to community.

4. When possible use performance-based budgeting to emphasize outcomes over inputs and hold government officials responsible for results. (See pages 13-14 of Facts and Issues.) Performance-based budgeting has been used with some success in a number of U.S. cities. This method of budgeting emphasizes outcomes and is appropriate only when it is possible to define and measure outcomes. Since performance-based budgeting centers on outcomes and the cost of achieving results, councils or legislatures can more clearly deal with tradeoffs as they decide which projects to accept and what level of services to produce. Managers are then given broader responsibility and power to get the job done. This kind of budgeting is fairly new.

Systems which provide information to establish the performance-based budgets and monitor results are not widely available. Most managers, even in the private sector, have not been trained to think in this new way so instituting a performance-based system will be costly and difficult.

5. Give government employees more flexibility and incentive to manage the way they do their jobs. Government employees have traditionally done their jobs "by the book." Established rules and procedures govern how and when they do their jobs and limit employee options to solve problems. Many observers feel that government employees should be empowered to solve problems. They need more flexibility to do their jobs and they should be rewarded for doing their jobs well. "Reinventing" the way government carries out its business to emphasize customer service requires enthusiastic, enterprising employees who are encouraged to present new ideas.

Implementing a system that rewards innovation and results sounds good, but critics are often reluctant to embrace any system that expands subjectivity in determining pay and promotion of civil servants.

- 6. **Encourage inter-governmental cooperation.** Duplication of services can be wasteful. Projects of one governmental body may disrupt plans of another. Some services can be most efficiently produced by several governmental units working together as a consortium. This criterion suggests that we should seriously attempt to identify more areas where inter-governmental cooperation makes sense.
- 7. For local services (other than education), link taxation more closely to spending. In Minnesota, LGA provides state-collected funds to local governments based primarily on past spending patterns. Many observers assert that the system encourages local governments to overspend on local services. The system does not impose the kind of fiscal restraint that leads to efficient government. Proponents of linking taxation more closely to spending believe that those who make decisions about local government services should also be required to levy the taxes to fund those services. The taxpayers would have a better understanding of the cost of the services they receive and would hold their local officials accountable for wise spending decisions.

In Choose Reform, Not Declining Quality, the Citizens League asserts, "The current system suppresses the pressures that would ordinarily prompt taxpayers to weigh service-spending tradeoffs and demand efficiency." They advocate a state funded local services plan which would provide 100% state funding for a no-frills package of basic services and for local costs arising from factors outside the control of local officials. Additional services would be funded 100% locally. As a result, local property taxes would increase. However, they recommend increasing the state's share of K-12 funding to at least 75%, matched by an equal reduction in the school property tax levy. This would reduce the impact on taxpayers and increase local government accountability.

Those who do not want to see a change in LGA do not see a tendency on the part of local units to waste money. LGA reduces pressure on the property tax which is generally viewed as a regressive tax. And it "levels the playing field" for communities with widely varying property tax bases.

8. Provide funds/grants to individuals to allow them to select providers for the services listed in the consensus question. Vouchers enable those who qualify for state assistance to purchase services from any approved provider and use the voucher to pay all or part of the cost. Proponents of vouchers claim that individuals can best identify service providers that meet their needs; that the presence of vouchers encourages providers to tailor services to recipient needs; and competition among providers assures efficiently produced services. The vouchers can be distributed according to need with low-income recipients receiving vouchers of greater value. Food stamps, for example, are food vouchers. Vouchers have replaced public housing projects in many areas as a way of providing shelter for the poor. There are many proposals to expand the use of vouchers to new areas.

Opponents fear that use of vouchers will diminish funding for publicly produced services to a dangerous extent leaving the most needy and difficult cases to be served by understaffed government agencies. They see diminished public support for public agencies as more people seek private providers.

Part IV: Indicate the level of priority for the following areas of state spending.

Time Guideline: 20 minutes

The hard choices to be made in the future will be real. Each individual program supported by state funds is arguably very worthwhile. However, some state activities may be more critical to the future of Minnesota than others. Our consensus is meant to deal seriously with these choices. As tradeoffs are considered in achieving future balanced state budgets, the relative importance of the state's activities must be instrumental in guiding policymakers through this difficult process. State programs considered to be more integral to the future of Minnesota should be funded as fully as possible. Other programs, while worthwhile, may not be able to be funded as completely or at all.

Part IV asks Leaguers to try to indicate the priority of these state activites based on the discussions up to this point. The budget areas are listed in order of their magnitude in the consolidated state budget, with key activities of each budget category shown. Your local League is to identify whether each activity should be given high, lower or no priority or whether you could not come to a consensus. (See page 2 of *Facts and Issues* for an overall picture of the size of each budget category.)

Please keep in mind that your responses will give direction to LWVMN in determining priorities among these items. We hope you are able to fine tune your preferences so that not all activities are given "high priority."

TIPS FOR DISCUSSION LEADERS

Thank you for agreeing to lead the Minnesota State Government Spending consensus. Here are some tips to make that job easier.

I. Introduction

The leader does not need to be an expert or even the most knowledgeable person in the group; the ability to manage the discussion is much more important than knowledge of the issue. In fact, content experts tend to have a difficult time staying in the leader role.

However, the leader should be the most well-prepared person in the room. This means thorough familiarity with the reading material, reflection about the directions in which the discussion must go, knowledge of the people and personalities in the group, and a clear understanding of how the consensus will work.

II. Beginning

- "Beginning is half," says an old Chinese proverb. Set a friendly and relaxed atmosphere from
 the start. Introduce yourself: talk about your background and reasons for agreeing to
 moderate the discussion. All participants should then be asked to introduce themselves. They
 could say something about their League background and why they are interested in the study,
 for example.
- 2. Start and end on time. People who make the effort to come on time are punished by having to wait for late-comers to arrive.
- 3. <u>Designate a recorder.</u> The recorder keeps notes and records your League's response to the consensus form.

III. Managing the Discussion

- 1. Keep discussion focused on the session's topic. Don't force the group to stick to the topic too rigidly, but don't allow the discussion to drift.
- 2. <u>Keep the discussion moving along.</u> When a point has been fully discussed, don't allow the group to beat it into the ground. Move on to something else.
- Do not allow the aggressive, talkative person or faction to dominate. One of the most difficult aspects of leading is preventing certain participants from monopolizing the discussion.
- 4. **Draw out participants.** Do not allow anyone to sit quietly in the corner or to be forgotten by the group without an attempt to reach the person. Create an opportunity for each participant to contribute.
- 5. Be an active listener. You will need to truly hear and understand what people say if you are to guide the discussion effectively.
- 6. Stay neutral and be cautious about expressing your own values. As the leader you have considerable power with the group. If you throw your weight behind the ideas of one faction, your effectiveness in managing the discussion will be diminished.

- 7. Use conflict productively and don't allow participants to personalize their disagreements. Do not avoid conflict, but try to keep it narrowly focused on the issue at hand. Conflict in a discussion can be exciting, but conflict of personalities is destructive. Since everyone's opinion is important, participants should feel comfortable saying what they really think even if it's unpopular. If the group starts to gang up on someone, or if you sense that some participants may be afraid to express their views, remind the group that it's important to respect everyone's right to be heard.
- 8. Be prepared to intervene to help participants clarify vague or confusing statements.

 Make sure jargon is translated into terms everyone can understand.
- 9. Don't be afraid of pauses and silences. People need time to think and reflect. Sometimes silence will help someone build up the courage to make a valuable point.
- 10. Do not allow the group to make you the expert or "answer person." Don't set yourself up as the final arbiter. Let the group decide what it believes and correct itself when a mistake is made.
- 11. Don't always be the one to respond to comments and questions. Encourage interaction among the group. Participants should be conversing with each other, not just with the leader.
- 12. Synthesize or summarize the discussion occasionally. It is helpful to consolidate related ideas to provide a solid base for the discussion to build upon. A look back over territory that has been covered provides a sense of what has been accomplished.
- 13. A little humor can go a long way. A gracious joke or wry comment can be particularly useful if the atmosphere becomes tense and can pep people up when the discussion is lagging.
- 14. Watch the time and move the discussion along when necessary.
- 15. <u>Ask hard questions.</u> Call attention to points that have not been mentioned or seriously considered, whether you agree with them or not. Encourage someone to play devil's advocate, if necessary.
- 16. Be aware of how your questions are directed. Varying your questions by directing some toward particular participants and others to the group at large can help you manage the discussion.
- 17. <u>Utilize open-ended questions.</u> Questions such as, "What other possibilities have we not yet considered?" do not lend themselves to short, specific answers and are especially helpful for drawing out quiet members of the group.
- 18. Avoid leading questions. The leader who asks "Are you uncomfortable with this line of reasoning?" rather than "What do you think of this line of reasoning?" may be interjecting her/his own opinion.

IV. Wrapping Up

- 1. Thank everyone for participating.
- 2. Remind them of the date and time of the next meeting, if there will be more than one.
- 3. Return the consensus form with your comments to LWVMN, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 by **January 20, 1997**.
- 4. If you have questions please call the LWVMN office at 612/224-5445, or Study Chair Cindy Berquist at 507/663-0816.

We appreciate your participation in the Minnesota State Government Spending Study.

Minnesota State Government Spending Ideas For Fall Informational Meetings

In order to take part in the consensus process, all League members will need a **basic knowledge** of how the Minnesota state government currently spends its revenues. Also, they must understand why **significant fiscal challenges** will face the state in the near future. Then, they can be introduced to the many important issues involved in the discussion and make well-informed choices. The fall meetings will **not** emphasize budget numbers, but will emphasize the activities supported by the state and the fundamental choices that will be necessary in the future.

The information contained in *Facts and Issues* should be presented at your Informational Meeting. Local League study committee members, using the materials in this mailing, should be able to present this core information. Outside speakers are not necessary. Sometimes they have individual biases which do not assist in conveying the core information. Also, review the Consensus Questions and Leader's Guide to get an understanding of the discussion to take place at the Consensus Meeting. Introduce issues found in the Leader's Guide as time permits at the Informational Meeting.

A set of transparencies to be used with overhead projectors is available for use at the Informational Meeting. These transparencies will contain pie charts and other visual aids to help audience members to easily understand budgeting relationships and other information. Please contact Cindy Berquist (507-663-0816) if you have not already indicated your interest in receiving a set of transparencies for your meeting.

Also, if you have not received a call from Cindy about your informational meeting, please call her to indicate the date, time, place of your meeting and whether it will be open to the public. She is trying to line up some publicity for the public meetings statewide.

The focus for the discussion must always be the consolidated state budget as a whole. The presenters must keep emphasizing the **overall picture of state spending** and not look at each segment of the budget in too much detail. *Facts and Issues* covers each segment of the consolidated budget, but in a general manner. It does not delve into any particular area too deeply. There are many issues affecting each individual segment but we must remain cognizant of the broad scope of this project.

Assuming no major new sources of revenue in the future, there will be tradeoffs to be made in the future. For example, "If health care continues to take an increasing share of the state budget, as it has in the past and will be expected to in the future due to demographics, it will be necessary for other segments of the budget to accept decreases." However, other segments will also experience pressures to be increased at a rate greater than the overall growth rate in revenues. Compounding this problem will be potential federal funding cuts.

The hard choices will be real. Each individual program supported by state funds is

arguably very worthwhile. However, some segments of the state budget may be more critical to the future of Minnesota than others. Our consensus is meant to deal seriously with these choices. League's goal is to set broad goals identifying the programs and services for which the state is appropriately responsible, establish criteria to assist in making the hard funding choices and encouraging an efficient and effective state government.

If you are sponsoring a public meeting- terrific! Please consider videotaping your meeting. Many cable local access channels are looking for good material such as this to rebroadcast. Our goal in this study/project is to encourage as many citizens as possible to become well-informed and active participants in this very important public discussion. The elected officials are looking for input from citizens and League will try to assist citizens in gaining the knowledge to participate in a meaningful way.

As Facts and Issues concludes, "Now is the time to give thoughtful attention to this challenge- before the crisis occurs."

Minnesota State Government Spending Other Public Information Possibilities

Members of the legislature recently identified Welfare legislation as a major focus for the next legislative session. This is due to the recently passed federal Welfare reform bill which reduces funding and shifts responsibilities to the states. The impact of such changes at the state level will be either a continuation of current levels of Welfare services, with spending cuts in other areas, or reductions in Welfare spending and services/eligibility. The hard choices envisioned in this study will start to be addressed in the upcoming legislative session!

In addition to sponsoring fall informational meetings on Minnesota State Government Spending, each local League will want to consider doing additional activities in this important and timely area. The following are some activities to consider:

- Write letters to the editor or op/ed articles for your local newspapers (also publicizing the Facts and Issues availability).
- Preparing questions on this topic for candidates events this election season.
- o If you sponsor a public informational meeting, videotape your meeting and ask your cable local access channel to rebroadcast the tape.

0	Others	

Please share your ideas for other activities with the study committee so that we can pass them along to other local Leagues. Also, send copies of any articles in newspapers. We would like to see them!

Cindy Berquist, Study Chair 1501 Lia Drive Northfield, MN 55057 (507) 663-0816

Minnesota State Government Spending Other Materials Available

The following materials are available for checkout through the LWVMN office:

 Videotape of the LWVMN Fall Workshop held November 11, 1995 at Mankato State University-

Speakers: Tim Penny, Former 1st District US Congressman Barbara Ronningen, Minnesota Planning

o Video and audio tapes of the LWVMN Focus Meeting: "Choices For the Future," held April 17, 1996 at the Humphrey Institute, University of Minnesota-Speakers:

> Setting the Stage- Laura King, Minnesota Commissioner of Finance Keynote address- Lyle Wray, Citizens League

> Panel 1: Is fundamental change in governmental spending needed?
>
> John Brandl, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs
>
> Alexa Bradley, Minnesota Alliance for Progressive Action
>
> John Yunker, Legislative Auditor's Office
>
> Moderator- Cathy Wurzer, KTCA

Panel 2: Spending Reform- Where do we want to go? How do we get there?

> Duane Benson, Minnesota Business Partnership Gene Merriam, State Senator- 49th District Kevin Kelleher, Association of Minnesota Counties; Commissioner- Houston County

Karen Anderson, League of Minnesota Cities;

Mayor-Minnetonka Mary Thornton Phillips, St. Paul School Board

Moderator- Cathy Wurzer, KTCA Concluding remarks - Jim Gelbmann,

Board of Government Innovation and Cooperation

Videotape of the Humphrey Institute- Minnesota Extension Service Interactive
 Forum: "New Directions in State and Local Fiscal Policy," held October 30, 1995

Note-

These materials may be submitted to cable local access channels for rebroadcast or may be useful for individual viewing. They are **not** recommended to take the place of discussion of *Facts and Issues* at local League informational meetings this fall.

Minnesota State Government Spending State Study Committee Continuing Activities

The state study committee has been working diligently on this project for one year. Please extend your appreciation for their many hours spent on this project!

Following are the study committee activities for this fall:

- Members of the State Study Committee will be assisting with some local League informational meetings this fall.
- The State Study Committee will submit an op/ed article to the St. Paul Pioneer Press and the Minneapolis Star-Tribune in September.
- o A marketing plan for Facts and Issues will be developed and executed. The goal is to get Facts and Issues into the hands of as many people as possible so that more people can gain a better understanding of how the state currently spends its money, learn about the fiscal challenges facing the state in the near future and become active participants in the upcoming debate about the hard choices to be made in Minnesota government spending.
- The State Study Committee will try to help promote local League public informational meetings this fall.

LWVMN is also participating in a University of Minnesota-Minnesota Extension Service project dealing with state and local fiscal policy, titled "Can We Afford the Future?" A Citizens Jury will be held September 9-13 in Farmington, coordinated by the Jefferson Center. The jurors will be asked to look at Minnesota's financial future as affected by federal cutbacks and the pressures raised by a changing demographic profile. In January 1997, a two-day conference involving citizens and local and state elected officials will be held. The conference, as currently envisioned, will engage citizens and elected officials in an interactive process that will highlight both the magnitude of the fiscal challenges Minnesota faces, and the importance of dialogue and broad citizen involvement in developing solutions. In March 1997, a follow-up Citizens Jury will be held in Crookston focusing on issue(s) referred by the September citizens jury.

State Study Committee:

Chair: Cindy Berquist Northfield

Members: Virginia Bodine Edina Sharon Borg Arden Hills/ Shoreview Mary Ann Emery Northfield Mary Gover St. Peter

Maryellen Leppink Minneapolis Pia Lopez St. Cloud Marti Micks Golden Valley Corinne Neururer Brooklyn Park/

Pam Oddi New Ulm Osseo/ Maple Grove
Kathy Quandt Minneapolis Ady Wickstrom Arden Hills/ Shoreview

Draft News Release The Citizens Jury on State and Local Fiscal Matters "Can We Afford the Future?"

Public officials and citizens are invited to observe a Citizens Jury that will focus on state and local fiscal policy matters. Specifically, the jury will discuss how much public money is being spent in various areas of the budget. Also, the rationale for spending public money in such a manner will be reviewed. Special attention will be paid to the Medical Assistance program, as this is one of the largest and fastest growing areas of state spending.

The Jefferson Center will hold the Citizens Jury at the Minnesota Extension Service building in Farmington, Dakota County, 4100 220th Street West, September 9-13 from 8:30 to 5:00. The Minnesota Extension Service and the Humphrey Institute are co-sponsors of this event.

If you would like to observe the Citizens Jury, please stop in at any time during the week. If you have questions, contact Bruce Manning at the Jefferson Center at (612) 333-5300. The event cosponsors hope you are able to attend and look forward to meeting you.

The Jefferson Center is a non-profit, non-partisan organization conducting research and development into new methods of democratic decision-making. Founded in 1974 in Minneapolis, the Center is now the oldest of the organizations set up in America outside of a university setting to do long term research and development on democracy. The major achievement of the Jefferson Center has been the development and use of the Citizens Jury process. A Citizens Jury brings together a microcosm of the community to learn about public policy issues and present recommendations on a particular issue. Between eighteen and twenty-four ordinary citizens are randomly selected to spend up to five days learning about an issue from experts in the field. Their findings are then presented to the community at large.

	Actual 1995		Actual 199
	Current Law		Current Lav
	LGAI		LG
Farmington	358,487	Oak Grove	12,79
Forest Lake	321,972	Oak Park Heights	
Fridley	1,579,526	Oakdale	618,53
Gem Lake	0	Orono	
Golden Valley	19,150	Osseo	66,03
Greenfield	5,519	Pine Springs	The same
Greenwood	0	Plymouth	
Ham Lake	172,103	Prior Lake	27,27
Hamburg	33,353	Ramsey	302,50
Hampton	14,229	Randolph	8,43
Hastings	1,233,926	Richfield	3,186,42
Hilltop	54,898	Robbinsdale	1,539,54
Hopkins	794,335	Rogers	
Hugo	26,895	Rosemount	385,44
Independence	0	Roseville	77,510
Inver Grove Heights	436,822	St. Anthony	135,41
Jordan	267,746	St. Bonifacius	11,02
Lake Elmo	4,494	St. Francis	32,88
Lake St Croix Beach	11,864	St. Louis Park	1,859,66
Lakeland	9,557	St. Mary's Point	
Lakeland Shore	0 .	St. Paul	42,006,86
Lakeville	482,655	St. Paul Park	445,99
Landfall	1,270	Savage	55,00
Lauderdale	39,990	Shakopee	151,08
Lexington	135,857	Shoreview	10.,00
Lilydale	0	Shorewood	ana ay
Lino Lakes	149,589	South St Paul	2,456,776
Little Canada	73,939	Spring Lake Park	218,600
Long Lake	58,138	Spring Park	7,00
Loretto	17,694	Stillwater	808,92
Mahtomedi	144,855	Sunfish Lake	
Maple Grove	150,225	Tonka Bay	18 4
Maple Plain	53,440	Vadnais Heights	12,78
Maplewood	715,268	Vermillion	2,41
Marine On St Croix	0	Victoria	
Mayer	25,601	Waconia	263,10
Medicine Lake	0	Watertown	178,78
Medina	0	Wayzata	The Zames
Mendota	5,907	West St Paul	1,107,92
Mendota Heights	0	White Bear Lake	800,38
Miesville	129	Willemie	39,19
Minneapolis	64,631,788	Woodbury	
Minnetonka	0	Woodland	
Minnetonka Beach	0	Young America	93,17
Minnetrista	0	TOTAL LGA	148,235,91
Mound	301,032		. Systematic state
Mounds View	615,440		
New Brighton	717,536		
New Germany	16,135		
New Hope	1,005,104		
New Market	7,163		
New Trier	1,959		
Newport	172,114		
North Oaks	0		
North St Paul	715,184		
Norwood	78,360		

METROPOLITAN CITIES

	Actual 1995
	Current Law
	LGA
Afton	01
Andover	105,328
Anoka	1,126,497
Apple Valley	370,453
Arden Hills	0
Bayport	33,865
Belle Plaine	281,668
Bethel	16,082
Birchwood	1,349
Blaine	1,196,822
Bloomington	0
Brooklyn Center	1,801,689
Brooklyn Park	1,607,622
Burnsville	327,129
Carver	22,286
Centerville	20,600
Champlin	464,577
Chanhassen	0
Chaska	332,320
Circle Pines	250,750
Coates	163
Cologne	31,602
Columbia Heights	2,055,817
Coon Rapids	2,367,324
Corcoran	29,583
Cottage Grove	960,695
Crystal	1,813,481
Dayton	29,765
Deephaven	0
Dellwood	0
Eagan	0
East Bethel	94,596
Eden Prairie	0
Edina	0
Elko	2,173
Excelsion	132,703
Falcon Heights	186,197

GREATER M	INNESOTA C	TITES	Actual 1995 Current Law		Actual 199
	Actual 1995		LGA		Current Lav
	Current Law	Benson	804,278	Cass Lake	280 635
	LGA	Bertha	132,240	Cedar Mills	2 35
Ada	400,408	Big Falls	52,418	Center City	42,053
Adams	117,931	Big Lake	260,136	Ceylon	90,799
Adrian	202,219	Bigelow	19,618	Chandler	34,385
Aitkin	272,927	Bigfork	80,263	Chatfield	292,141
Akeley	55,236	Bingham Lake	17,851	Chickamaw Beach	232,14
Albany	202,445	Bird Island	215,851	Chisago City	238,424
Albert Lea	3,871,963	Biscay	2,736	Chisholm	1,469,209
Alberta	10,031	Biwabik	311,463	Chokio	96,708
Albertville	56,941	Blackduck	108,835	Clara City	205,685
Alden	116,897	Blomkest	18,881	Claremont	87,628
Aldrich	822	Blooming Prairie	277,453	Clarissa	152,687
Alexandria	1,160,926	Blue Earth	665,285	Clarkfield	241,158
Alpha	23,712	Bluffton	2,622	Clarks Grove	72,598
Altura	41,694	Bock	4,221	Clear Lake	44,492
Alvarado	18,413	Borup	7,220	Clearbrook	94,507
Amboy	83,825	Bovey	280,447	Clearwater	20,631
Annandale	227,859	Bowlus	13,566	Clements	27,722
Appleton	388,523	Boy River	1,949	Cleveland	63,190
Arco	16,218	Boyd	65,992	Climax	36,867
Argyle	136,213	Braham	192,809	Clinton	142,673
Arlington	274,594	Brainerd	2,019,382	Clitherall	11,808
Ashby	57,407	Branch	22,079	Clontarf	2,481
Askov	33,343	Brandon	53,424	Cloquet	2,177,687
Atwater	175,452	Breckenridge	1,003,063	Cobden	2,177,007
Audubon	28,037	Breezy Point	0	Cokato	2 22
Aurora	454,950	Brewster	35,596	Cold Spring	254,791
Austin	4,304,590	Bricelyn	72,318	Coleraine	326,039
Avoca	20,326	Brook Park	16,891	Comfrey	115,610
Avon	79,434	Brooks	8,785	Comstock	10,487
Babbitt '	91,298	Brookston	4,592	Conger	25,519
Backus	34,592	Brooten	107,759	Cook	52,972
Badger	65,433	Browerville	79,528	Correll	3,977
Bagley	266,590	Browns Valley	226,764	Cosmos	104,19
Balaton	112,148	Brownsdale	72,552	Cottonwood	149,107
Barnesville	204,026	Brownsville	32,320	Courtland	25,753
Barnum	71,908	Brownton	122,573	Cromwell	11,497
Barrett	37,482	Bruno	20,958	Crookston	1,861,859
Barry	1,152	Buckman	5,309	Crosby	338,430
Bass Brook	0	Buffalo	561,612	Crosslake	1 000,400
Battle Lake	97,184	Buffalo Lake	103,343	Currie	41,37
Baudette	215,201	Buhl	385,069	Cuyuna	19,92
Baxter	125,407	Burtrum	13,429	Cyrus	44,04
Beardsley	50,510	Butterfield	86,317	Dakota	6,004
Beaver Bay	36,526	Byron	179,888	Dalton	28,526
Beaver Creek	43,921	Caledonia	452,132	Danube	93,43
Becker	0	Callaway	31,967	Danvers	10,860
Bejou	16,549	Calumet	141,459	Darfur	13,86
Belgrade	99,289	Cambridge	336,780	Darwin	3,65:
Bellechester	12,240	Campbell	36,974	Dassel	155,69
Bellingham	60,550	Canby	438,649	Dawson	3 7:
Beltrami	10,450	Cannon Falls	369,537	De Graff	3,00.
Belview	83,022	Canton	64,267	Deer Creek	27,84
Bemidji	2,203,213	Carlos	31,436	Deer River	152,87
Bena	15,901	Carlton	124,013	Deerwood	66,40

	Actual 1995 Current Law		Actual 1995		Actual 1995
	LGA		Current Law		Current Law
Delano	360,826		LGA	A	LGA
Delavan	42,430	Felton	28,949	Grove City	116,597
Delhi	12,973	Fergus Falls	2,512,415	Grygla	35,164
Denham	12,575	Fertile	101,197	Gully	6,717
Dennison	17,471	Fifty Lakes	0	Hackensack	13,861
Dent	11,802	Finlayson	17,176	Hadley	3,011
Detroit Lakes		Fisher	23,726	Hallock	272,163
Dexter	1,118,968	Flensburg	17,082	Halma	5,730
Dilworth	57,530	Floodwood	134,290	Halstad	92,758
Dodge Center	441,816	Florence	8,347	Hammond	9,994
Donaldson	317,296	Foley	270,822	Hancock	99,790
The state of the s	1,647	Forada	900	Hanley Falls	50,716
Donnelly	22,831	Foreston		Hanover	17,604
Doran	5,604		26,740	Hanska	64,510
Dover	50,570	Fort Ripley	161	Harding	793
Dovray	7,227	Fosston	280,312	Hardwick	29,028
Duluth	17,429,816	Fountain	29,529	Harmony	225,804
Dumont	18,703	Foxhome	11,203	Harris	26,638
Dundas	30,036	Franklin (Renville)	121,317	Hartland	47,521
Dundee	7,383	Franklin (St. Louis)	5,519	Hatfield	963
Dunnell	32,673	Frazee	145,602	Hawley	161,558
Eagle Bend	130,875	Freeborn	32,934	Hayfield	
Eagle Lake	123,531	Freeport	61,111		174,746
East Grand Forks	1,495,413	Frost	43,363	Hayward Hazel Run	36,002
East Gull Lake		Fulda	242,161		8,487
Easton	35,490	Funkley	50	Hector	201,982
Echo	74,267	Garfield	7,365	Heidelberg	752
Eden Valley	136,358	Garrison	5,679	Henderson	147,956
Edgerton	137,573	Garvin	38,417	Hendricks	130,566
Effie	982	Gary	50,124	Hendrum	41,106
Eitzen	13,605	Gaylord	350,559	Henning	136,315
Elba	2,355	Geneva	39,839	Henriette	1,341
Elbow Lake	248,866	Genola	157	Herman	119,870
Elgin	69,927	Georgetown	8,414	Hermantówn	472,403
Elizabeth	19,587	Ghent	39,367	Heron Lake	135,607
Elk River	247,482	Gibbon	138,771	Hewitt	29,323
Elkton	12,605	Gilbert	591,146	Hibbing	4,017,381
Ellendale	75,203	Gilman	1,161	Hill City	47,794
Ellsworth	91,548	Glencoe	672,524	Hillman	1,620
Elmdale	1,690	Glenville	59,426	Hills	91,848
Elmore	149,189	Glenwood	476,462	Hinckley -	132,341
Elrosa		Glyndon	87,622	Hitterdal	40,904
Ely	7,004	Gonvick	61,028	Hoffman '	79,165
Elysian	920,064	Good Thunder	74,369	Hokah	143,318
	104,209	Goodhue		Holdingford	108,616
Emily	5,049		77,805	Holland	35,918
Emmons	70,602	Goodridge	22,290	Hollandale	33,798
Erhard	11,235	Goodview	182,413	Holloway	13,562
Erskine	53,775	Graceville	138,545	Holt	7,525
Evan	3,303	Granada	48,463	Houston	177,679
Evansville	87,612	Grand Marais	224,452	Howard Lake	156,366
Eveleth	1,122,681	Grand Meadow	138,454	Hoyt Lakes	247,464
yota	92,740	Grand Rapids	1,296,576	Humboldt	5,987
airfax	221,367	Granite Falls	540,964	Hutchinson	1,344,629
airmont	2,108,934	Grasston	14,756	Ihlen	12,514
Faribault	3,371,211	Green Isle	45,762	International Falls	2,134,514
Farwell	15,941	Greenbush	139,717	lona	31,264
Federal Dam	2,845	Greenwald	8,516		3,711
	200 3324	Grey Eagle	59,636	Iron Junction	3,71

	Actual 1995		Actual 1995		Actual 1995
	Current Law		Current Law		Current Law
	LGA		LGA		LGA
Ironton	100,203	Lester Prairie	136,675	Minnesota Lake	144
Isanti	219,845	Lewiston	108,249	Mizpah	2,519
Isle	65,991	Lewisville	31,396	Montevideo	1,035,593
Ivanhoe	133,543	Lindstrom	142,909	Montgomery	412,804
Jackson	844,493	Lismore	52,714	Monticello	0
Janesville	251,751	Litchfield	932,010	Montrose	72,734
Jasper	111,950	Little Falls	1,523,193	Moorhead	4,237,998
Jeffers	72,752	Littlefork	92,131	Moose Lake	177,187
Jenkins	10,836	Long Beach	216	Mora .	407,250
Johnson	2,730	Long Prairie	526,512	Morgan	229,075
Kandiyohi	42,657	Longville	6,667	Morris	1,021,599
Karlstad	126,839	Lonsdale	80,943	Morristown	92,197
Kasota	54,288	Louisburg	3,111	Morton	85,326
Kasson	402,460	Lowry	45,118	Motley	63,084
Keewatin	364,458	Lucan	48,147	Mountain Iron	207,831
Kelliher	24,926	Luverne	- 929,041	Mountain Lake	396,464
Kellogg	42,485	Lyle	82,513	Murdock	48,186
Kennedy	36,294	Lynd	41,945	Myrtle	5,010
Kenneth	10,269	Mabel	168,069	Nashua	565
Kensington	35,406	Madelia	320,860	Nashwauk	441,071
Kent	15,346	Madison	453,903	Nassau	5,900
Kenyon	205,692	Madison Lake	68,464	Nelson	5,778
Kerkhoven	113,243	Magnolia	10,671	Nerstrand	22,608
Kerrick	3,160	Mahnomen	261,346	Nevis	51,101
Kettle River	26,833	Manchester	5,683	New Auburn	29,530
Kiester	123,061	Manhattan Beach	0	New London	125
Kilkenny	26,483	Mankato	4,827,857	New Munich	30,005
Kimball	41,660	Mantorville	122,459	New Prague	471,786
Kinbrae	921	Maple Lake	136,450	New Richland	136,705
Kingston	2,210	Mapleton	183,494	New Ulm	2,506,836
Kinney	72,133	Mapleview	56,807	New York Mills	235,722
La Crescent	279,130	Marble	239,065	Newfolden	57,522
La Prairie	37,816	Marietta	58,630	Nicollet	84,402
La Salle	6,343	Marshall	1,397,477	Nielsville	16,224
Lafayette	79,455	Maynard	97,214	Nimrod	1,094
Lake Benton	177,466	Mazeppa	72,386	Nisswa	0
Lake Bronson	48,466	Mc Grath	996	Norcross	19,880
Lake City	698,521	Mc Gregor	66,604	North Branch	197,136
Lake Crystal	255,316	Mc Intosh	106,355	North Mankato	1,524,682
Lake Henry	3,856	Mc Kinley	69,530	North Redwood	6,288
Lake Lillian	43,025	Meadowlands	14,777	Northfield	1,443,652
Lake Park	98,339	Medford	95,743	Northome	43,984
Lake Shore	0	Meire Grove	6,219	Northrop	19,127
Lake Wilson	49,486	Melrose	500,031	Odessa	43,089
Lakefield	453,852	Menahga	169,918	Odin	12,595
Lamberton	169,441	Mentor	6,777	Ogema	24,516
Lancaster	56,140	Middle River	26,801	Ogilvie	94,528
Lanesboro	185,023	Milaca	340,311	Okabena	33,270
Laporte	5,278	Milan	77,613	Oklee	88,628
Lastrup	4,376	Millerville	617	Olivia	552,021
Le Center	268,866	Millville	5,567	Onamia	77-159
Le Roy	108,507	Milroy	35,449	Ormsby	1 5
Le Sueur	603,532	Miltona	12,762	Oronoco	55,233
Lengby	21,163	Minneiska	. 6,146	Orr	54,943
Leonard	1,640	Minneota	221,440	Ortonville	573,688
Leonidas	43,461	Minnesota City	13,464	Osakis	252,527

	Actual 1995
	Current Law
	LGA
Oslo	75,714
Ostrander	21,035
Otsego	63,162
Ottertail	513
Owatonna	2,806,077
Palisade	4,007
Park Rapids	450,218
Parkers Prairie	112,971
Paynesville Pease	246,039
Pelican Rapids	6,366
Pemberton	216,823
Pennock	11,664
Pequot Lakes	55,115 78,339
Perham	230,492
Perley	9,782
Peterson	18,645
Pierz	78,677
Pillager	18,813
Pine City	347,372
Pine Island	208,333
Pine River	136,654
Pipestone	800,697
Plainview	340,967
Plato	29,902
Pleasant Lake	6
Plummer	47,684
Porter	34,764
Preston	284,788
Princeton	363,412
Prinsburg	79,678
Proctor	411,928
Quamba Racine	2,119
Randall	14,212
Ranier	48,041 16,814
Raymond	103,185
Red Lake Falls	335,438
Red Wing	37,920
Redwood Falls	927,961
Regal	490
Remer	46,357
Renville	261,564
Revere	20,738
Rice	15,986
Richmond	101,562
Richville	2,719
Riverton	9,974
Rochester	5,759,294
Rock Creek	23,750
Rockford	283,252
Rockville	29,217
Rollingstone	51,710
Ronneby	929
Roosevelt Roscoe	3,379
Noscoe	5,178

	Actual 1995
	Current Law LGA
Rose Creek	55,470
Roseau	245,120
Rothsay	52,973
Round Lake	30,374
Royalton	49,205
Rush City	194,442
Rushford	184,692
Rushford Village	29,164
Rushmore	46,639
Russell	83,973
Ruthton	46,913
Rutledge	1,138
Sabin	26,181
Sacred Heart	148,676
St. Anthony	918
St. Charles	305,121
St. Clair	63,361
St. Cloud	5,860,805
St. Hilaire	20,568
St. James	766,522
St. Joseph	394,082
St. Leo	9,051
St. Martin	15,522
St. Michael	124,926
St. Peter	1,140,393
St. Rosa	2,994
St. Stephen St. Vincent	20,029
Sanborn	7,804
Sandstone	64,824
Sargeant	266,496 3,855
Sartell	227,018
Sauk Centre	736,969
Sauk Rapids	981,770
Scanlon	205,710
Seaforth	13,381
Sebeka	159,305
Sedan	1,324
Shafer	14,748
Shelly	43,472
Sherburn	222,064
Shevlin	7,760
Silver Bay	283,652
Silver Lake	125,658
Skyline	3,875
Slayton	519,336
Sleepy Eye	775,152
Sobieski	2,601
Solway	3,626
South Haven	23,083
Spicer Spring Grove	88,148
Spring Grove Spring Hill	271,533
Spring Valley	2,511
Spring Valley Springfield	503,594
Squaw Lake	362,480
Oquan Lake	3,446

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	Actual 1995
	Current Law
	LGA
Stacy	44,477
Staples	687,258
Starbuck	190,086
Steen	9,538
Stephen	87,162
Stewart	146,677
Stewartville	557,333
Stockton	14,929
Storden	62,164
Strandquist	10,483
Strathcona	2,428
Sturgeon Lake	4,247
Sunburg	13,167
Swanville	54,862
Taconite	115,854
Tamarack	5,119
Taopi	1,145
Taunton	6,496
Taylors Falls	78,594
Tenney	1,729
Tenstrike	1,548
Thief River Falls	1,165,115
Thomson	16,193
Tintah	8,866
Tower	117,626
Tracy	534,076
Trail Trimont	3,834
Trommald	151,306 8,616
Trosky	1,539
Truman	238,894
Turtle River	13
Twin Lakes	37,036
Twin Valley	144,964
Two Harbors	917,601
Tyler	175,096
Ulen	87,317
Underwood	57,252
Upsala	54,413
Urbank	1,804
Utica	22,107
Vergas	7,939
Verndale	59,870
Vernon Center	34,356
Vesta	56,924
Viking	20,999
Villard	31,217
Vining	8,669
Virginia	3,147,561
Wabasha	409,729
Wabasso	135,865
Wadena	560,124
Wahkon Waita Dada	16,913
Waite Park	332,149
Waldorf	50,725
Walker	179,769

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	Actual 1995
	Current Law
	LGA
Walnut Grove	126,491
Walters	23,387
Waltham	19,687
Wanamingo *	114,447
Wanda	9,256
Warba	8,001
Warren	237,860
Warroad	85,606
Waseca	1,389,139
Waterville	319,227
Watkins	82,500
Watson	37,826
Waubun	30,619
Waverly	82,087
Welcome	130,806
Wells	602,864
Wendell	37,037
West Concord	113,538
West Union	1,571
Westbrook	190,625
Westport	1,920
Whalan	7,135
Wheaton	337,843
Wilder	9,711
Williams	23,045
Willmar	2,250,988
Willow River	25,653
Wilmont	40,163
Wilton	107
Windom	678,371
Winger	32,370
Winnebago	310,489
Winona	4,719,133
Winsted	273,479 281,975
Winthrop Winton	25,111
Wolf Lake	561
Wolverton	19,078
Wood Lake	86,141
Woodstock	25,161
Worthington	1,847,775
Wrenshall	64,788
Wright	825
Wykoff	94,622
Wyoming	123,890
Zemple	1,209
Zimmerman	68,621
Zumbro Falls	10,722
Zumbrota	377,571
TOTAL LGA	189,013,685

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	1995	Region City Group	City	LGA
	HACA and			(
Region City Group City	LGA *	Metro		
kegian city diap city	(1)	Hi-Value Subu	rhe	
		## VECCE 3000	SHAKOPEE	6076
Metro			SHOREWOOD	4269
Central Cities			ST LOUIS PARK	47569
MINNEAPOLIS	94631794		WAYZATA	28319
ST PAUL	62299777			
or race	J.		Group Total	2338737
Group Total	156931571			
120 5-75 (2-2-2-2-2)				
		Hi-Growth Sub	urbs	
Large Suburbs			ANDOVER	5887
ANOKA	1845329		APPLE VALLEY	29325
BROOKLYN CENTER	3138279		BLAINE	28419
COLUMBIA HEIGHTS	3034325		BROOKLYN PARK	44168
COON RAPIDS	4791925		BURNSVILLE	32740
CRYSTAL	2882996		CHAMPLIN	13850
FALCON HEIGHTS	354251		CHASKA	6107
FRIDLEY CITY	2663303		CORCORAN	2449
HASTINGS	2236546		COTTAGE GROVE	23591
MOUND	800494		EAGAN	16977
MOUNDS VIEW	990910		EAST BETHEL	2635
NEW BRIGHTON	1550185 1945335		EDEN PRAIRIE FOREST LAKE	6920 5641
NEW HOPE	988877		HAM LAKE	3791
NORTH STPAUL	5070390		HUGO	2524
RICHFIELD ROBBINSDALE	2450825		INVER GROVE HGTS	14073
ROSEHOUNT	947939		LAKE ELMO	1894
SOUTH STPAUL	3641855		LAKEVILLE	22289
SPRING LAKE PARK	412544		LINO LAKES	5845
ST ANTHONY	478152		LITTLE CANADA	4860
ST PAUL PARK	656508		MAPLE GROVE	22863
STILLWATER	1813994		CAK GROVE	1369
WEST ST PAUL	2106233		CAKDALE	15934
WHITE BEAR LAKE	1668888		PLYMOUTH	18778
			PRIOR LAKE	8743
Group Total	46470083		RAMSEY	8239
	*		SHOREVIEW	10103
			VADNAIS HEIGHTS	3943
Hi-Value Suburbs			WOOD BURY	1334
ARDEN HILLS	100243			V1910
BLOOMINGTON	3742361		Group Total	377317
CHANHASSEN	968237			
DEEPHAVEN	221506			
EDINA	1002261	Small Cities		***
GOLDEN VALLEY	1775919		AFTON	116 202
HOPKINS	1772079		BAYPORT	439
MAPLEWOOD	2308680		BELLE PLAINE CIRCLE PINES	461
MEDINA MENDOTA HEIGHTS	223990 468056		FARMINGTON	749
MINNETONKA	2112431		INDEPENDENCE	180
MINNETRISTA	273801		JORDAN	421
NORTH CAKS	96687		LAUDERDALE	124
OAK PARK HEIGHTS	77980		MAHTOMEDI	430
ORONO	305975		NEWPORT	430
ROSEVILLE	1862378		OSSEO	20
KOSEVILLE	100270		SAVAGE	58
	¥ 7		ST FRANCIS	13-
			VICTORIA	184
50			WACONIA	483
				- 51515

		1000			1995
		1995 HACA and			HACA and
Design City Con-	et.		Region City Group	City	LCA *
Region City Group	City	LGA • 1	Region city discap	city	(1)
		(1)			
Non-metro	•••••		Non-metro		
Major Cities			Regional Cent	ere	
Hajor Cities		22001077	Regional Care	WINDOM	1034730
	DULUTH	22881033		WINDHA	6206730
	MANKATO	6713073		WORTHINGTON	2570621
	MOORHEAD	5169079		BOX I H I HU I ON	B. 00c.
	ROCHESTER	10194913		Group Total	88774382
	ST CLOUD	8782484		Group rotat	W// 430E
	Can	53740582			₩.
	Group Total	33/40302	Taconite Area		
			raconite area	CHISHOLM	2005658
Regional Cent				ELY	1238660
Keyloudt Cellt		4647602		EVELETH	1476985
	ALBERT LEA ALEXANDRIA	1545513		GRAND RAPIDS	1802313
4	[1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1] [1]	5647352		HIBBING	5246271
	AUSTIN BENIDJI	2443507		NT IRON	395381
		2589064		TWO HARBORS	1180322
	BRAINERD	567928		VIRGINIA	4152835
	CAMBRIDGE	2896596		VIKGIRIA	41,7200,7
8 343	CLOQUET	2395698		C T!	17498425
	CROOKSTON	1428966		Group Total	11470423
	DETROIT LAKES	1965736			
	EAST GRAND FORKS	2643404		2020	
	FAIRMONT	4118571	Sub-Reg. Cen	BENSON	912195
	FARIBAULT	2972141		BLUE EARTH	1003186
	FERGUS FALLS	968704		BRECKENRIDGE	1134891
*	GLENCOE	718644		CANNON FALLS	644295
	HERMANTOWN	2298150		COLD SPRING	44563
	HUTCHINSON	2674180		GLENWOOD	710828
	INTL FALLS	762702		GRANITE FALLS	619043
	LE SUEUR LITCHFIELD	1260842		LAKE CITY	932185
		1792312		LONG PRAIRIE	590336
	LITTLE FALLS MARSHALL	1943403		LUVERNE	1106823
	MONTEVIDEO	1360311		MELROSE	612150
	MORA	480852		OLIVIA	661856
**	MORRIS	1312588		PINE CITY	462836
	NEW PRAGUE	785385		PLAINVIEW	475059
	NEW ULM	3193987		ROSEAU	386193
	NORTH MANKATO	2141887		SAUK CENTRE	897102
	HORTHFIELD	2172588		SLEEPY EYE	938644
	OHATONNA	3976727		ST JAMES	920427
	PARK RAPIDS	525620		STAPLES	836312
	PIPESTONE	1018033		3174 623	
	PRINCETON	547347		Group Total	14289991
	RED WING	1237836		uroop rotat	***************************************
	REDUCCO FALLS	1275196			
	SAUK RAPIDS	1337069	Nabas Esima	21	
	ST PETER	1588461	Urban Fring	BAXTER	328859
	THIEF RIVER FALLS	1688355		BIG LAKE	441076
	WADENA	715688		BRANCH	145683
	WAITE PARK	669740		BUFFALO	801894
	WASECA	1722726		BYRON	369970

^{*} Aid amounts before reduction for state costs and penalties.

		1995
		HACA and
Region City Group	City	LGA *
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Non-metro		
Urban Fringe		
	DELANO	483153
	DILWORTH	523272
	ELK RIVER	861879
	COCOVIEW	407918
	KASSON	682519
	LACRESCENT	521244
	LINDSTROM	262385
	MONTICELLO	313998
	OTSEGO	209553
	ROCKFORD	401569
	SARTELL	513320
	ST JOSEPH	459030
	ST MICHAEL	232029
	STEWARTVILLE	711283
d	iroup Total	8897482
Mod. Size Citi		
	CALEDONIA	574372
	JACKSON	1132329
	PROCTOR	618203
	ST CHARLES	458157
G	roup Total	2783061
Re	gion Total	185983923
Sta	te Total	455656265

^{*} Aid amounts before reduction for state costs and penalties



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, St. Paul, MN 55103 612/224-5445 Fax 612/292-9417 E-Mail: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

August 16, 1996

TO:

Local League Presidents

FROM:

Diane Gibson, Technology Committee Chair

RE:

Local League Information on the Internet

The LWVMNEF Internet web site currently lists names of local Leagues an the areas they serve. Local League presidents' names are not listed on the Internet. Would your local League be interested in including a phone number and/or e-mail address next to your local League name on the Internet?

If your local League does not have an e-mail address, then perhaps one of your members would be willing to allow their personal e-mail address to be used.

If you are interested in including a phone number and/or e-mail address next to your local League name, please complete the form below and mail to the LWVMN office. Requests can be sent via e-mail to lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us.

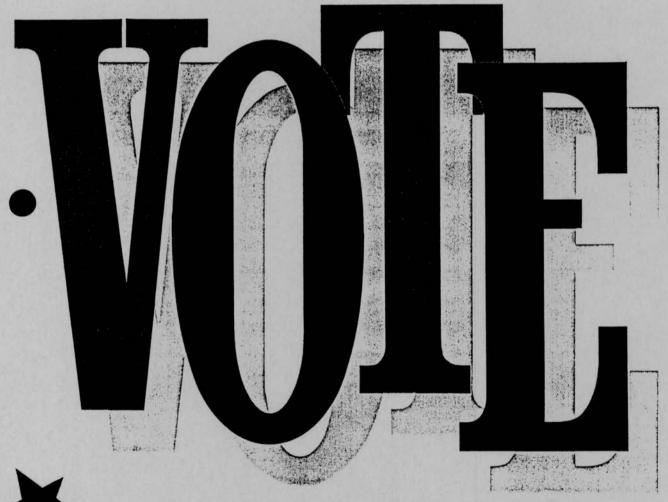
	Yes, please include the phone number be	
	Pho	ne number
	Yes, please include the e-mail address t	pelow next to our local League name.
Mail to:	: LWVMN 550 Rice Street	

or send request to our e-mail address at: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us

St. Paul, MN 55103

The decisions are made by those who show up





Minnesota Primary September 10 General Election November 5





COMMITMENT

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I would like to join (or renew my membershin in) American Evneriment	merican Evne	Conference Reg
■ \$50	1 \$1000	ŏ
Please check the conference registration box that applies:	applies: ich	
■ \$40 for <i>nonmembers</i> for full program including lunch ■ \$20 for <i>members</i> for morning sessions only ■ \$22.50 for <i>nonmembers</i> for morning sessions only	f lunch only	Pleas full pr for pa
\$20 for members for lunch only	0	Se

Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss Registration

Organization

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Other		Please add \$10 fc	for partial program
\$1000	lies:	-G	

City, State, Zip Code

(elephone(s)

with a check payable to American Experiment,

further information, call 612-338-3605

Total enclosed

"During the Depression, the national birthrate fell, as Americans of all stripes decided that they did not have enough money (or economic security) to bring another person into this world. The moral precept used to be that, if you could not afford children, you did not have them. That has changed. Now, we seem to confuse reproductive freedom with the freedom to reproduce. We must regain that moral clarity about not having children unless one has the

material resources to care for them."

Center of the American Experiment is a nonpartisan, tax-exempt, public policy and educational institution, which brings

conservative and alternative ideas to bear on the most difficult issues facing Minnesota and the nation.

American Experiment members receive:

■ Discounts on all public programs. Center publications for free.

Invitations to members-only events.

And our great gratitude.

Center newsletters and annual report.

Douglas J. Besharov From his speech at American Experiment's 1994 election Forum



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ELECTIONS 1996

Bipartisan Discussions on Four Key State and National Issues

LUN members



Center of the **American Experiment**

8:20 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, September 5, 1996 Radisson Plaza Hotel 35 South Seventh Street Minneapolis, Minnesota



1024 Plymouth Building 12 South 6th Street Minneapolis, MN 55402



ELECTIONS 1996

Bipartisan Discussions on Four Key State and National Issues

Four years ago and again two years ago, Center of the American Experiment held brief, "single-issue" Forums shortly before election day: on media coverage of the presidential race in 1992, and on teenage sexuality and welfare reform in 1994.

For 1996, we are expanding the scope of our election program by addressing four important state and national issues and calling on the services of more than a dozen scholars. politicians and activists from both sides of the political and ideological aisle.

Speakers will discuss and debate affirmative action. Minnesota state spending, ethics in Minnesota state government, and the role and responsibility of the United States in a post-Cold War world.

The conference is intended for voters and candidates alike, and is structured so that guests can attend as many (or as few) of the four sessions as their schedules allow.

We very much hope you can join us.



Agenda

7:45-8:20 a.m. Registration and coffee

Welcome and overview 8:20-8:30 a.m. Mitchell B. Pearlstein

8:30-9:30 a.m. Affirmative action

> Brian W. Jones Samuel L. Myers, Jr.

Mitchell B. Pearlstein Moderator

Reducing the size and 9:30-10:30 a.m.

cost of state government

John Brandl Sen. Gen Olson Rep. Kevin Knight

Becky Malkerson Moderator

10:30-10:45 a.m. Break

10:45-11:45 a.m. Ethics in state

government

Sen. Ember Reichgott Junge Sen. John Marty Rep. Charlie Weaver Robert G. Renner, Jr.

Wy Spano Moderator

11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Break

12:15-2:00 p.m.

Luncheon Keynote The U.S. in the World Kim R. Holmes

Susan C. Lavrakas Introduction

2 p.m.

Adjourn





Dr. John Brandl, an economist. is a professor at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs and a former DFL member of the Minnesota Legislature. He is a member of the Board of Advisors of American Experiment.

Dr. Kim R. Holmes is vice president and director of foreign and defense policy studies at the Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Brian W. Jones, a lawyer, is president of the Center for New Black Leadership in Washington, D.C.

Rep. Kevin Knight is in his second term representing District 40B in the state Legislature. A Republican and a small business owner, he lives in Bloomington.

Susan C. Lavrakas is director of government affairs and public programs for American Experiment.

Becky Malkerson is corporate vice president of communications for United Healthcare.

Sen. John Marty chairs the Minnesota Senate Ethics and Campaign Reform Committee. A DFLer from Roseville, he is in his third term representing District 54.

Dr. Samuel L. Myers, Jr., an economist, is the Roy Wilkins Professor of Human Relations and Social Justice at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs.

Sen. Gen Olson is serving her fourth term in the Minnesota Senate representing District 34. A Republican from Minnetrista, she is a member of the American Experiment Board of Directors.

Dr. Mitchell B. Pearlstein is president of American Experiment.

Sen. Ember Reichgott Junge, a DFLer, is assistant majority leader in the Minnesota Senate and vice chair of the Senate Ethics and Campaign Reform Committee. A resident of New Hope, she is in her fourth term representing District 46.

Robert G. Renner, Jr. is a partner in the Twin Cities law firm of Messerli and Kramer P.A.

Wy Spano is a partner in the lobbying firm of Spano & Janecek. He also founded, publishes and co-edits the insiders' political newsletter. Politics in Minnesota.

Rep. Charlie Weaver, a Republican, is assistant minority leader of the Minnesota House of Representatives. A resident of Anoka, he is in his fourth term representing District 49A.





THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417

JULY 1996

MINI-MAILING TO LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

(Mailed also to DPM subscribers)

1919

A VOICE

FOR CITIZENS.

A FORCE FOR CHANGE

1994

July

Calendar

75 Years -- A Voice for Citizens, A Force for Change

- 22 Minnesota State Spending Facts and Issues to the printer
 - Mini-Mailing to local League Presidents
- 24 Voter Service Committee Meeting; 10:00 a.m., LWVMN Office
- 25 CMAL Board Meeting; MWB, small mtg. rm.; 9:30 a.m.
- 29 LWVMNEF Fundraiser Committee; MWB, small mtg. rm.; 9:15 a.m.

August

- 1 Deadline for LL applications for Congressional Debates proposals
- 14 LWVMN/EF Board Meetings, MWB; 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
 - VOTER deadline
- 19 Presidents' Mailing, includes Spending Study and discussion materials, consensus questions



ENCLOSURES

(Mailed First Class to local League Presidents and DPM Subscribers)

- Memo to Voter Service Chairs-especially for Candidate Forum Proposals/Duffy, McCoy
- Local Leagues' Legislative Districts-Local League Order, Revised/Duffy, McCoy
- > VOTE brochure; info re ordering Voter Guide '96, "The Decisions are made by those who show up" Poster; V.I.P. (Voter Information Packet)/Duffy, Kargas
- \triangleright MN Secretary of State's "Minnesota Voters' Guide"/Duffy (bulk quantities available at LWVMN office)
- ➤ "Eight Steps to a Successful Voter Registration Drive"/Duffy, Gendler
- Memo to Local League Presidents and Voter Service Chairs re Women's Vote Project/Duffy
- \triangleright FYI: Long Term Care Forums/Frisch, Hill
- > We the People: Skills for Democracy Curriculum brochure/Covey
- LWVMNEF Annual Appeal Memo and Sign-up Forms/Walz, Reynolds
- For your information and guidance: "LWVMN Political Activity Policy, 6/94"/Borgen \gg
- \gg Memo re Program Planning/Nelson
- > BOARD MEMO/DPM subscription form (last chance to ensure uninterrupted subscription)

ELECTIONS



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

550 Rice Street
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 612-224-5445
Fax 612-292-9417
E-mail lwymn@freenet.msp.mn.us

DATE: July 24, 1996

TO: Voter Service Chairs - especially for Candidate Forum Proposals

FROM: Judy Duffy, LWVMN 1st Vice President Voter Service

RE: Keep those Applications for Pass-Though Grants Coming!

Eight days to the August 1st application deadline for candidate forum grants under the Martin Foundation project seeking one congressional candidate forum in each of the eight Congressional Districts!

... And if you've been wondering just how you'll bring the whole district along when you collaborate with other Leagues in your Congressional District, here are several suggestions:

- · Organize a Question Subcommittee to carry out this phase of the meeting project
- Ask each League in the District for issues at hand or on the horizon
- Check with the Extension Service staff members for issues under consideration
- · Put request for issues-questions on the Internet -- and invite response by E-Mail!

Then go over the results of these community outreaches with the District Steering Committee (one representative from each League in the district) so that emerging questions to the candidates reflect the whole district. These questions can be useful with minor adjustments at several levels of candidate events - local, county, state representative, state senate.

You may decide to begin with your district newspapers! How about a sample survey of the district? Work with your local editor to help you reach unengaged or disengaged, and even active voters, with a mini-survey. Plan to visit with your local editor, explain that "Making Democracy Work" is the League thrust for the next two years, and that you need the newspaper's help in determining the pulse of your community. Ask the editor to include a tear-off blank for the respondent to send to your voter service chair -- with the option to furnish the respondent's name, address, and phone number and offer a chance for the respondent to ask the question on the air during the forum -- a "real people" aspect for your forum!

Your District Steering Committee could sort the responses by topic, by geographical area, and prepare them for the moderator's use during the forum. This could help publicize your forum and move you forward in your Making Democracy Work goals.

Here are some sample surveys to consider!

SCENARIO ONE:

If you were having coffee and a conversation with a member of Congress, what would you like to tell that person?

In the same conversation, what would you like to ask that person -- about issues you care about? What are these issues?

And, what would you like to know about that person?

SCENARIO TWO:

If you were to look at an opportunity to interview someone for a position, and that position were "Representative in Congress" . . .

What would you like that person to know about the position?

What would you like to tell that person about the issues with which that position must take action? What are that person's stands on the issues you select for consideration?

SCENARIO THREE:

Informal Poll in District newspapers -- Top three (five?) questions of citizens:

What do you think about about -- corn prices?

What do you think about about -- health care?

What do you think about about -- budget deficit?

What do you think about -- (add sentences like this with the local issues that your League has identified and is following)?

Reminder: Consider applying for a grant to support your collaboration with other Leagues in your legislative district for a local candidates forum-- These applications are due by August 1st, also. Please call the Board office or Mary Ann McCoy, project coordinator, 612/377-4793, if you need an application blank or additional information.

Another reminder: There's help for collaboration — in this mailing: Lists of local Leagues by Congressional District and by State Senate District … and if we need to correct the data, please call the office. Thank you for updating our records!

Local League	Congress	House A	House B	Senate
Alexandria	7		10	10
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	3	49	49	49
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	6	50	50	50
Arden Hills Shoreview	4	53		53
Austin	1	NO NO.	27	27
Bemidji Area	8	4		4
Bloomington	3	DIE THE	40	40
Bloomington	3	41	41	41
Brainerd Lakes Area State Unit	8		12	12
Brooklyn Center	5	MARKET	47	47
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove	6	33	33	33
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove	6	47		47
Buffalo/Monticello Area	2	19	LA TH	19
Buffalo/Monticello Area	6			19
Cannon Falls	1		29	29
Cannon Falls	1	37		37
Cass Lake/Walker	8		4	4
Crystal/New Hope/E. Plymouth	5	46		46
Detroit Lakes	7	11		11
Duluth	8		6	6
Duluth	8	7	7	7
Duluth	8	8	8	8
Eastern Carver County	2	35		35
Eastern Carver County	2	43		43
Edina	3	42	42	42
Edina	5			42
Freeborn County	1	27		27
Fridley	6	48		48
Fridley	6	52		52
Golden Valley	5		45	45
Golden Valley	5	46		46
Grand Rapids Area	8		3	3
Hibbing	8	NOTES !	5	5
Jackson Area	2		22	22
Mahtomedi Area	6	55		55
Mahtomedi Area	6	56	ACE TO	56
Mankato Area	1			24
Mankato Area	2	24	24	24
Minneapolis	5	58	58	58
Minneapolis	5	59	59	59
Minneapolis	5	60	60	60
Minneapolis	5	61	61	61
Minneapolis	5	62	62	62
Minneapolis	5	63		63

Local League	Congress	House A	House B	Senate
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3	41	41	41
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3		42	42
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3	45		45
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	5	43		43
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	5	44		44
Moorhead Area	7	9		9
New Brighton	4		52	52
New Ulm	2	23		23
Northern Dakota County	3	38	38	38
Northern Dakota County	3	39	39	39
Northfield	1	25		25
Owatonna	1	28		28
Red Wing	1	29		29
Richfield	5	40		40
Richfield	5		63	63
Robbinsdale	5	B/14/15/0	46	46
Rochester	1	30	30	30
Rock County	2		21	21
Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Hts	4	54	54	54
South Tonka	3	43		43
South Tonka	6			43
St. Cloud Area	2	14		14
St. Cloud Area	7	16		16
St. Cloud Area	8		17	17
St. Croix Valley	6	ME AND S	51	51
St. Croix Valley	6	56	56	56
St. Louis Park	5	44	44	44
St. Paul	4		55	55
St. Paul	4	64	64	64
St. Paul	4	65	65	65
St. Paul	4	66	66	66
St. Paul	4	67	67	67
St. Peter	2		24	24
Wayzata/Plymouth Area	3		34	34
Wayzata/Plymouth Area	3	45	Correct I	45
White Bear Lake/North Oaks	4		53	53
White Bear Lake/North Oaks	4	55		55
Willmar	2	15	TO THE	15
Winona State Unit	1		32	32
Woodbury/Cottage Grove	6	Bushin	56	56

Local League	Congress	House A	House B	Senate
Mankato Area	1			24
Northfield	1	25		25
Austin	1		27	27
Freeborn County	1	27		27
Owatonna	1	28	HE WAR	28
Cannon Falls	1		29	29
Red Wing	1	29		29
Rochester	1	30	30	30
Winona State Unit	1		32	32
Cannon Falls	1	37		37
St. Cloud Area	2	14		14
Willmar	2	15		15
Buffalo/Monticello Area	2	19	THE DESTRICT	19
Rock County	2		21	21
Jackson Area	2		22	22
New Ulm	2	23		23
Mankato Area	2	24	24	24
St. Peter	2		24	24
Eastern Carver County	2	35		35
Eastern Carver County	2	43		43
Wayzata/Plymouth Area	3		34	34
Northern Dakota County	3	38	38	38
Northern Dakota County	3	39	39	39
Bloomington	3		40	40
Bloomington	3	41	41	41
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3	41	41	41
Edina	3	42	42	42
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3		42	42
South Tonka	3	43		43
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3	45		45
Wayzata/Plymouth Area	3	45		45
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	3	49	49	49
New Brighton	4		52	52
Arden Hills Shoreview	4	53		53
White Bear Lake/North Oaks	4	HERE	53	53
Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Hts	4	54	54	54
St. Paul	4		55	55
White Bear Lake/North Oaks	4	55		55
St. Paul	4	64	64	64
St. Paul	4	65	65	65
St. Paul	4	66	66	66
St. Paul	4	67	67	67
Richfield	5	40	I TOTAL	40
Edina	5		DATE OF	42

Local League	Congress	House A	House B	Senate
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	5	43		43
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	5	44		44
St. Louis Park	5	44	44	44
Golden Valley	5		45	45
Crystal/New Hope/E. Plymouth	5	46		46
Golden Valley	5	46		46
Robbinsdale	5		46	46
Brooklyn Center	5		47	47
Minneapolis	5	58	58	58
Minneapolis	5	59	59	59
Minneapolis	5	60	60	60
Minneapolis	5	61	61	61
Minneapolis	5	62	62	62
Minneapolis	5	63		63
Richfield	5		63	63
Buffalo/Monticello Area	6			19
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove	6	33	33	33
South Tonka	6			43
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove	6	47		47
Fridley	6	48		48
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	6	50	50	50
St. Croix Valley	6		51	51
Fridley	6	52		52
Mahtomedi Area	6	55		55
Mahtomedi Area	6	56		56
St. Croix Valley	6	56	56	56
Woodbury/Cottage Grove	6		56	56
Moorhead Area	7	9		9
Alexandria	7		10	10
Detroit Lakes	7	11		11
St. Cloud Area	7	16		16
Grand Rapids Area	8		3	3
Bemidji Area	8	4		4
Cass Lake/Walker	8		4	4
Hibbing	8		5	5
Duluth	8		6	6
Duluth	8	7	7	7
Duluth	8	8	8	8
Brainerd Lakes Area State Unit	8		12	12
St. Cloud Area	8		17	17

Local League	Congress	House A	House B	Senate
Grand Rapids Area	8		3	3
Bemidji Area	8	4		4
Cass Lake/Walker	8		4	4
Hibbing	8		5	5
Duluth	8		6	6
Duluth	8	7	7	7
Duluth	8	8	8	8
Moorhead Area	7	9		9
Alexandria	7		10	10
Detroit Lakes	7	11		11
Brainerd Lakes Area State Unit	8		12	12
St. Cloud Area	2	14		14
Willmar	2	15		15
St. Cloud Area	7	16		16
St. Cloud Area	8	THE COLUMN	17	17
Buffalo/Monticello Area	2	19		19
Buffalo/Monticello Area	6		BLEELEN!	19
Rock County	2	PART E E	21	21
Jackson Area	2		22	22
New Ulm	2	23		23
Mankato Area	1			24
Mankato Area	2	24	24	24
St. Peter	2		24	24
Northfield	1	25		25
Austin	1		27	27
Freeborn County	1	27		27
Owatonna	1	28	No.	28
Cannon Falls	1		29	29
Red Wing	1	29		29
Rochester	1	30	30	30
Winona State Unit	1		32	32
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove	6	33	33	33
Wayzata/Plymouth Area	3		34	34
Eastern Carver County	2	35		35
Cannon Falls	1	37		37
Northern Dakota County	3	38	38	38
Northern Dakota County	3	39	39	39
Bloomington	3	MINITED TO	40	40
Richfield	5	40		40
Bloomington	3	41	41	41
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3	41	41	41
Edina	3	42	42	42
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3		42	42
Edina	5			42

Local League	Congress	Contraction of the Contraction o	House B	
Eastern Carver County	2	43		43
South Tonka	3	43		43
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	5	43		43
South Tonka	6			43
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	5	44		44
St. Louis Park	5	44	44	44
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	3	45		45
Wayzata/Plymouth Area	3	45		45
Golden Valley	5		45	45
Crystal/New Hope/E. Plymouth	5	46		46
Golden Valley	5	46		46
Robbinsdale	5		46	46
Brooklyn Center	5		47	47
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove	6	47		47
Fridley	6	48		48
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	3	49	49	49
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	6	50	50	50
St. Croix Valley	6		51	51
New Brighton	4		52	52
Fridley	6	52	HERITAL	52
Arden Hills Shoreview	4	53		53
White Bear Lake/North Oaks	4		53	53
Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Hts	4	54	54	54
St. Paul	4		55	55
White Bear Lake/North Oaks	4	55		55
Mahtomedi Area	6	55		55
Mahtomedi Area	6	56		56
St. Croix Valley	6	56	56	56
Woodbury/Cottage Grove	6	TO WARRE	56	56
Minneapolis	5	58	58	58
Minneapolis	5	59	59	59
Minneapolis	5	60	60	60
Minneapolis	5	61	61	61
Minneapolis	5	62	62	62
Minneapolis	5	63		63
Richfield	5		63	63
St. Paul	4	64	64	64
St. Paul	4	65	65	65
St. Paul	4	66	66	66
St. Paul	4	67	67	67

is dedicated to increasing voter turn out. Here is what you can do to help:

- ✓ Provide your employees, students or customers with VOTER GUIDE '96 so they can become more informed voters.
- ✓ Display our poster:

 The decisions are made by those who show up

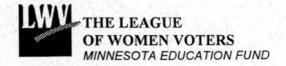
VOTE

- To learn more about how to get out the Vote and general voting information send for the V. I. P. Voter Information Packet.
- ✓ To ensure availability orders should be received by August 26, 1996.

The decisions are made by those who show up

VOTE

Minnesota Primary September 10 General Election November 5



VOTER GUIDE '96

Published by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund, VOTER GUIDE '96 is the only statewide nonpartisan publication to include Senate, and Congressional candidates for all major and registered minor parties in one issue.

VOTER GUIDE '96 includes:

- Biographical information on candidates for Senate, Congress, and statewide Judicial seats
- ✓ Photos of candidates
- ✓ Candidate's written responses to solicited questions on critical issues
- "Yes" or "No" answers from candidates on a wide variety of issues in an easy to read grid format
- ✓ Minnesota Voting information
- ✓ Information on the two proposed Constitutional Amendments
- √ 8 pages 2 color newsprint, folded to 8"x11"



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POSTER

made by those who show up

VOTE

Our eye catching poster features the powerful message above with great looking graphics. The bright red and blue poster was designed for us by Bill Stein of Artifex Studio. The size is 11½"x17" on heavy paper suitable for framing. Dates of the Primary and General Elections are included on the poster. Available for \$4.00 each plus tax, postage and handling.

V. I. P.

Voter Information Packet

Packed with useful information about:

- ✓ Who can vote
 - How to register to vote
- ✓ How to pick a candidate
- ✓ How to get out the vote
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MINNESOTA VOTERS' GUIDE 1996

OT THE STATE OF TH

A citizens how-to guide for participating in the 1996 state elections.

What's happening in '96?

1996 is the year to vote! Several top elected officials are up for election this fall...

Federal President and Vice-President

One US Senator

Eight US Representatives

State 67 State Senators

134 State Representatives

Supreme, Appeals and District Court judges

Local Over 200 county commissioners

Many mayors and city council members

Many school board members

Two proposed amendments to the Minnesota Constitution will also be on the ballot this November. See *Proposed changes to Minnesota's Constitution* for more information.

When are the elections?

State primary State general election Tuesday, September 10 Tuesday, November 5

Voting hours

7 am to 8 pm (voting begins at 10 am in some townships)

But I work on election day...

Minnesota law allows you to take time off from work with pay to vote during the morning of state elections. The idea is to encourage people to vote early in the day. If you will be away, take a look at the *What's absentee voting?* section.

Who can vote?

You can vote if you are:

- •18 or older
- •a US citizen
- a Minnesota resident for at least 20 days before the election
- not a convicted felon minus your civil rights
- ·not under guardianship of the person
- not legally incompetent

Where do I vote?

A card will come in the mail that tells you where to vote after you register. You can also call your city clerk

to find out. Many newspapers will also list polling places shortly before the election.

How do I vote?

Voting's incredibly easy for being so powerful. Here's how it works.

- 1) Register to vote.
- 2) Go to your polling place on election day. An election judge will check if you're on the list of voters and, if so, have you sign the list. Then you'll get a ballot. If you can't get to your polling place on election day, you can apply for an absentee ballot.
- 3) Vote! An election judge will show you how the ballot works, and you can get help with reading or marking the ballot if you need it. After voting, take your ballot to the ballot box. How you vote is secret. Asking people about their votes or campaigning is not allowed in or around the polling place!

Regarding registration...

Before you can vote, you need to be on the official list of voters. This is called being "registered." You need to register if you just became eligible to vote, moved, changed your name or haven't voted in the last four years.

The easiest way to register is by filling out a voter registration card and mailing or dropping it off at your city clerk, county auditor or the secretary of state's office.

When you fill out the card, remember that you can only vote where you live. If you are a student living at school, you can choose whether to register at home or at school (but not both!).

Where can I get a voter registration card?

- · at state, county, or city offices and public libraries
- where you apply for, renew or change your Minnesota Driver License or ID card
- · in state income tax booklets
- from the registrar's office or student association at colleges, universities and technical schools
- at many businesses, stores, and community groups

Can I register on election day?

If you miss registering before the election, you can register on election day at your polling place. You will need proof of the address where you are living on election day. Use one of these for proof...

 Minnesota Driver License, learner permit or identification card (or receipt for a new one)

 a "Notice of Ineffective Registration" card mailed to you by your county auditor (if you mailed in a registration late)

 someone who is registered in the precinct where you live to vouch for you at the polling place

If you are a student, you can use...

- a school fee statement showing your address in the precinct and photo ID card
- a student identification card or registration card having your current address
- a student photo ID if a student housing list or list of students is on file at your polling place

If you're registered and move within the *same* precinct, you can simply do an address change at the polling place.

Help is on the way...

If you could use some help with voting, you can ask at the polling place for aid in reading or marking your ballot. Or you can ask a friend to help you.

All polling places should be fully accessible with clearly marked accessible doors and parking spaces.

If you can't easily leave your car, you can ask for the ballot to be brought out to you in your car.

If you are confined due to illness or disability, you can vote by absentee ballot. Call your county auditor or city clerk for details.

If you have limited vision, you may ask your county auditor for voter registration and absentee ballot instructions in large print or on cassette tape.

And if you are hearing impaired, every county and most cities will have a TDD device for questions.

What's absentee voting?

You can vote by absentee ballot if you are unable to vote in person on election day because you are...

- · out of town
- · ill or disabled
- · an election judge serving in another precinct
- unable to go to the polling place due to a religious holiday or beliefs.

With absentee voting you can vote either in person before election day or by mail. Call your county auditor or city clerk for the details.

In person: Apply and/or vote during normal office hours or from 1 to 3 pm the Saturday afternoon or 5 to 7 pm the Monday evening before the election.

By mail: Apply early so you can mail or deliver your absentee ballot back before election day. Call, write or fax for an application. In some counties you can return your application by fax.

If you're in the military or outside the US, vote based on where you last lived in Minnesota. You or your parent, spouse, brother, sister, or adult child can apply for you. Make sure to apply early!

Important election dates in 1996

August 20 Last day to preregister to vote in the state primary
September 7 Absentee voting from 1 pm to 3 pm at county
auditors' offices

September 9 Absentee voting from 5 pm to 7 pm at county auditors' offices

September 10 State primary - vote 7 am to 8 pm in most areas

October 15 Last day to preregister to vote in the state

general election

November 2 Absentee voting is open 1 pm to 3 pm at county auditors' offices

November 4 Absentee voting 5 pm to 7 pm at county auditors'

November 5 State general election - vote 7 am to 8 pm in most areas

What's the meaning of this?

Absentee voting - getting your ballot early and voting in person or by mail before election day.

Ballot - the official paper or card list of who or what you can vote for in the election and on which you mark your choices. You receive the ballot at your polling place or when you do absentee voting.

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party - one of three **major** political parties currently active in Minnesota.

General Election - the election to pick the final winners! Decides who will actually fill the offices. To be held **November 5**.

Office - a specific position people seek election to. Each office has specific duties and powers.

Polling place - the place where you vote on election day (polling means voting). You can also register to vote at the polling place. Call your county auditor or city clerk's office to get the address.

Primary - an election to reduce the field of candidates. Winners (or nominees) go on to the general election. All major party candidates will be in the primary and some (but not all) local candidates. You will need to decide which major party's candidates you will vote for because you cannot split your votes between parties. To be held **September 10**.

Reform Party - one of the three major political parties currently active in Minnesota.

Republican Party - one of the three major political parties currently active in Minnesota.

Voter registration - having your name on the official list of voters. You must be registered for the address where you live on the day of the election to be able to vote.

Voter registration card - the card or form you fill out with your name and address and turn in to become registered.

Voting - marking your choices of candidates or yes or no to any questions on the official ballot.

Voting hours - when you can vote on election day. In most areas voting will begin at 7 am and end at 8 pm (some smaller townships begin voting at 10 am).

Proposed changes to Minnesota's Constitution

Two proposed amendments to the Minnesota Constitution will be on the November general election ballot. It takes a majority "YES" vote by everyone who votes in the election to amend our constitution. (This means that not voting on an amendment has the same effect as voting "NO.")

The following summary of the purpose and effect of the proposed amendments has been prepared by the attorney general.

Amendment 1. TO AUTHORIZE BONUS FOR PERSIAN GULF WAR VETERANS

- The amendment would permit the legislature to provide for payment of an adjusted compensation to persons who served in the armed forces of the United States during the period of the Persian Gulf War.
- The amendment would permit the state to spend money and pledge public credit to provide money for such compensation.
- The amendment would permit the legislature to define by law the duration of the Persian Gulf War.

Article XII, Section I of the Minnesota Constitution now reads:

The state may pay an adjusted compensation to persons who served in the armed forces of the United States during the period of the Vietnam conflict. Whenever authorized and in the amounts and on the terms fixed by law, the state may expend monies and pledge the public credit to provide money for the purposes of this section. The duration of the Vietnam conflict may be defined by law.

If the amendment is adopted, Article XIII, Section 8 will read (additions indicated by *italic*):

The state may pay an adjusted compensation to persons who served in the armed forces of the United States during the period of the Vietnam conflict or the Persian Gulf War. Whenever authorized and in the amounts and on the terms fixed by law, the state may expend monies and pledge the public credit to provide money for the purposes of this section. The duration of the Vietnam conflict and the Persian Gulf War may be defined by law.

Amendment 2. TO PROVIDE FOR RECALL OF ELECTED STATE OFFICIALS

- The amendment would make certain state officers subject to recall from office by the voters. The state officers subject to recall would be members of the Minnesota Legislature, the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, treasurer and attorney general and judges of the supreme court, court of appeals or a district court.
- 2. The grounds for recall of a judge would be established by the supreme court. The grounds for recall of an officer other than a judge would be serious malfeasance or nonfeasance during the term of office in the performance of official duties or conviction during the term of office of a serious crime.
- 3. The amendment would provide a general procedure for recall of a state officer. A petition for recall must set forth the specific conduct that may warrant recall. A petition may not be issued until the supreme court determines that the facts alleged in the petition are true and are sufficient grounds for issuing a recall petition. A petition must be signed by a number of eligible voters who reside in the district where the officer serves and who number not less than 25 percent of the number of votes cast for the office at the most recent general election. Upon a determination by the secretary of state that a petition has been signed by at least the minimum number of eligible voters, a recall election must be conducted in the manner provided by law.
- 4. A recall election may not occur less than six months before the end of the officer's term. An officer who is removed from office by a recall election or who resigns from office after a petition for recall is authorized may not be appointed to fill the vacancy created.
- 5. In article II of chapter 469, the Legislature also adopted statutory provisions that will be effective only if the people ratify the proposed amendment. The statutory provisions establish

the required form and content of a recall petition. They also establish procedures for submittal of a proposed petition, supreme court review of a proposed petition, issuance of a recall petition, conduct of a recall election, and removal from office of a recalled officer. In addition, the statutory provisions prohibit certain conduct by persons proposing a petition.

If the amendment is adopted, Article VIII, Section 6 of the Minnesota Constitution will read (additions indicated by *italic*):

A member of the senate or the house of representatives, an executive officer of the state identified in section 1 of article V of the constitution, or a judge of the supreme court, the court of appeals, or a district court is subject to recall from office by the voters. The grounds for recall of a judge shall be established by the supreme court. The grounds for recall of an officer other than a judge are serious malfeasance or nonfeasance during the term of office in the performance of the duties of the office or conviction during the term of office of a serious crime. A petition for recall must set forth the specific conduct that may warrant recall. A petition may not be issued until the supreme court has determined that the facts alleged in the petition are true and are sufficient grounds for issuing a recall petition. A petition must be signed by a number of eligible voters who reside in the district where the officer serves and who number not less than 25 percent of the number of votes cast for the office at the most recent general election. Upon a determination by the secretary of state that a petition has been signed by at least the minimum number of eligible voters, a recall election must be conducted in the manner provided by law. A recall election may not occur less than six months before the end of the officer's term. An officer who is removed from office by a recall election or who resigns from office after a petition for recall issues may not be appointed to fill the vacancy that is created.

For more information about the political parties or the candidates...

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party 352 Wacouta Street St. Paul, MN 55104 (612)293-1200

Reform Party PO Box 23052 Minneapolis, MN 55423-0052 (612)939-6601

Republican Party of Minnesota 480 Cedar Street, Suite 560 St. Paul, MN 55101 (612)222-0022

For TDD service, you may call (metro) (612)297-5353 or (greater Minnesota) 1-800-657-3529.

For additional copies of this Voter's Guide or for more information on elections in Minnesota, call...

Joan Anderson Growe Secretary of State 180 State Office Building 100 Constitution Avenue St. Paul, MN 55155-1299 (612)215-1440

or access the Secretary of State's World Wide Web site at:

http://www.state.mn.us/ebranch/sos

For more information on voter registration or absentee voting...

Call your county auditor or election department to find out where to vote, to get a voter registration card or to get an absentee voting application.

County Name	Number	County Name	Number
Aitkin	218-927-7354	Marshall	218-745-4851
Anoka	612-323-5275	Martin	507-238-3211
Becker	218-846-7301	Meeker	320-693-2887
Beltrami	218-759-4100	Mille Lacs	320-983-2561
Benton	320-968-6254	Morrison	320-632-2941
Big Stone	320-839-2525	Mower	507-437-9535
Blue Earth	507-389-8341	Murray	507-836-6148
Brown	507-359-7900	Nicollet	507-931-6800
Carlton	218-384-4281	Nobles	507-372-8231
Carver	612-361-1500	Norman	218-784-2101
Cass	218-547-3300	Olmsted	507-285-8145
Chippewa	320-269-7447	Otter Tail	218-739-2271
Chisago	612-257-1300	Pennington	218-681-4011
Clay	218-299-5006	Pine	320-629-6781
Clearwater	218-694-6520	Pipestone	507-825-4494
Cook	218-387-2282	Polk	218-281-2554
Cottonwood	507-831-1905	Pope	320-634-5301
Crow Wing	218-828-3970	Ramsey	612-266-2171
Dakota	612-437-3191	Red Lake	218-253-2598
Dodge	507-635-6230	Redwood	507-637-8325
Douglas	320-762-2381	Renville	320-523-2071
Faribault	507-526-6211	Rice	507-332-6100
Fillmore	507-765-2144	Rock	507-283-9165
Freeborn	507-377-5121	Roseau	218-463-1282
Goodhue	612-388-8261	St. Louis	218-726-2385
Grant	218-685-4520	Scott	612-496-8160
Hennepin	612-348-5151	Sherburne	612-241-2860
Houston	507-724-5803	Sibley	612-237-2369
Hubbard	218-732-3196	Stearns	320-656-3900
Isanti	612-689-1644	Steele	507-451-8040
Itasca	218-327-2860	Stevens	320-589-7409
Jackson	507-847-2763	Swift	320-843-4069
Kanabec	320-679-1030	Todd	320-732-4469
Kandiyohi	320-231-6202	Traverse	320-563-4242
Kittson	218-843-2655	Wabasha	612-565-2648
Koochiching	218-283-6201	Wadena	218-631-2425
Lac qui Parle	320-598-7444	Waseca	507-835-0610
Lake	218-834-8317	Washington	612-430-6188
Lake of the Woods	218-634-2836	Watonwan	507-375-3341
LeSueur	612-357-2251	Wilkin	218-643-4981
Lincoln	507-694-1529	Winona	507-457-6320
Lyon	507-537-6728	Wright	612-682-3900
McLeod	320-864-5551	Yellow Medicine	320-564-3132
Mahnomen	218-935-5669	TOTO TITLO GIOTTO	020 001 0132



Secretary of State Election Division 180 State Office Building 100 Constitution Ave. St. Paul, MN 55155-1299 To:

Reward volunteers. A well-timed expression of appreciation will help persuade your volunteers to work on the get-out-the-vote effort and to volunteer for the next voter registration drive.

Show the world that your voter registration drive made a difference. Get the word out--send press releases to local and community newspapers and to organization newsletters. Public officials and candidates will take note. Volunteers will feel positive about their hard work.

Publish Your Results and Celebrate.

Contact the new registrants-by mail, phone or at their homes-to remind them to vote. Find out if they need information or assistance.

Volunteer registrars should ask citizens if it is OK to remind them to vote just before the election. Keep track of these names, addresses and telephone numbers using tally sheets. This information will help if forms are lost or if there are other problems. Then use this information to get your new registrants out to vote.

Keep Good Records.

1

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNEAPOLIS



EIGHT STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

Every voter registration drive is unique. Plans and activities should be based on the needs of the community where the drive takes place, organizational goals and resources and state and local election laws and practices. These eight steps will help your organization plan and carry out a successful voter registration drive.

Set Your Goals.

Set an achievable numerical goal from the beginning, to inspire volunteers and serve as guide for evaluation. Select a time period, target group, pick sites, etc. Focus on groups of citizens most likely to need help with voter registration.

1

? Know the Law.

Become familiar with the federal, state and local laws that govern voter registration in your community. Voter registration practices--methods, deadlines, permissible sites, the role of volunteers--often vary even among local jurisdictions in the same state. Federal laws, such as the Voting Rights Acts and the Voting Access for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, protect the rights of citizens to vote.

Contact the Secretary of State if you have questions.
Joan Growe
180 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155
(612) 296-2803

Be sure to keep your registration drive nonpartisan.

Porm a Coalition.

Coordinate your effort with other organizations planning voter registration drives, and share information about scheduled activities to avoid duplication. Take advantage of each organization's special strengths.

Select Your Sites.

Site selection and careful timing are critical elements of an effective registration drive. Use your resources efficiently by providing voter registration opportunities where there are large numbers of unregistered citizens who have the time to sign up.

Consider festivals, fairs, sporting events, schools, colleges, public transit stops, or downtown and shopping centers. Select your site to make the best use of volunteers. Schedule volunteers for peak attendance times.

Visit sites ahead of time, and select the most visible and accessible places to station volunteers. Consider the needs of people with disabilities. Get whatever permission necessary to register at a privately owned site.

Recruit, Train and Assign Volunteers.

Impress volunteers with their responsibility to protect the right to vote of the citizens they are registering by filling out the forms correctly and returning them promptly to election officials. Include training in techniques for approaching potential registrants and in messages that will motivate citizens to register.

Voter registration involves large numbers of volunteers interacting directly with potential voters. Make every voter registration event into an opportunity to recruit more volunteers.

"Sell" Voter Registration.

Use the media--editorials, articles, talk shows, Public Service Announcements (PSAs)--to promote voter registration. Provide information about registration deadlines and requirements. Advertise your voter registration drive, including the sites and the times where voter registration takes place. Stage an event--a celebrity appearance, band concert or remote broadcast--to attract a crowd. Don't be afraid to get from behind the table and work the crowd.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, St. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417 E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 22, 1996

TO: Local League Presidents & Voter Service Chairs

FROM: Judy Duffy, Voter Service Chair

RE: Women Vote '96

Women Vote '96 originated as a project of the Council of Presidents (an association of leaders of nonprofit organizations in Washington, DC). The LWVUS decided not to participate because of other major election year projects. Also LWVUS was reluctant to commit state and local Leagues to additional projects.

Included here is some information on Women Vote '96. Some local Leagues are participating in this project. If you are interested and have volunteers to participate in voter registration drives or other nonpartisan election activities, this may fit in with your voter service schedule.

LWVMN is not an active partner in Women Vote '96 because of our already heavy voter service commitments.

WOMEN'S VOTE PROJECT '96 THE DECIDING VOTE

What is the Women's Vote Project?

Early in January 1996, two Minnesota feminist's hatched a plan. Hey, they said, 1996 is an important election year. We'll be choosing both a president and a Minnesota Senator. So let's get together the state's women's or agnizations and make sure that women make the difference in the 1996 elections. Instinctively, Linda Thielbar (AAUW-Red Wing) and Beverly Swenson (Minnesota NOW) knew that the women's votes could be the deciding vote. In January 1996 Linda and Beverly convened a meeting in the basement of the Minnesota Women's Building in St. Paul. The groups came together under the aegis of the Minnesota Women's Consortium, and already exsisting umbrella group of 165 women's organizations from throughout the state.

At the same time, a national coalition of women's oragnizations was being formed in Washington, D.C. for precisely the same reason - to get out the women's vote. They targeted 11 states where the women's vote will make the biggest difference. Women's Vote Project analysis of the U. S. Census Bureau data revealed that Minnesota had the highest percentage of women who did not vote in the last three presidential elections. This needed to get turned around.

The Minnesta Women's Vote Project started meeting every first Friday of each month, and soon learned of the national effort. They connected and on June 21, the Minnesota Women's Vote Project '96 was granted \$10,000 from the national effort to register women and get them out to vote in the 1996 elections.

Because the Minnesota women's groups already were members of an "umbrella organization", the Minnesota Women's Consortium, they were able to move together faster and more effectively than groups in any other state. "We have been impressed by how well coordinated your effort is". said the national project's chairperson, Irene Natividad. Consortium Coordinator Heidi Vardeman explained, "The Consortium is a kind of permanent coalition of women's groups. we seek to coordinate and collaborate to be as effective as possible."

What are the Projects Activities?

The project will especially focus on reaching low and lower middle income women and young women (18-24), who make up a large majority of non-voting women. Our goal is to educate, empower and mobilize these women to vote in the 1996 election, and to create a growing base of informed women who will participate regualrly in the electoral process. All efforts of the project are nonpartisan and noncandidate based.

Minnesota Women's Vote Project '96 550 Rice St., St. Paul, MN 55103 612-588-1718 As previously mentioned, the Minnesota Women's Vote Project '96 meets the first Friday of each month, 9:30 - 10:30 am, MN Women's Building, 550 Rice St., St. Paul. Those interested in taking action to make a difference in women's lives should attend.

Current working groups include:

Executive Committee	contact Heidie Vardeman	612-228-0338
Campaign development	contact Sue Collins	612-825-2777
Publications/Media Relati	ons contact Beverly Swenson	612-588-1718
Greater MN/ Outreach	contact Dede Wolfson	612-228-0338
Fundraising	contact Jeanne Rasmussen	612-228-0995

Minnesota Women Vote '96 is planning media kick-off dates on August 10 (one month prior to the primary election) and October 5 (one month prior to the general election).

The Women's Vote Project is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit project, and all parts of the project adhere to the nonpartisan, non-candidate based requirements of this tax status.

Minnesota Women's Vote Project '96

Yes, I would like to make a difference in women's lives. As an individual or organization, I am interested in the following:

to be annot	The state of the first of the control of the state of the	to be neid at IVIN	women's Bidg., luture meetings
Thu	urs., July 27, 6-9 pm	-	Sat., Aug. 1, 11-1pm
Our organi Vote Proje		number of) volu	nteers each week to the Women
	I am willing to serve as	coordinator to We	omen's Vote for my organization
	I am willing to sponsor to further the work of W		nt on or near September 7, 1996
(**************************************	I would like further info	ormation on Wor	nen's Vote
Name		Organizatio	n
Address _		City	State
Zin	Phone ()		

Send to:
Minnesota Women's Vote Project '96
550 Rice St.
St. Paul, MN 55103
or call
612-588-1718



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 Fax 612/292-9417 E-Mail: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 22, 1996

TO: Local League Presidents

FROM: Carol Frisch, Action Chair

RE: Long Term Health Care Forums

Enclosed you will find information about a series of regional Long Term Care Forums being organized for September and Early October, 1996, through the leadership of the Minnesota Senior Federation. LWVMN is one of a number of co-sponsors and Mary Lou Hill, LWV Mpls, is a member of the planning committee. The purpose of the forums, as you will see, is to inform the general public and particularly elected officials and candidates about long term care issues. Older persons and their families will be able to speak about the difficulties of gaining access to and paying for long term care. We are asking that you help to publicize these forums. Members are also encouraged to attend a planning meeting for one or more Metro forums Wednesday, July 24 at 10:00 a.m. at the Senior Federation Office - Conference Room A & B, 1885 University Ave., Suite 190, St. Paul.

Purpose: To inform the general public and elected officials (candidates), in particular, about long term care policy issues. These forums will provide an opportunity for older persons and their families to speak directly to elected officials about the difficulties of gaining access to and paying for long term care.

Time: August and September, 1996. Each region will decide the date and time.

Potential Sponsors:

Minnesota Alliance for Health Care Consumers

Minnesota Senior Federation

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program (MBA) American Association of Retired Persons Retired Educators Association of Minnesota

Area Agencies on Aging Older Womens League League of Women Voters

Gray Panthers

Minnesota AFL-CIO (Retired Labor Groups)

Minnesota Indian Council of Elders Minnesota Council on Black Aging

Association of County Veterans Service Officers Legal Services/Legal Aid/Elder Law Project

Locations:

Duluth, Twin Cities, Rochester, Mankato, St. Cloud, Marshall, Crookston, Alexandria. These locations are subject to change. Each region will decide the precise location.

Content and Agenda:

- 1. Description of regional demographics. Who are seniors in the region. Describe by income, age, life expectancy, money spent on health care, insurance and prescriptions, characteristics of those who live in nursing homes or who receive home care. This is designed to provide a clear picture of who seniors really are and dispel myths about how all seniors are well off. This section could be presented by staff from the Area Agency on Aging.
- 2. Description of current protections for seniors, including types of insurance for long term care, health care and prescription drugs; bill of rights in nursing homes, home care, hospitals and managed care; vulnerable adults. This section could be presented by legal services or elder law.
- 3. Individual stories and case histories (possible ideas):
- Senior receiving home care

- Nursing home resident describing placement process
- Family involved in placement decision nursing home or home care
- Low income senior describing concerns about paying for health care with only Medicare as insurance
- 4. Brief presentations about policy implications related to case histories:
- Pros and cons regarding long term care insurance including new laws passed this last legislative session
- Discussion of rate equalization law
- Presentation on nursing home quality standards
- Policy questions related to asset transfer laws

These presentations should focus on explaining current laws, the reasons for such laws and issues related to changing these laws

5. Question and Answer period (moderator to be selected)

Please send me a copy of We The People: Skills for Democracy elementary citizenship curriculum (available August 1996).

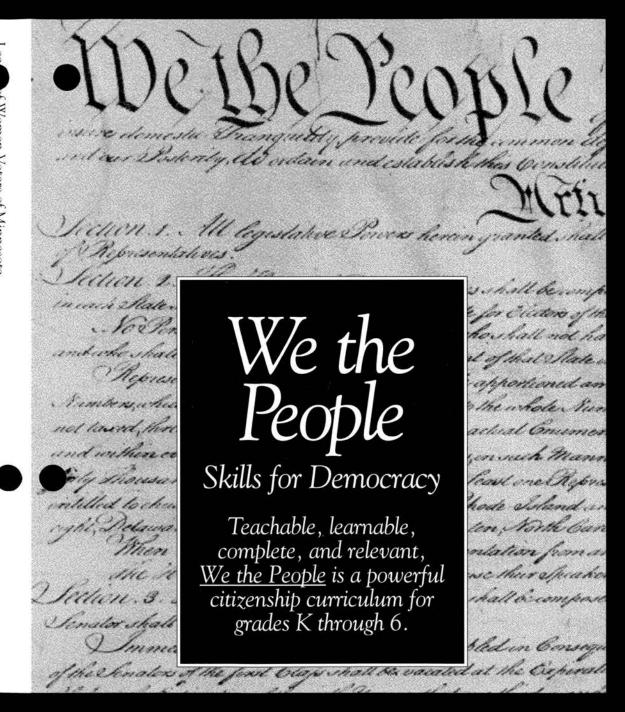
Name		
Schoo	l/Organization	
Addre	ss	
City/S	tate/Zip	
#copies		
	We the People (114 pp, loose-leaf, punched) \$25 (\$20 LWV members)	
	with notebook binding, add \$5	
	U.S. Constitution parchment replica (13x20) — \$3	
	Postage and handling \$5	
	Total	
	Enclosed is my check. Please bill my Visa/MasterCard:	
	Expiration date	
	e return this card with your payment t	0.

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, MN 55103

fax: 1-612-292-9417

or call **1-612-224-5445** to order using your Visa or MasterCard



Bring the Constitution directly into today's classroom...

The seven lessons of *We the People* are fundamentally based on the preamble to the U. S. Constitution:

We the People of the United States...
Who"we" are as a people, and how we are different.

...in order to form a more perfect Union... What it is to be part of a group.

> ...establish Justice... What is "fairness."

...insure domestic Tranquility...
What is personal and community stability and safety.

...provide for the common Defence... What is defense, and what we defend.

...promote the general Welfare...
What is community welfare and well-being.

...and secure the Blessings of Liberty... What meaning liberty has for us.

Designed by and for busy elementary teachers. Each lesson includes:

- To The Teacher
- Lower Elementary Upper Elementary
- Activities for each lesson, found in the Appendix at the back of the book. The appendices also include Constitutional Amendments and Dates to Remember.

...and prepare our children to be informed, involved, and effective citizens.

The structure for this elementary civics curriculum is provided by the Preamble to the United States Constitution. These words are as powerful now as when they were first written.

But if the Preamble is to be meaningful to children today, these concepts must be lifted out of the realm of "rhetoric" into the world of "real." This curriculum, and its associated activities, helps teachers translate the ideology of democracy into a classroom experience through which children recognize democracy at work in their own lives.

This curriculum is made possible by a major grant to the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund by the General Mills Foundation.

Additional contributing grants were received from the Medtronic Foundation; U S WEST Foundation; the Gannett Foundation, as recommended by KARE-11; the Jostens Foundation; the Lillian Wright and C. Emil Berglund Foundation; and the H. B. Fuller Combany Foundation.



A 13"x20" parchment replica of the United States Constitution is also available, and can be used as a companion piece to the curriculum. Call 1-612-224-5445 to order your copy using your credit card, or use the form on the other side to order by mail.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund provides non-partisan information on issues and candidates to the public and encourages the active and informed participation of citizens in their government.

We offer this curriculum for the voters of tomorrow because we believe that democracy must be reaffirmed by each generation.

For more information, contact our website at http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn/



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103 612/224-5445 FAX 612/292-9417

E-MAIL: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

July 22, 1996

TO:

Local League Presidents

FROM:

Sue Reynolds, Annual Appeal Director

612/490-0338

RE:

Phonathon '96

THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS to all local leagues that participated in the successful drive last year. We raised \$44,514. A number of local leagues found that helping LWVMNEF also helped their local league budgets. For example, the following leagues added significant amounts to their treasuries:

Austin	\$ 373.50
Eastern Carver County	432.00
Edina	316.25
Rochester	478.10
St. Cloud Area	527.50

This year the Phonathon will take place the end of September through the middle of October, a bit earlier than last year due to election activities. Calling for the Phonathon will earn the Local Leagues the following:

1-4 callers = \$25 per caller for the Local League

nlue

15% of money pledged/received to LL Ed Fund

5+ callers = \$25 per caller for the Local League

plus

20% of money pledged/received to LL Ed Fund

\$20 per clerical session

Each calling session includes training, snacks and League camaraderie. It is easy to do with the support of other Leaguers.

A response form for Phonathon callers and clerical help is attached.

LWVMNEF PHONATHON '96

SIGN-UP SHEET

Local League		
Address		
Contact	Phone	
volunteers. Your local Le	2000 for the LWVMNEF Annual Appearague will receive a percentage of the planteer. Each session will run from 6:00 d snacks.	ledges you raise, plus
We were very successful	last year, please help us again!	
Name	Address	Phone #

continue on reverse side

Please return no later than September 15, 1996 to: LWVMNEF, 550 Rice St., St. Paul, MN 55103 (Attn. Sue Reynolds)



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, St. Paul, MN 55103 612/224-5445 Fax 612/292-9417 E-Mail: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us

http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

July 22, 1996

TO:

Local League Presidents

FROM:

Sue Reynolds, Annual Appeal Director

612/490-0338

RE:

Your League

Clerical Help during Phonathon '96

Prior to and during the Phonathon, clerical volunteers will be needed at the State Office. Tasks include tasks such as attaching labels to cards, alphabetizing materials, verifying phone numbers, and processing pledges received. These tasks are easy and can be fun when done with other League members.

For each 4 hours of clerical volunteer time your League will receive \$20.

Please list names, addresses, and phone numbers of those interested in helping with these tasks. I will call them individually and schedule them as needed.

Name	Address	Phone #	

Please return no later than September 15, 1996 to: LWVMNEF, 550 Rice St., St. Paul, MN 55103 (Attn. Sue Reynolds)

LWVMN POLITICAL ACTIVITY POLICY

6/94

The nonpartisanship of the League of Women Voters is the basis of our public credibility and must be carefully maintained. All members bear responsibility for maintaining the League's reputation for fairness and objectivity. The discussion of nonpartisan policy should be a part of new board orientation.

The mission of the LWV is to encourage the informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League is political and takes action on selected governmental issues after membership study and agreement. It encourages members to be informed participants in political activity, but as a nonpartisan organization, it does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

All members are encouraged to seek elective or appointive office in government as well as responsible positions in the private sector. To avoid any perceived or actual conflict with the nonpartisan integrity of League, the following restrictions are accepted:

LEAGUE ACTION

A Board member may not speak publicly or work against a League position.

PARTISAN ACTIVITY

Directors in <u>highly visible positions</u> such as president, voter service chair and action chair may not undertake any action which would publicly identify them with partisan activity. They may not run for public or party office or publicly support campaigns at the regional, state or national levels.

Directors may not run for <u>national or state</u> elective office. Should they choose to run for <u>local</u> office, they will first consult with the State Board and notify the local Leagues affected.

Directors may not be <u>highly visible</u> in the campaign of any candidate running for US Senate, Congress, or for MN executive or legislative office. They may make contributions to candidates and work on local campaigns. Directors not in highly visible positions may hold positions in a political party at any level with Board approval, after consideration of possible conflicts of interest.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a Board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the Board member.

APPOINTED OFFICE

Directors may accept appointment to commissions, boards, or committees where such service would not be in conflict with League program. If a member is acting as a LWVMN representative, the appointment must be approved by the LWVMN Board of Directors. It must be clear to all whether the member is acting as a League representative or as an individual.

The Board shall review this policy annually and update it as necessary.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA 550 RICE STREET, St. Paul, MN 55103 612/224-5445 Fax 612/292-9417 E-Mail: lwvmn@freenet.msp.mn.us http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 22, 1996

TO: Local League Presidents

FROM: Jan Nelson & Mary Dinneen, Program Co-Chairs

RE: Program Planning

Program planning should be done by the end of August for local Leagues. If you need ideas for programs please contact Jan Nelson (612/938-7703) or Mary Dinneen (612/941-0583), Program Co-Chairs for LWVMN. The LWVMN study on State Governmental Spending will be sent to all Leagues in August. Plan for two meetings on this topic before January.

<u>Program Planning for LWVMN</u>: please reserve time on your calendar - either December or more likely January - for state program planning. The deadline for state program recommendations from local Leagues is February 15, 1997.





THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103 Phone 612-224-5445 Fax 612-292-9417

TO:

Local League Presidents and Board Members

FROM: Linda Satorius, Field Service Chair

RE:

Board Memo and DPM subscriptions for 1996-97

1919

DATE: June 24, 1996

A VOICE

FOR CITIZENS, A FORCE

FOR CHANGE

1994

It's time to order your League's subscriptions for Board Memos and DPMs. As local League President, you do not need to order the Board Memo for yourself; however, each local League will receive only two copies of the Board Memo. One is for the use of the President and one will be included in the Presidents' mailing and is to be separated and distributed to other Board members. This is a very important League resource. Please consider entering a subscription for each Board member. As President, you will receive a President's Mailing automatically. Co-Presidents will also receive a President's Mailing. Note that Board Memo used to be mailed first class to Presidents and was followed by a third class Presidents' Mailing; these have been combined into one first class mailing to Presidents.

Please list all subscriptions for Board Memo and Duplicate President's Mailing on the spaces below and return the form to the LWVMN office, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103 no later than July 31, 1996.

Board Memo subscriptions cost \$7.50 year for six issues mailed lst class directly to the subscriber's home. The Duplicate President's Mailing, consisting of Board Memo, selected enclosures and one complimentary copy of each new LWVMN publication, costs \$15/year for six issues mailed 3rd class directly to the subscriber.

Subscriptions for 1996-97:

LWV of		
Total number of Board Memos ordered x \$7.50 = \$		
Total number of additional DPMs ordered x \$15 = \$		
Check # in the amount of \$ is enclosed.	(Please circle either BM or DF	PM)
Name & Address:	BM	DPM
Name & Address:	BM	DPM
Name & Address:	BM	DPM
Name & Address:	BM	DPM
Name & Address:	BM	DPM
Name & Address:	BM	DPM

WHAT TO DO WITH THIS MAILING

This is indeed a large packet of paper! This large mailing at the beginning of the League year has information and resources for your board for use in the year to come. Please do look it all and then file or pass on what you will use and toss/recycle what you will not.

For Leagues unable to attend the June 19 Retreat:

• LWVMN Portfolio Update

LWVMN Board of Directors list for 1996-97

Outlook Calendar 1996-97

· President's Planning Calendar

file for reference file for reference use for planning use for planning

For All Local Leagues:

Local League President's List for 1996-97

· Board Memo/ DPM subscription form

• Program for Action

LWVMN Action Guidelines

LWVMN Coalition Guidelines

Legislative Intern Application

• Ten Minute Activist Form

· Capitol Letter subscription form

· Minnesota Compact info and form

Candidate Forum Updated Moderators List

• Candidate Criteria for Congressional Debates

· Voter Guide order form

• Election '96 PopQuiz flyer

• Go Vote! WalMart voter registration project

file for reference
fill out and return
action file
action file
action file
newsletter
newsletter
fill out and return
discuss with board
voter service file
voter service file
fill out and return
file or pass on
call your nearest
WalMart if you can

participate.