



League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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League of Women Voters of Minnesota

550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS FOR 1999-2001

5/19/99

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LOCAL LEAGUE BOARD LIST

WV OF _____ CONGRESSIONAL DIST.: _____

STATE LEGISLATIVE DIST.: _____

NAME _____ PORTFOLIO _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT _____ PHONE _____

FAX # _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

NAME _____ PORTFOLIO _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT _____ PHONE _____

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

TO: Local League Presidents and Board Members
FROM: Judy Duffy, President
RE: Board Memo and DPM subscriptions for 1999-2000
DATE: April 9, 1999

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.**

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 June 30, 1999.

Board Memo subscriptions cost \$7.50 year for six issues mailed 1st class directly to the subscriber's home. **If a member wishes to receive the Board Memo via e-mail, the cost is \$7.50 (place e-mail address on address line).**

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. DPMs are **not** available via e-mail.

Subscriptions for 1999-2000:

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 DPM)

Name & Address or e-mail: _____ BM DPM

Name & Address or e-mail: _____ BM DPM

Name & Address or e-mail: _____ BM DPM

Name & Address or e-mail: _____ BM DPM

Name & Address or e-mail: _____ BM DPM

BOARD MEMO



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 612-224-5445 • Fax 612-290-2145
lwvmn@mtn.org
<http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn>

DECEMBER 1999
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Presidents' Mini-Mailing

- January**
- 1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR! Y2K IS UPON US!
 - 8 - **Unicameral Committee**, 10:00 a.m., MWB
 - 10 - Action Committee, 1:00 p.m., MWB
 - 14 - **Deadline for Unicameral responses to local Leagues**
 - 14 - 16 - Women's Expo 2000
 - 15 - Deadline for Legislative Interviews
 - 17 - Legislative Internship Training, TBD
 - 20 - **Deadline for local Leagues to send responses to Unicameral Committee**
 - 22 - **Unicameral Committee**, 10:00 a.m.
 - 26 - **LWVMN/EF Board Meeting, 9:00 a.m., MWB**
 - 27 - 29 - LOTT Seminar, State Capitol
 - 29 - Citizens in Action Workshop, State Capitol
- February**
- 1 - 2000 Legislative Session Begins

ENCLOSURES

- Women's Expo 2000 - Boche
- Legislative Internship Application - Erickson, McWilliams
- Citizens in Action Agenda and Sign-up - Witta
- Voter Service Chair letter - Doepner-Hove
- "Get Out the Vote" letter - Doepner-Hove
- December 1999 *VOTER* on Unicameral Legislature
- Feminist Expo 2000 - Boche
- *Candid Candidates* - Duffy, McCoy

JOIN THE FUN! LWVMN is going to have a booth at **Women's Expo 2000**, which is being held January 14-16th at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The booth will be in the area called "Your Community Center" near the main stage and we would like everyone to stop by!

We also need some help staffing the booth. People who staff the booth will get into the expo at no charge and will be helping the League make its presence known to a great number of women. The show hours are:

Friday, January 14th: 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday, January 15th & 16th: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

If you would like to help out with this great League PR event, please call Laurie Boche at the LWVMN office or at home at 651/224-5445 to volunteer. We would like volunteers to work in either a 2-hour or 4-hour shift. See you at the Women's Expo!

2000 LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP APPLICATION

Learn how to lobby on League positions. Intern training is tentatively set for January 10 & 17, 2000 plus attendance at the Citizens in Action Conference on January 29, 2000. After the training you'll join the Action Committee to promote League's Action Agenda at the State Capitol.

Name: _____

Address: _____

LWV member? Yes / No (circle one)

Local League: _____

Why do you want to be a legislative intern?

What kind of experience do you bring to this job?*

How does a legislative internship fit in with your personal goals?

What kind of time commitment can you make to lobbying?

Hours: _____ Days: _____ Weeks: _____ Flexible? _____ (Y/N)

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.	Term Limits	Environment/Nat. Res.
Health Care	Redistricting	Firearms
Criminal Justice	Initiative/Referendum	Housing
	Civil Rights/Equality	Unicameral Legislature

**SUBMIT APPLICATION AT ANY TIME. APPLICATION DEADLINE IS DEC. 27, 1999.
APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED AS RECEIVED.**

* You need no previous 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.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

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Institute of Public Affairs
University of Minnesota

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MIGIZI Communications, Inc.

G. Yudof
President
University of Minnesota

CITIZENS IN ACTION 2000 HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE STATE CAPITOL – JANUARY 29, 2000

9-9:30 a.m.

Registration

9:30-10:20 a.m.

General Session: *HOW CITIZENS CAN INFLUENCE LEGISLATION*
Sen. Ember Junge and Rep. Dennis Ozment

10:30—11:20 a.m.
11:30 – 12:20

WORKSHOPS (Register for A only or two of B through G.)

A

Continuous Track for Beginners,

Marcia Keller Avner, Minnesota Council of Nonprofits (two hour session)

B

A Case Study of Grassroots Organizing, Ann Webb & Kaying Hang,
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum

C

Computer Lobbying, Marc Asch, Common Cause

D

Preparing Your Case/Writing Testimony

David Chadwick, Citizens League and Rep. Peggy Leppik

E

Building and Maintaining Grassroots Coalitions

Smoke Free Coalition and American Cancer Society

F

How to Register to Lobby,

Gary Goldsmith, Campaign Finance and Disclosure Board

G

The Rulemaking Process

12:30 p.m.

Tour of Capitol

Sponsoring Organizations: League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund, Citizens League, Common Cause MN, MN Congress of Parents, Teachers & Students, MN Council of Nonprofits, The Urban Coalition, National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum – MN Chapter.

Cooperating Organizations: Archdiocesan Office for Social Justice, Children's Defense Fund, Chicano Latino Affairs Council, Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans, JOBS NOW Coalition, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition, Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing, Minneapolis Urban League, MN Alliance for Arts in Education, MN Citizens for Tax Justice, MN Community Action Association, MN Foodshelf Association, MN Parenting Association, MN Council for Gifted and Talented,

For further information contact the League of Women Voters of Minnesota 651/224-5445

PLEASE REGISTER ME

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ ORGANIZATION _____

WORKSHOPS: A ___ OR 2 OF THE FOLLOWING: B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___

Send a check for \$10 made payable to LWVMNEF, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul MN 55103

No one will be excluded for lack of fee. Scholarships available upon request.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

December 17, 1999

To Local League Voter Service Chair,

I want to thank each of the local League Voter Service chairs for work done this fall on local elections. Some absolutely magnificent work was done throughout the state, making the League look all the better for your efforts. I also thank you for agreeing to take on the task of chairing Voter Service for your League in the upcoming year. I am looking forward to hearing what each of you has planned for your local elections and working with you during this election season. I am truly enthusiastic about the 2000 elections and the wonderful work the League (both local and state) will do. Once again we have received a grant (\$12,000) from the Martin Foundation, enabling LWVMNEF to give passthrough grants to Local Leagues for congressional and legislative forums for Election 2000. Please watch for information in early 2000.

I want to let you know what the state League is planning for the senatorial campaigns in the fall of 2000. Once again we will be working with both television and radio stations to broadcast debates live next fall. As of now we have three network television stations who have expressed an interest in working with us on this project next year. These debates will be held in various sites around the state and we are thinking of trying the new approach of assigning each debate a topic. We hope these plans will bring the candidates to people throughout Minnesota and let the voters get an in-depth understanding of each candidate's thoughts on the most pressing issues.

We will also be producing a Voter Guide and running the Voter Information Hotline again this year. New this year, and still in the planning stages, is the state's access to the LWVUS' Democracy Network (D-Net). This on-line service will provide voters with information on their ballots, from the presidential race down to local elections. While the LWVUS has already agreed to tackle the data entry and information gathering on all of the races that are on the national level, LWVMN is still looking at how we can best facilitate getting accurate and up-to-date information on local elections to the D-Net site. We will keep you posted on this important voter resource, but if any of you is interested in helping plan the LWVMN work on this, please let me know.

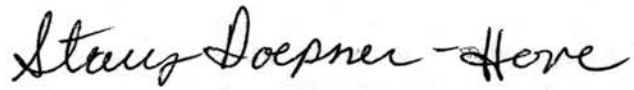
The LWVMN Voter Service Committee meets once a month at the League office in St. Paul. While I realize that puts the meeting out of the "easy-access" range for many of you, I still welcome your input or help on any of our projects. If you have any ideas, thoughts or suggestions you would like to share with the Committee, please feel free to contact me via email at doepn002@tc.umn.edu or at my work number 612/625-0718.

Finally, I want to express my hope that if any of you are looking for help or information on local projects you are planning, you will feel as though you can ask for help from the LWVMN. The state League simply wouldn't have the strong reputation it does without the work you all do on

the local level. So, please let me know if you need help and I will do what I can to put you in touch with the right people.

Thank you again for all of your continuing work on behalf of the Voter Service branch of the League. Your efforts are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stacy Doepner-Hove". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Stacy Doepner-Hove
LWVMN Voter Service Chair

cc: Local League President



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

M I N N E S O T A

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

Date: December 15, 1999
To: Local League Presidents, Voter Service Chairs
From: Stacy Doepner-Hove, Chair, Voter Services, LWVMN
Re: "Making Democracy Work" A Proposal to offer Voter Service Outreach to Minnesota Businesses

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota would like to share with you an idea brought to us by the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis. The LWV Minneapolis, with assistance from members of their Board of Advisors and corporate leaders, has developed a concept proposal for delivering voter services to area corporations.

This concept, which is called "Making Democracy Work: A initiative to Increase Voter Participation," grew out of the heightened interest in citizen participation due to the events of the recent Gubernatorial Election. Except for the surge in voter interest in the last state-wide election, voter turnout has been on the decline. The corporate leaders who helped to pull the attached proposal together feel that the League is the right organization to extend to the community non-partisan voter education and voter services in an ongoing systematic way.

Currently, in Minneapolis and probably in your communities as well, the League responds only when a corporate contact calls for service. These calls are usually last-minute to do either voter registration drive or a forum on an issue. This concept is proactive and asks corporations and local Leagues to plan, in advance, their needs for the coming year. This proposal calls for corporations to budget for League services, detailing what kind of services they anticipate needing during the year.

The Minneapolis League plans to launch this proposal as a pilot in the Minneapolis area. However, the LWV Minnesota leadership would like to see this opportunity for revenue generation implemented state-wide. We would ask your local League to think about your ability to implement all, or parts of this proposal for corporations in your area. The LWVMN would coordinate requests from corporations and channel those requests and funds to the appropriate local League.

We need your feedback on several things: the concept, how or if you might be able to implement such services, and anything else you would like to share. Please review the attached proposal, complete the attached feedback information sheet, and return it to the LWVMN office as soon as possible.

Feel free to call the State League office with any questions you may have. Thank you in advance for your input on this new and exciting proposal!

League of Women Voters of Minneapolis

Making Democracy Work

An initiative to Increase Voter Participation

On November 3, 1998, 3,483,000 Minnesotans were qualified to vote. However, on Election Day only 2,105,377 (60.4%) were motivated to go to the polls. The League of Women Voters of Minneapolis believes that a statewide 60.4 percent eligible voter turnout is significant, but it is not good enough. Minnesota can do better. The purpose of this proposal is to enlist our corporate leaders to help to significantly increase the number of eligible voters who participate in the 2000 election. We seek to achieve a 70% turn-out of eligible voters in the 2000 election.

Consider that...

- In 1968 eligible voter turn-out was 72%, and in 1988 the percentage was 67.23%.

Consider also that ...

- less than half (48%) of eligible voters in the city of Minneapolis decided who would govern the state in November 1998.

The Problem

There has been a steady erosion (except for a surge in new voters last November) of eligible voter participating in our democracy. Fewer and fewer Americans are deciding who will govern our cities, states, and nation. *The New York Times* (Saturday, February 13, 1999) recently reported that "Curtis Gans, the leading student of the nation's voting patterns, reported that the turnout for the last year's midterm election had been the lowest in half a century." A 1991 study by The Harwood Group, a public issues research and consulting firm in Bethesda, Maryland, concluded that American citizens are not apathetic about the political process. Americans are angry. They feel powerless and excluded from a government that seems increasingly unable or unwilling to listen to, understand, and address their needs. The decline in voter turnout reflects not a lack of concern, but a lack of conviction that participating in the political process can make a difference.

In his book, *Politics for People* (1994), David Matthews observed that "for many years, the conventional wisdom has said that the majority of Americans were apathetic about politics..." On the surface, the consistent decline in voting over the past 30 years appears to support this theory. The truth lies deeper. According to Matthews, "when people do vote, they are often drawn to the polls by clarity about the issues and by their own attachment to them." Increased public cynicism about the democratic process is due, in part, to a lack of sources of information that people trust to present a fair picture of the candidates and issues.

On Election Day 1998, 332,720 new voters registered and voted. This is evidence that people who are motivated will vote. Jesse Ventura's campaign proved that people who feel they can make a difference will become excited by the process and will vote. Citizens will participate when they feel they can make a difference, when they understand the issues, and when they care

about the outcome. Therefore, the League of Women Voters of Minneapolis proposes to work with corporate leaders to organize an initiative to educate, inform, and motivate eligible voters in their employ.

The Benefits to Business

There are many reasons why Minnesota corporations should embrace this initiative. First, Minnesota companies lead the nation in giving back to the community, evidence that corporate leaders in Minnesota know the value of being good citizens. Second, Minnesota has always held itself up to higher standards. Recent voter turnout figures, while higher than other states, are, nonetheless, disappointing. Minnesota, as is true nationwide, is experiencing a declining voter participation rate. Third, educated voters will care more about their environment (schools, parks, neighborhoods, places of work) and will invest time and energy to improve them. Minnesota corporations not only need a technically skilled workforce, but also an educated employee base. For these reasons, corporate leaders in Minnesota should lead by encouraging their employees to participate in local elections in increasing numbers.

A trusted nonpartisan source of information, the League of Women Voters has long played a pivotal role in informing and educating the electorate so they may make informed choices when they go the polls. However, the League of Women Voters cannot do it alone and proposes to partner with area corporations to enhance this civic tradition. This partnership includes working with key staff at area corporations to offer ongoing voter education consulting services that would reach their employees where they spend a significant amount of time—on the job.

Background on the League of Women Voters

More than 75 years ago, the League of Women Voters was instrumental in the adoption of the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote. The League of Women Voters is a renowned and respected nonpartisan organization that works to encourage citizen participation in government. Every election cycle we staff an election hotline to answer the calls of citizens seeking to know where and how to vote. This past November, League volunteers responded to thousands of metro-wide calls. Our phone lines were jammed with hundreds of people leaving messages. In addition, the League regularly organizes voter registration drives at community events.

Clearly, the League is doing its part to increase voter participation; however, to make a significant impact on voter turnout, the League needs the assistance of corporate partners. The League believes that a concerted non-profit/for-profit partnership will increase the number of citizens who participate in our democracy. It is not enough to be registered. To be heard, every registered voter must vote.

The Proposal

The League of Women Voters proposes to offer consulting services in four areas: 1) to sponsor discussions or roundtables which present a comprehensive and nonpartisan view of candidates, referenda, and issues; 2) to plan and facilitate voter registration drives on corporate campuses; 3) train key corporate personnel how to conduct voter registration drives; and 4) to provide corporations up-to-date employee guides on where and how to vote.

1. Sponsor discussions or brown bag lunches.

In consultation with participating corporations, the League will organize discussions on key community issues (education, urban development, housing, Social Security, Medicare, etc.). The objective of these issue-based discussions would be to educate employees of major corporations on the many facets of the issues so they are better informed when they go to the polls. Organized, moderated, and facilitated by the League of Women Voters, these discussions would give the background as well as the pros and cons of an issue.

Over the years, the League has organized community discussions identifying candidates (Mayor, city council, etc.) and issues. However, the LWVMpls has found that few voters are prepared to cast informed votes on less publicized offices and issues (e.g. judgeships, school board, and less controversial referenda). To increase the likelihood of informed voting, the LWVMpls will join with corporations to sponsor six to ten public discussions per year that will be held at corporate headquarters. These discussions will focus a greater effort on providing employees of major corporations with the opportunity to learn about and discuss less visible, but important, offices and issues.

2. Plan and facilitate voter registration drives.

Voters not only need information on the issues and candidates, they also need information on where and how to vote. Through this service, the League of Women Voters will plan and facilitate voter registration drives; and work with human resources personnel to develop a guide for new hires on where and how to vote.

3. Train key corporate personnel on how to conduct voter registration drives.

To create a sustainable effort and to spread limited resources, the League of Women Voters will organize and implement train-the-trainer (TOT) sessions on how to conduct a nonpartisan voter registration drive. Because it is important that these registration drives not appear coercive or biased, the League will train personnel on the proper method for conducting these voter registration activities. These TOT seminars will be organized and implemented on request. This service will be comprehensive. The League will design and develop training materials; provide and replenish voter registration information, kits and materials; and collect and submit voter registration cards to the proper elections offices. By providing this service the League will become the one-stop-source of voter information, voter registration materials, and collection for area corporations.

4. Provide up-to-date guides for employees on where and how to vote.

The League of Women Voters is well known for its candidates and issues-based forums. The League is also well known for its production of voters guides on candidates and ballot referenda items. Through this proposal, the League proposes to research, produce and distribute voter guides with information on candidates, as well as on ballot and public policy issues and distribute these to corporate headquarters.

Cost Proposal

For the League to deliver uniform service in the following four areas — 1) planning and convening discussions or roundtables on key issues; 2) planning and facilitating voter registration drives; 3) implementing train-the-trainer voter registration seminars; and 4) developing and producing up-to-date employee guides on where and how to vote — consistent funding will be required. Funding will support staff time, planning, material development and production, volunteer reimbursement and recognition, and implementation. Cost will be based on the level of activity requested and level of effort required to implement a quality product.

Conclusion

The League of Women Voters of Minneapolis is certain that a strategic non-profit/for-profit partnership will help us to exceed the 70% turnout of eligible voters in the year 2000 election.

Making Democracy Work
Feedback Information Sheet
December 1999

To: Local League Presidents, Voter Service Chairs
From: Stacy Doepner-Hove, Voter Service Chair, LWVMN Board of Directors

Name of Local League: _____

Name of Person Completing Questionnaire: _____

Position in League: _____

Work Tel: _____ Home Tel: _____ E-mail: _____

What is your reaction to the proposal and the types of services outlined in the proposal?

What companies in your area do you think would purchase voter services? (Please list the names of these companies and the appropriate contact name and address if possible.)

Could members of your League implement all or some of the services outlined in the proposal?

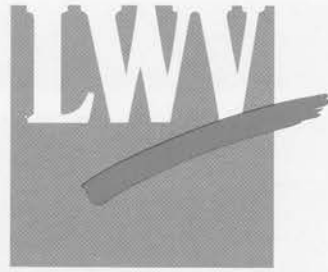
Which services do you feel you can deliver now without assistance from the LWVMN?

Which services do you feel you can deliver with training and assistance from the LWVMN?

What type of assistance (training, material, etc.) would you need from the LWVMN? (Please be specific.)

If you do not feel prepared to offer any of the listed services, what are your constraints?

Please return to LWVMN Office, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103, or FAX: 651/290-2145.
THANK YOU!



VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Minnesota

December 1999

Volume 78, No. 3

From the Editor:

Respond By January 14?! Don't you know there are all these holidays coming up?

Yes, we know—so here's where you look to find answers to your questions:



Why are we using this intensive process on this topic? p. 1

Who is the Unicameral Legislature Committee, and what are they doing? p. 2

What League principles and positions apply? p. 2

What is the process for the constitutional amendment? p. 3



What might we be voting on in November? p. 3

Where can we find additional information? p. 3

What are the best arguments for a unicameral legislature? p. 4

What are the best arguments for a bicameral legislature? p. 5

How can we evaluate accessibility, responsiveness, and suitability of both systems? p. 6

How can I make my views known to the committee? p. 7

What else is going on in the League? pp. 7, 8

Happy Holidays!



From the President...

Maintaining Our Voice

"Why do we need to move so swiftly to address the question of a unicameral legislature?" we are being asked by a number of League members.

First of all, no topic concerns the League more than representative government—its health, responsiveness, and accountability. It is fundamental to who we are.

Earlier this year, when a unicameral legislature began to be mentioned seriously, we fielded questions from every sector about how the League stood. It is clear that to remain a **respected voice on representative government**, we need to be able to speak on this issue by the time the Legislature reconvenes in early February.

For these reasons, we asked for volunteers across the state to examine the issue of unicameralism versus bicameralism. The resulting committee is looking at the question in the **context of current League positions and principles**. They are reading widely and listening to speakers offering a variety of points of view. Discussions are lively and informative. The 16 members of this committee are doing us a great service and doing so in a compressed time frame.

They will make a recommendation to the LWVMN Board on January 26 as to whether the League can take action on unicameral-bicameral based on its current positions and principles. In order that all members can contribute to this process, this *Voter* is devoted almost entirely to unicameralism-bicameralism. It offers you the opportunity to weigh in on the questions contained in the **response form on page 7**. This information will help to guide the committee as it makes its recommendation to the LWVMN Board.

Some League members have wondered whether we are short-circuiting local League input and the traditional process by which we gather information and come to conclusions. Let me assure you that every effort is being made not to short-circuit but to facilitate our ability to respond to the issue. That is why we have sent every League an informational packet on the advantages and disadvantages of both types of legislature. That is why we are asking for your input on this question.

Yes, this is an unusual process for the League. But the time frame is short and the proposed legislation is not trivial. I believe, in fact, that citizens are being asked a fundamental question: **How will we be governed and represented?**

We in the League will be asked for our views, and for the reasons that support them. We must be in a position to respond to our members and to our community at large. This is a service that no one is better equipped to provide than the League.



MEMO

To: All League members

From: Unicameral Legislature Committee

Subject: Your views

We need your opinion on the issue of changing Minnesota's legislature to a single house. Because we don't have a position specifically on unicameral-bicameral systems, and because the legislature is poised to act in February, the Board formed the Unicameral Committee to recommend a course of action for the state League.

The committee is looking at relevant state and national League positions that deal with government to determine whether they could be used to arrive at a position. Under the bylaws we are authorized to take action based on our positions and principles. The Committee and the Board would like to make this determination before the Legislature convenes on February 1, 2000.

Member information and input is a crucial part of this process. For the Unicameral Committee to have a sense of the membership before we make our recommendation to the Board, we need your opinions now. Please take some time during what we know is a very busy season to read the September and December *Voters* carefully, fill out the response form on page 7, and send it to your Local League president by January 14.

Timeline:

January 14: Local League presidents receive responses from members.

January 20: Unicameral Committee receives responses from Local Leagues.

January 22: Unicameral Committee meets to develop recommendation to the Board.

January 26: LWVMN Board meets to vote on recommendation.

We appreciate your careful consideration of a topic important to all Minnesotans. Thank you.



LWV Principles and Positions That Apply to Unicameral-Bicameral

- ☒ Participation of informed and active citizens.
- ☒ Government accountability and effectiveness.
- ☒ Responsible government that is responsive to the will of the people.
- ☒ Dynamic balance of power between the executive and legislative branches.
- ☒ Freedom from undue influence on elections.
- ☒ Representative government.
- ☒ Open meetings with adequate notice.

Unicameral Legislature Committee

Gabi Brockelsby

Red Wing

Georgiana Campbell

Northfield

Judy Duffy, LWVMN President

Mahtomedi

Kay Erickson, Chair

MEPH

Jane Gilley

Duluth

Mary Gover

St. Peter

Rosemary Guttormsson

Duluth

Mary Lou Hill

Minneapolis

Rosemarie Kelly, Executive

Director, LWV Minneapolis

Jane McWilliams

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Sally Sawyer, LWVMN

Executive Director

Minneapolis

Susan Simmonds

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Rebecca Thoman

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Anne Velasco

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Susan Weisbrod

St. Croix Valley

Ady Wickstrom

Arden Hills/Shoreview

The Minnesota Voter December 1999 Vol. 78 No. 3

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The dues members pay include \$4 for a subscription to *The Minnesota Voter*. Subscription price for nonmembers is \$10. Direct all subscriptions, correspondence and membership inquiries to the St. Paul office. Mail address changes to the St. Paul office or e-mail them to lwvmn@mtn.org.

Website: <http://www.lwvmn.org>

Judy Duffy
President

Mary Steen
Editor

What do we know? What can we know?

Unicameral system requires constitutional amendment

by Jane McWilliams

To change from a bicameral legislature to a unicameral body would require a constitutional amendment, leaving significant details to be filled in by later statutes and internal rules of the legislature.

The legislature as we know it—a senate and a house of representatives—is provided for in Article IV of the state constitution. It stipulates the length of terms of members, as well as the method for filling vacancies.

Details, details

Other details, like the number of members (67 in the Senate, 134 in the House), are currently prescribed by law. The constitution could be amended, however, to take the decision about the size of the legislature away from that body and put it into a constitutional amendment for voters to decide.

But neither constitutional amendment nor law can change proportional representation, which is governed by a U. S. Supreme Court ruling. Representation in any and all houses must be apportioned equally throughout the different sections of the state in proportion to the population.

The constitution also provides that the rules by which each house operates (including how bills are enacted, committee

appointments, ethical conduct, and operating procedures) are determined by each house biennially. The Joint Rules of the Senate and House are adopted biennially by both houses as well. These include rules for procedures for Joint Conventions (when both houses meet together), conference committee appointments and procedures, and legislative deadlines.

A number of pending bills would provide for a constitutional amendment to establish a unicameral legislature. Several would also establish the size through a constitutional amendment. Others would create a 135- or a 99-member body by statute. Some provide for four-year staggered terms; one provides for two-year terms; some accommodate the short term necessitated by reapportionment.

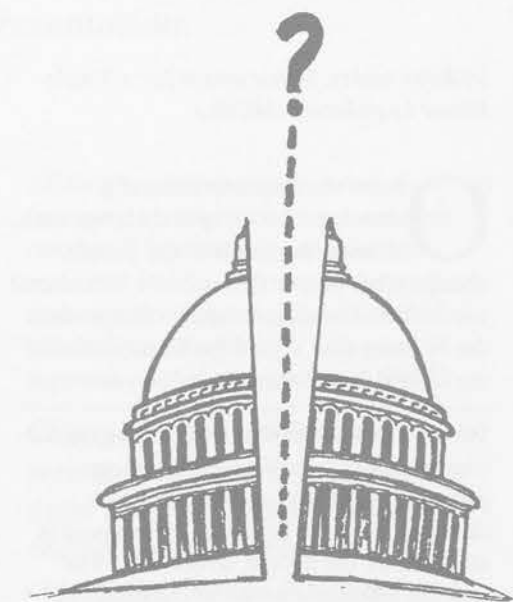
Does a unicameral system provide sufficient checks on the legislative process when bills are not subject to consideration in a two track system?

Both houses must vote in favor in order to put a constitutional amendment on the ballot in November 2000. Fifty percent of citizens who vote in the general election must vote "yes" on the amendment for it to pass.

Voters will not know

Unless it is determined prior to that election, either by statute or by language in the proposed amendment, voters will not know what size a unicameral body would be. Nor will voters know what the rules governing the operations of the legislature would be until these are adopted by the new legislature.

The legislature that would decide how the new unicameral legislature would work would not be elected until 2002, after reapportionment in 2001 (which would change the legislative districts and is required after each census).



Evaluating differences

Voters can, however, evaluate the structural differences between one-house and two-house systems on the basis of questions like these:

1. Will the simplified structure (one, not two, tracks for bills to follow) of a unicameral legislature create a simplified legislative process and be easier for citizens to understand?
2. Does a unicameral system provide sufficient checks on the legislative process when bills are not subject to consideration in a two track system?
3. Under one house will citizens and lobbyists have more or less direct access to the process and to legislators than they have with two?
4. Will a unicameral legislature change the balance of power between the legislative and executive branches of state government?

Jane McWilliams, LWV Northfield, is Action Co-chair for the state League.

Resources

☒ *Unicameral Policy Brief*. MN House of Representatives Research Department. This comprehensive analysis was included in the October mailing to local League presidents.

Find it also at

http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/pubs/uni_bicam

Or call (651)296-6753.

☒ Minnesotans for a Single House Legislature (MSHL)

877-4-1-HOUSE or 612-795-9070

<http://www.singlehouse.com>

☒ Opponents of a UniCameral House (OUCH)

651-481-0273 or bbrady@uswest.net

<http://www.twohouses.com>

For Unicameral

The only issue is whether the people should be allowed to decide how they are governed.

by John Ainley, Minnesotans for a Single-House Legislature (MSHL)

One of the characteristics of a democratic society is that over time, to meet the needs of the people, change takes place. Our society, for cultural survival, has been in constant change since the Framers first signed the Constitution of the United States more than 200 years ago.

We have evidenced this time and again, as constitutional amendments have been proposed and voted upon which have changed the ways in which government is allowed, by the people, to operate. The first ten amendments to the constitution, the Bill of Rights, may be among the most important treatise ever proposed, anywhere.

141 years, 200 amendments

Minnesota, granted statehood in 1858, has proposed slightly more than 200 amendments to the state constitution. The act of voting upon an important measure is nothing new to Minnesota voters who have been asked by their legislators to approve changing the legislative composition through reapportionment, to set the size of the legislature, to set the length of legislative terms of office, to decide frequency and length of sessions, to approve who may sit on the State Supreme Court, to authorize recall of office holders, to authorize a state constitutional convention, to set the order of succession to governor, and to allow flexible legislative sessions.

Some of these measures were defeated, but many were passed and are now a part of the way the state is governed. The point is, the legislature has always allowed the public the right to vote on how it wishes to be governed.

Making an educated decision

The legislature is again being asked to allow the people to decide if it prefers maintaining the present bicameral (two-house) legislative system, or if it desires to

change to a one-house (unicameral) system. Obviously, there are pros and cons to the issue that must be aired before individuals will be able to make an educated decision on an issue of this importance. Nevertheless, many legislators are reluctant to allow this issue on the November 2000 general election ballot and the debate and educational process cannot take place until this legislation is passed.

Trust the public

In a recent poll taken by Decision Resources, Inc., one of Minnesota's foremost polling firms, over 80 percent of Minnesota voters favor the opportunity to vote on the issue after hearing the debate. We are asking the legislature to place trust in the public as they have over 200 times in the past 141 years and vote to place the issue on the ballot for next November's general election.

Over 80 percent of Minnesota voters favor the opportunity to vote on the issue after hearing the debate.

The issue is not if a one-house or a two-house system is desired. The issue is only to allow the people to be given the opportunity to vote on how they want to be governed. This is no different than allowing people to vote upon terms of office, the length of legislative sessions, or who may or may not be allowed to serve in public office. We make these decisions every two years and we do a pretty good job of making the right choices.

Forget the pitfalls of a conference committee system or a system designed to reward seniority over good ideas. Forget the arguments of two-houses as a part of our checks and balances. The only issue is to allow the debate to take place and to allow the people to decide for

themselves. That's what this issue is about for the 2000 Legislature.

Let the people decide!

John Ainley is Communications Director for MSHL, a non-profit educational organization.

Graphics on pp. 1, 3, 4 and 5 by Carolyn Cushing, LWV ROMAFLH.



The cup-and-saucer image has been associated with the unicameral-bicameral debate since the Founding Fathers had this apocryphal conversation:

Washington: Why do you pour that coffee into your saucer?

Jefferson: To cool it.

Washington: Even so, we pour legislation into the senatorial saucer to cool it. (Max Ferrand, *The Records of the Federal Convention of 1787*.)

For Bicameral

A system with a larger number of elected officials provides citizens with greater access to elected representation.

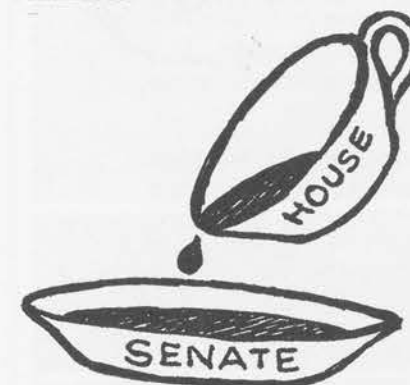
by Bill Brady, Opponents of a Unicameral House (OUCH)

Recently the House of Representatives Governmental Operations Committee held a public forum in Fergus Falls. At issue was whether the legislature should vote to put a constitutional amendment to eliminate one house of the legislature on the 2000 election ballot. Press reports estimated 700 people were in attendance.

11, 30, and 700

Earlier in the fall similar hearings in Cambridge and St. Paul had drawn 11 and 30 people. Why the difference? The answer is simple: Jesse Ventura.

Ventura made a well-publicized appearance at the Fergus Falls event and citizens came out in droves to see, hear, and hopefully get their picture taken with the Governor. The Governor presented his argument for unicameralism, answered a handful of questions and then left. Half the crowd and the entire press contingent left with him, while the public hearing continued.



Unfortunately, those who left and, even more important, citizens depending upon the media for information, did not hear the full debate.

From my perspective this episode illustrates a serious concern. According to

Ventura and many of the advocates for a single house, the debate should not even take place until after the legislature puts the issue on the ballot. Ventura believes there will be plenty of time to discuss the pros and cons this summer before the election. The question according to Ventura is whether legislators respect the voters enough to give them the right to decide the issue.

Dangerous rhetoric

But this rhetoric is dangerous to a representative democracy. Can we no longer expect our elected representatives to carefully study the issues and make an educated decision about what is in our best interest? Now is the time for the debate. Changing our constitution is serious business. It is incumbent upon those who advocate for the change to fully explain both the reason the change is needed and how the new system will improve the process.

The Opponents of a Unicameral House (OUCH) believe that on balance a two-house system provides a better legislative structure for Minnesota, that the problems identified under the current two-house system are not automatically eliminated or improved by simply going to a one-house system.

Decentralized power

Simply having a two-house or a one-house system, of course, does not guarantee a productive process. Nevertheless, we believe that a two-house system has several advantages. First, it serves to decentralize power. Though it does not guarantee equal power to each representative, it does establish certain institutional barriers that make it more difficult for one individual, or a group of individuals, or even a single political party to control the law-making process.

All the proposals currently being discussed for a single house would cut the current number of legislators by one-third to one-half. OUCH, however, believes that a system with a larger number of elected officials provides citizens with greater access to elected representation. Fewer

Changing our constitution is serious business. It is incumbent upon those who advocate for the change to fully explain both the reason the change is needed and how the new system will improve the process.

numbers may move some of the decision-making authority out of the legislative process into the bureaucracy of state government.

A larger number of elected officials also provides the opportunity for more diversity in backgrounds of those elected.

Slow, deliberate process

Finally, OUCH believes that the law-making process should be a slow deliberate process. Proponents of a one-house system argue that safeguards could be established by making rules to guarantee a slow process. But a two-house system by its very nature requires more legislators to make a detailed review of each proposal prior to its consideration by the full legislature. This slower, more deliberate law-making process is a fundamental component of the two-house system.

Bill Brady is the Chair of the Opponents of a Unicameral House, a citizens committee formed to discuss the advantages of a bicameral legislative system. Brady served sixteen years as a Kansas legislator before moving to Minnesota in 1997.

VOTER

Weighing Unicameral, Bicameral...

Voters can evaluate responsiveness, suitability

by Kay Erickson

For years experts have been arguing the merits of a unicameral system over the bicameral systems in place in 49 of 50 state legislatures. Only Nebraska has a unicameral system. Because we do not have experience beyond Nebraska's (most of the other unicameral systems are parliamentary systems), and because of the geographic, demographic and other differences between Minnesota and Nebraska, comparisons are difficult even if we were to adopt Nebraska's rules and organizational structure.

Compounding the difficulty is the fact that we have little information about how a unicameral legislature would be organized and the rules under which it would operate in Minnesota. We know that the proposals now before the legislature would establish one house. Some reduce the size of the legislature (the largest is 135 members); some establish the length of the terms and call for staggered terms. But that is all we know. The details would be set by the 2003 legislature if a constitutional amendment to establish a unicameral legislature were adopted by the voters in 2000. (See the article on the process on p. 3.)

Nonetheless, the philosophical arguments on the merits of the two systems can serve as the basis for comparison. The following categories and questions were developed by the Unicameral Legislature Committee using League positions and principles. Information came largely from policy studies done by the House of Representatives Research Department.



Accessibility and Responsiveness

Which system more effectively provides citizens with both the opportunity to participate and access to elected officials? Which system is more understandable? Under which system is the influence of special interest groups and lobbyists greater?

Unicameral

Because a unicameral system allows citizens to focus on one house it encourages public participation.

The legislative process of a unicameral system is straightforward and open. Therefore a unicameral system is more likely to respond to the preferences of an unorganized public, favoring majority rule. A unicameral legislature has time for a full hearing of all points of view.

Supporters say that because each voter will have one representative, both rural and urban voters will be represented equally.

Transparency of unicameral system reduces the influence of powerful interests and enhances the influence of less organized and moneyed groups. Bicameral systems have hidden points of access and favor those in the know. Concentration of decision-making authority in conference committees enables paid lobbyists to sway only a few members.



The Solution "fits" the problem

Is changing the fundamental structure of government the best solution to problems identified in our bicameral system?

Unicameral

Supporters say the only way to fundamentally change the current system is to go to the unicameral system, which would eliminate conference committees and distribute power among more legislators.



Bicameral

Further bicameral reform could correct deficiencies in the system. Today conference committees no longer meet in private, they take public testimony, they rarely meet far into the night, they are governed by tightened germaneness rules.

To warrant changing the structure of the legislature, the unicameralist must show that the bicameral system's defects are inherent and cannot be changed.

Kay Erickson, LWV Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins, is Co-chair of the Action committee for LWVMN.

VOTER

Member/Local League Response

The Unicameral Legislature Committee would like your opinion about what the League's response should be to proposals to change to a unicameral legislature. Please read the articles in the September issue and in this issue of the *Voter*. Then fill out the form below and send it to your local League president so that it is received by January 14.

Local League presidents have the option of discussing the issue with their boards, compiling the responses from their members with the local League's advice/comments or simply returning the responses to the LWVMN office so they are received by January 20.

Your Name _____

Local League _____

Check here if you are a member-at-large _____

Please check the statement with which you agree:

_____ The League of Women Voters of Minnesota should **support** restructuring the Minnesota legislature to a single house.

_____ The League of Women Voters of Minnesota should **oppose** restructuring the Minnesota legislature to a single house.

Reasons: _____

Other comments: _____

Please mail to your local League president so that it is received by January 14. If you are a member-at-large please mail to the LWVMN office, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103.



BULLETIN BOARD

The LWVMN web site has moved. Our new address is www.lwvmn.org. We now have an expanded "Member Resources" section with lots of information for League members, including the **Agriculture Study** and the **Unicameral Legislature**. And we now have space for local Leagues to have their own pages on our site. Watch for information on a future workshop to get your League started.

For information, or to suggest additions or changes to the pages, contact Ady Wickstrom at ady.wickstrom@visi.com.

Good news! The League continues to grow in Minnesota. So far this year, we have established new Member-at-Large Units in **Moorhead** and **Ely**. And just last month, a new unit was organized in **Park Rapids** with 23 new members.

Looking for a tax deduction for 1999? Have you made your contribution to this year's **Annual Appeal**? Help the League in Making Democracy Work during Election 2000!

Before the end of the year, you may also want to consider a stock gift to the League. You do not pay capital gains tax on **donated stock**, and you will have an itemized deduction on your income tax equal to the value of your stock on the date of transfer. Just call Andrea, Claudia, or Georgeann at LWVMN.

"Women Making a Difference in Public Policy," a seminar sponsored by Leaders of Today & Tomorrow (LOTT), will be held on January 27-29, 2000 in St. Paul. Keynote speaker will be **Katherine Lanpher**, host of MPR's Midmorning Show. Other seminar speakers will be Minnesota women leaders representing the legislature, courts, state agencies, media, and interest groups. Participants will learn how policy is shaped, how current public policy affects women, and how they themselves can influence policy.

On Saturday morning, seminar participants will join the LWVMN **Citizens in Action** workshop.

A 1500-page analysis of **existing research on 12 issues relating to feedlots** is now available at regional libraries in St. Cloud, Willmar, Fergus Falls, Marshall, Mankato and Rochester. It can also be read at the Legislative Reference Library and on the Minnesota Planning web site at www.mnplan.state.mn.us.


League member Helen Palmer has been serving on the committee that contracted for this research. Appointed by the Environmental Quality Board, its task is to produce a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) about the **effects of animal agriculture and feedlots on Minnesota's economy, health, environment, and quality of life.**



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA

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Special Issue:
Unicameral-Bicameral Systems
 **Please Read and Respond by**
January 14.

CALENDAR

January 14

Return Unicameral Response forms to Local League President.
Return Local League membership count to LWVMN office.

January 27-29

LOTT Seminar: Women Making a Difference in Public Policy.
(See p. 7.) Participants in this seminar will join Citizens in
Action on January 29.

January 29

Citizens in Action 2000: How to Make a Difference.

Keynote speakers : Senator Ember Reichgott Junge
and Representative Dennis Ozment.

A Case Study of Grassroots Organizing. Ann Webb,
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum

Computer Lobbying. Marc Asch, Common Cause

Preparing Your Case/Writing Testimony. David
Chadwick, Citizens League; Representative Peggy
Leppik

How to Register to Lobby. Gary Goldsmith, Campaign
Finance and Public Disclosure Board

Building Coalitions. Smoke Free Coalition/American
Cancer Society

February 24

Women Come to the Capitol

February 17- March 16

Community Circles on Immigration will be held in 15
communities around the state.

Locations include Armstrong High School (Robbinsdale),
Austin, College of St. Catherine, Detroit Lakes/Park Rapids,
Eden Prairie, Edina, Mankato, Marshall, Minneapolis,
Northfield, Rochester, St. Cloud, St. Paul, Willmar, and
Winona.

Planners hope for 1000 participants statewide.

May 6

LWVMN Council

FEMINIST EXPO 2000

MARCH 31 - APRIL 2 2000

AT THE STATE OF THE ART

BALTIMORE CONVENTION CENTER

ON THE INNER HARBOR IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Join thousands of feminists, speakers, celebrities and performers from around the USA and the world to showcase the power of the feminist movement, its ideas and vision for the 21st century. Expo 2000 will bring together feminists from every sector or our communities: media, law, medicine and health care, arts, politics, business, education, public service, trade unions, non-profit services, sports, entertainment, advocacy, religion and philanthropy.

This landmark Convention and innovative Exhibit Hall will feature: the fight for women's equality and empowerment, countering the right wing backlash against women's progress, expanding feminism globally, and envisioning a feminist future.

Highlights of Feminist Expo 2000:

- More than 280 national and international co-sponsors — and growing
- Thousands of feminists of all ages
- Four general assemblies
- More than 60 symposia, training sessions and workshops
- Exhibit Hall will showcase hundreds of women's organizations
- Feminist Career Center with job, networking and internship opportunities
- Delegations from colleges and universities, and women's organizations nationwide
- Delegations from around the world/Spanish and French translation in designated sessions
- High-tech tools for organizing women in the next century
- Book signings by your favorite famous feminist authors
- Interactive Online super booths
- More than 250 renowned feminist speakers, entertainers, celebrities and musicians

Register for
Feminist Expo 2000
on the web at **www.feminist.org**

Contact the Feminist Majority Foundation by phone (703-522-2214) or email (expo2000@feminist.org) for hotel and registration information. Or check out Feminist Expo 2000 and register online on the web at www.feminist.org



Produced and Organized by the
FEMINIST MAJORITY FOUNDATION
1600 Wilson Blvd., Suite 801, Arlington VA, 22209



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

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To: Local League Presidents

From: Judy Duffy, LWVMN President

Re: *Candid Candidates: Responses to Campaign Finance Reform Survey from
Candidates in the 1998 Minnesota Elections*

Date: December 17, 1999

We are pleased to send you an advanced copy of *Candid Candidates: Responses to Campaign Finance Reform Survey from Candidates in the 1998 Minnesota Elections*. This report is the product of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund's participation in the national League of Women Voters' project "Campaign Finance Reform: Strategies for Success in the Midwest." Financial support was provided by the League of Women Voters Education Fund through a grant from the Joyce Foundation of Chicago, Illinois.

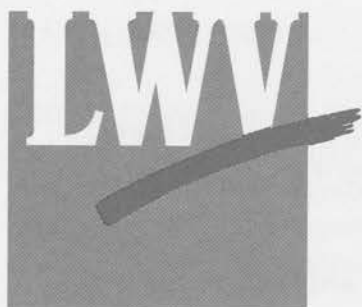
The Minnesota project surveyed 1998 candidates—both winners and losers—about their attitudes towards and experiences with the current campaign finance laws. The candidate response rate of 50.1% was very gratifying. The work of thirty-three local Leagues, listed on page 28 of the report, was essential to the success of the project.

In general, the survey results indicate that candidates are satisfied with the campaign finance system in Minnesota, although more than half of those responding have identified changes to improve existing laws (see Executive Summary, page 2). The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund hopes that this report will contribute to understanding and public awareness of campaign finance laws and to the debate over proposals for reform.

Project Director Mary Ann McCoy provided superb leadership for this project. She designed the project and the survey instruments, coordinated local League participation and communication with candidates, analyzed the mass of data generated and wrote (and rewrote) the publication. We are very grateful for her fine work.

Special acknowledgement is due to Claudia Dieter, League of Women Voters of St. Paul, for her work on data entry, analysis, copyediting and formatting of the publication, and to Ady Wickstrom, League of Women Voters of Arden Hills/Shoreview, for her assistance in the database design.

As promised, we will mail copies of *Candid Candidates* to candidates who responded to the survey. If there are people in your community who should receive copies, please send names and addresses to the state League office. Extra copies are available at \$5.00 each. And if you have questions, please contact Sally Sawyer at the LWVMN office.



**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND**

CANDID CANDIDATES

Responses to Campaign Finance Reform Survey from Candidates in the 1998 Minnesota Elections

Minnesota has a long history of experience with laws regulating political campaigns and their funding. In 1974 the Minnesota State Legislature established sweeping reforms in how campaigns were financed and regulated. The next set of significant reforms came in 1993. That year the Legislature enacted a number of amendments. Among other changes, amendments included provisions to offset the advantages enjoyed by incumbent candidates, to establish contribution limits for large donors and to create the requirement that in order to qualify for public subsidy a threshold amount of contributions had to be raised from within the candidate's own district.

While Minnesota's political campaigns and their funding enjoy a generally clean reputation, our campaign finance laws need broader understanding. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund (LWVMNEF) recognizes that much remains to be done in contributing to citizen education, encouraging community activism, increasing attention to the elections of all public officials, including the judiciary, and in fostering civic involvement. It is the League's belief that examination of these campaign finance laws will assist in furthering public awareness.

In order to facilitate this examination, the League proposed to seek out attitudes towards and experiences with the current campaign finance laws. The candidates in the 1998 elections, both winners and losers, were to be the source of the information. This Campaign Finance Reform Survey Project proposal was submitted to the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS). The proposal was accepted to be part of the national project, "Campaign Finance Reform: Strategies for Success in the Midwest."

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ISBN 1-877889-27-X

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In general, candidates responding to the survey support the current campaign finance laws; however more than half of them identified changes to improve existing laws including the following:

- Consolidate and clarify campaign finance laws to improve access and understanding
- Address the use of "soft money" in political campaigns and establish guidelines for reporting independent expenditures that allow candidates timely opportunity to respond before election day
- Identify money that is used for purposes other than influencing the nomination or election of a candidate ("issue advocacy") and distinguish this money from contributions raised and spent for campaign messages to support or defeat candidates
- Increase disclosure of contributions to political parties, including "soft money" and the transfer of funds among political party units
- Place limits on contributions to political parties

BACKGROUND:

Context for issues to be surveyed was sought and received from individuals and organizations that had experience with or were engaged in the study of government and election procedures. This included political parties, nonpartisan groups and candidate committees. The process generated three general groups of issues on which to base the survey. Some issues were common among the groups. The three groups are as follows:

- LWVMNEF's Six Considerations for Reform
- LWVUS' Five Ideas for Practical Campaign Reform
- Other considerations for campaign finance reform

Three surveys were created, generally similar but tailored where appropriate, for the office sought by the candidates. One survey was sent to each candidate for state legislative and constitutional offices, United States Representative candidates and candidates for judicial offices, both statewide and contested district court races. (See Addendum for more information.)

LWVMNEF's Six Considerations for Reform:

In preparation for the survey project the LWVMNEF identified "Six Considerations for Reform."

1. Recodification of campaign finance laws
2. Guidelines for reporting independent expenditures and issue advocacy
3. Disclosure of contributions to political parties (soft money)
4. Disclosure of conduit funding
5. Financing of judicial elections
6. Itemization requirements for contributions below \$100

Five Ideas for Practical Campaign Reform:

These ideas were outlined in a 1997 report commissioned by the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and prepared by Norman Orenstein of the American Enterprise Institute and others. As stated previously some of these ideas are also in the LWVMNEF's considerations for reform. The five ideas are:

1. Regulate independent expenditures and issue advocacy
2. Place limits on contributions to political parties
3. Strengthen the Federal Election Commission enforcement
4. Provide free TV time for Federal candidates
5. Provide a federal tax credit for small contributions from individuals

Other Considerations for Campaign Finance Reform:

These issues include the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (CFPDB) interest in the effectiveness of its record keeping and reporting software. Other suggestions in the survey included but were not limited to the very broad and encompassing proposal to provide full public financing for candidates and support of the Fair Campaign Practices Act.

SURVEY RESPONSES:

Prior to addressing the responses to the specific proposals in each of the three groups of considerations for reform outlined above, it may be interesting to examine the responses to more global or encompassing attitudes and suggestions.

One of the first questions the candidates were asked was to list two or three terms that would best describe Minnesota's campaign finance laws. One hundred eighty-four (184) candidates (95% of the respondents) offered a range of descriptors. Positive terms included "concise," "clean," "helpful" while some of the negative terms were "bureaucratic," "intimidating," and "burdensome." There were also neutral comments made. They were represented by terms such as "necessary," "it works," and "realistic."

Oftentimes a candidate would offer a number of terms that fit at least two if not all three of the categories. In other words, the respondents expressed mixed feelings towards Minnesota's laws, feelings that were based on the candidates' experiences.

This mixed response to the current status of the campaign finance laws was also evident in the responses to two survey questions that are opposites in their solutions. Candidates were asked whether they supported or opposed

- Keeping the campaign laws "as is," or
- Removing all campaign laws and starting over fresh.

While the questions posed opposite solutions the responses were not the mirror images of one another. Sixty-three percent (63%) of respondents **support** keeping the campaign finance laws "as is" while 84% **oppose** "starting over fresh." But more interesting are the responses at the extreme ends of the response spectrum.

While only 13% feel strongly about keeping the laws as they currently are, making no changes, a full 57% are strongly opposed to removing the laws and starting over. It would seem that there is a substantial number of respondents who are in the middle; they would like to keep the current framework but make changes within it.

What follows is a summary of the survey responses to specific suggestions for reform. The Addendum contains a complete and more detailed listing of the responses.

LWVMNEF's Six Considerations for Reform

Recodification: Recodification, reordering the laws to consolidate and/or clarify, received strong support from candidates. Ninety-five percent (95%) of all respondents expressed some degree of support for this suggestion for reform, the strongest support of all those listed in the survey. This strong response was reinforced by some comments offered by the respondents:

"Cumbersome, too easy for well-meaning volunteers to make big mistakes."

"Difficult for most to understand."

"Not well understood by most Minnesota citizens."

Independent Expenditures and Issue Advocacy: The idea of political parties and other organizations spending outside the jurisdiction of federal or state regulation emerged after campaign reforms of the 1970's. Under current laws these groups can spend an unlimited amount on efforts to support or oppose candidates or policy positions.

Independent expenditures to support a campaign are those that are made independently from and without consultation of the candidate. Because they are not tied to the candidates' campaign fund these funds are not subject to contribution or spending limits. The independent expenditure inquiry received the second largest support from the respondents.

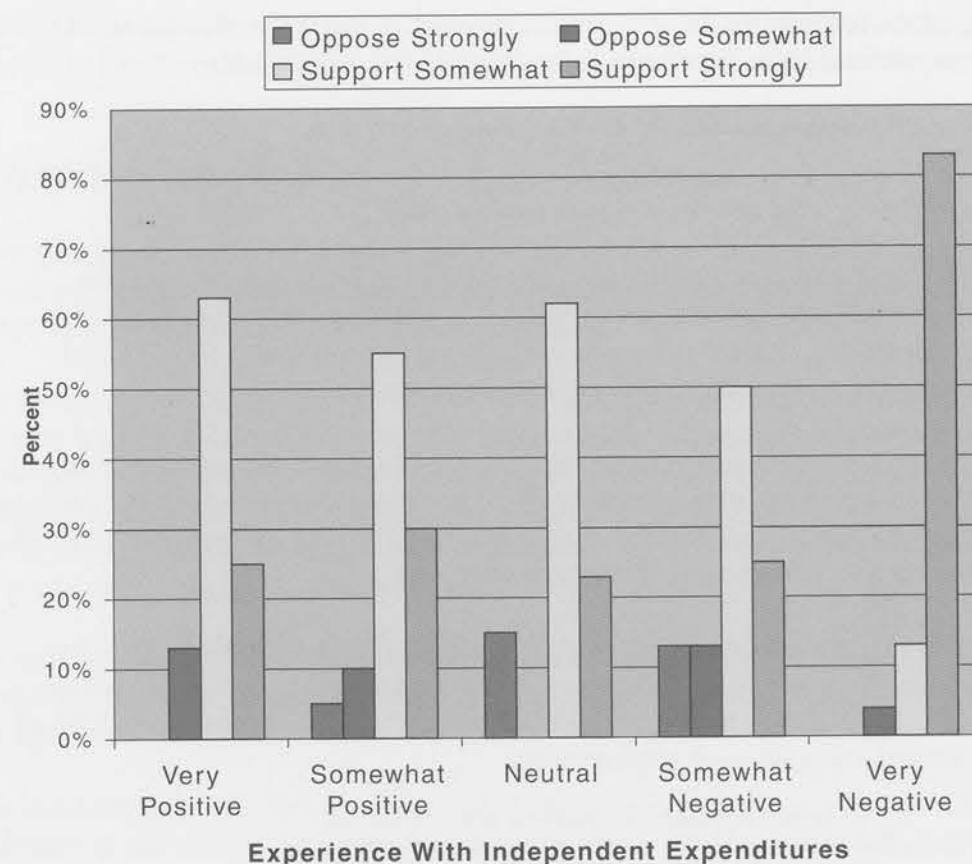
Asked if they would support the establishment of guidelines for reporting requirements for independent expenditures in order to allow candidates timely opportunity to respond before election day, 87% indicated that they would. Forty-five percent (45%), almost one-half of all respondents, would strongly support such requirements.

"Independent expenditures allow the most abuse of the system."

"Something has to be done about 'phony' independent expenditures - they can totally dominate an election and make all types of false allegations against a candidate."

Seventy-five of the 158 candidates who responded to this question indicated that they had experienced independent expenditures in their campaigns. As the graph indicates, those who had a very negative experience with independent expenditures strongly support a change in the state's law that would require the reporting of such expenditures. However, those who had negative experience weren't the only ones who support this suggestion. Although not as strongly, the graph shows that those who had very positive to neutral experience also support this as a reform.

Do You Support Guidelines for Reporting Independent Expenditures



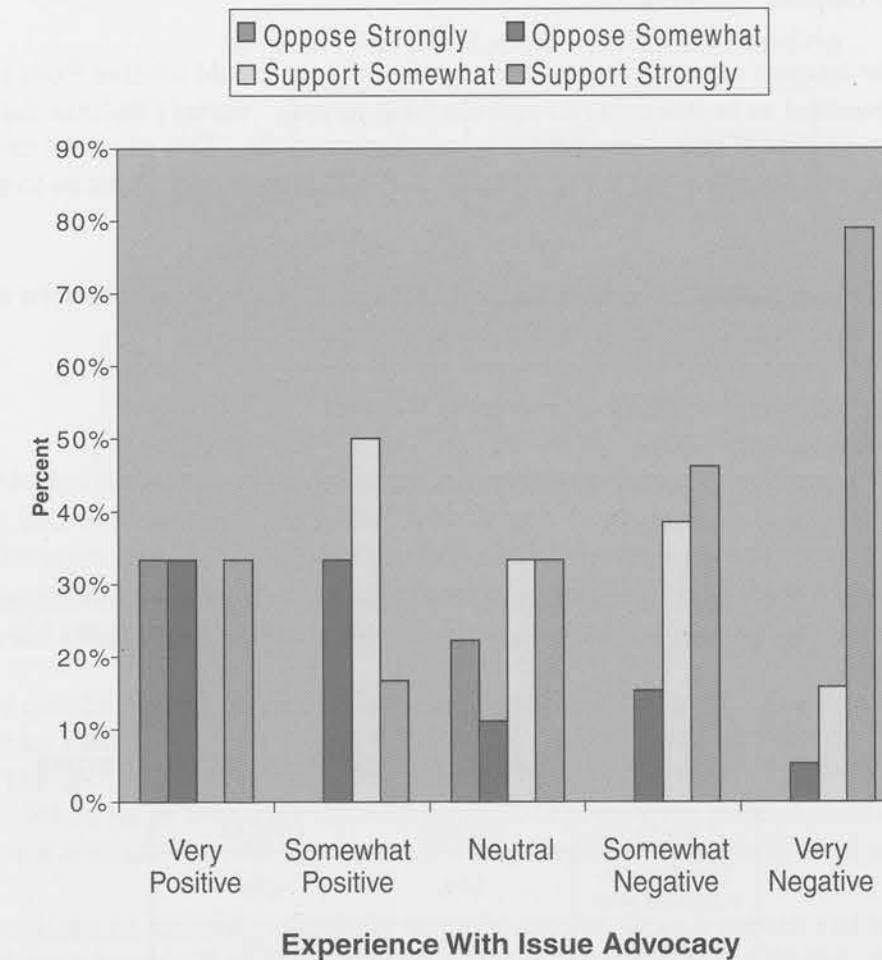
Issue advocacy is often viewed as a companion to independent expenditures. As with independent expenditures, an unlimited amount of money can be spent by noncandidate committees or organizations on issue-related communications. Issue advocacy communications cannot specifically state "vote for" or "vote against" any particular candidate but rather are intended to educate voters about an issue. Because these communications are classified as issue advocacy rather than candidate campaign related they are not regulated.

When asked if the campaign finance laws should be changed to establish reporting requirements to distinguish issue advocacy from campaign messages a full 79% of those responding support this suggestion. Challengers to incumbent candidates would oppose a requirement to distinguish the messages; 71% of challengers registered their opposition.

"All groups promoting campaign messages should be required to report and come under campaign laws."

As with independent expenditures, those who had experience with issue advocacy were supportive of this reporting requirement, with those who had very negative experience being strongly supportive.

Do You Support Establishing Reporting Requirements to Distinguish Issue Advocacy from Campaign Messages?



Disclosure of contributions to political parties: The political parties enjoy the ability to receive unrestricted contributions with which they finance party building activities. Often referred to as "soft money," these contributions may arrive in unlimited amounts from individuals and organizations. Unlike "hard" money, which are contributions made directly to candidates and for which there are limits and regulations, political parties may receive and spend these "soft monies" without limits.

The survey polled respondents regarding their opinions on treating "soft money" contributions more like "hard money." That is, would they support or oppose disclosure of such contributions and what were their feelings regarding placing limits on the amount a party could receive from a single source.

Disclosure: When asked whether they would support more disclosure of contributions to political parties, including transfers among state and federal political party units, the responses were as follows:

- Strongly Support: 31%
- Support Somewhat: 37%
- Oppose Somewhat: 21%
- Strongly Oppose: 11%

Limits: Limiting the amount of contributions that a political party could receive from a single source has been forwarded as another way to address "soft money," namely to limit the amounts of contributions that a political party may accept in an election cycle. This proposal could have the effect of reducing the money available to political parties for their contributions to party candidates.

While the majority of responding candidates supported the disclosure of contributions to political parties such was not true of placing limits on the contributions.

- Strongly Support: 11%
- Support Somewhat: 29%
- Oppose Somewhat: 26%
- Strongly Oppose: 34%

Given the potential financial impact on candidates who had received party endorsement the responses were analyzed by endorsees. The responses of this group of respondents are displayed in the following table.

Support Placing Limits on Contributions to Political Parties

Party	Support	Oppose
Democratic-Farmer-Labor	51%	49%
Republican	30%	70%
Reform	33%	67%

Full Disclosure of Conduit Funding: Even though the practice of bundling (delivering to a candidate a number of checks from employees of the same company) was prohibited in the 1993 reforms, another practice appears to have come into use. Voluntary employee contribution plans, often called conduit plans, permit an employee to have money deducted from his/her pay and deposited into an account. The account is controlled by the employee with the employee directing the plan administrator to send a check to the candidate of the employee's choice. Under current law no registration or disclosure of these conduit plans is required.

When asked whether conduit funds should be subject to registration and disclosure 65% of those responding indicated support for such a change. However, it appears that opinions regarding this suggestion differ depending on whether the candidate received contributions via conduit funds.

The responses as to whether candidates supported or opposed disclosure of conduit funding were analyzed by the percentage of total contributions they reported as having had received from such funds. Those results are as follows:

Support Full Disclosure of Conduit Funding

Percent of contributions	Support	Oppose
0%	56%	28%
1% to 25%	62%	38%
26% to 50%	0%	100%

Financing Judicial Elections: Codes of judicial conduct restrict candidates for judicial offices from taking part in fundraising activities for their own campaigns. While judicial candidates are subject to the same state disclosure laws as are candidates for legislative and executive offices, the spending and contribution limits in the law are not applicable to these nonpartisan judicial campaigns and candidates.

Two survey questions focused on the financing of judicial elections. The first queried respondents on their support for easing the restrictions on judicial candidates' campaign activities. The second asked whether there should be limits on contributions to judicial candidates. While these issues are directly applicable to only the judicial candidates, the questions were also asked of those who ran for state legislative and executive offices.

Easing restrictions on judicial campaigns received support from a majority of all respondents. However, those who would be most directly affected, the judicial candidates, were the least supportive of relaxing the current laws.

Support Easing Restrictions on Judicial Campaigns

Office	Support
State Executive	67%
State Legislative	65%
Judicial	55%

Most of the opposition to placing limits on contributions to judicial campaigns came from the judicial candidates while legislative and executive office candidates were rather strongly supportive.

Support Placing Limits on Contributions

Office	Support
State executive	79%
State legislative	72%
Judicial	37%

"I do believe in judicial elections as judicial appointments are frequently political and judges shouldn't be."

Itemization requirements for contributions below \$100: This issue arises because the present law contains two different monetary thresholds. For the itemization of contributions in campaign reports the threshold is set at those in excess of \$100. Contributions under that threshold are included in the total amount of contributions received but not listed by donor name. For the State's contribution refund program the eligibility threshold is \$50; individual contributions up to and including \$50 are eligible for refund **if** the receiving candidate agrees to accept spending limits and public subsidy **or** if the individual makes the contribution to a political party.

Of the six considerations for reform named by the LWVMNEF at the outset of this report, candidates showed the most opposition to the suggestion of lowering the itemization threshold to \$50 or more. Sixty percent (60%) opposed this suggestion with almost one-third of respondents, 31%, indicating strong opposition.

Candidates who agree to accept public financing may also be eligible to accept contributions subject to the contribution refund program. There was a marked difference in the responses to the proposal to lower the itemization requirement between those candidates who agreed to accept public financing and those who did not.

Should the Itemization Threshold be Lowered to \$50?

Accepted Public Financing	Support	Oppose
Yes	38%	62%
No	73%	27%

LWVUS' Five Ideas for Practical Campaign Reform

Candidate responses to survey questions addressing two of the five **Ideas for Practical Campaign Reform** have been reported in the section above. Those two ideas are **regulate independent expenditures and issue advocacy** and **place limits on contributions to political parties**.

Strengthen the Federal Election Commission enforcement: The authors of the report identifying their five ideas for reform believe that the structure and financing of the Federal Election Commission (FEC) hampers its ability to administer and enforce the campaign finance laws.

The proposal to strengthen the FEC only appeared on the survey that was sent to Congressional candidates. While responses were low in number, an interesting pattern was displayed. All incumbent candidates supported the strengthening of the Commission while all challengers indicated that they would oppose it. All general election winners registered support for the proposal; primary election winners were evenly split in their support or opposition.

"Federal system should move in direction of the Minnesota system."
"Enforce current campaign finance laws on both federal and state level."

Provide free TV time for candidates: Costs of electronic media, both radio and television, appear to affect all candidates. Orenstein and others argue that no campaign finance reform will be effective unless it ensures adequate means for all candidates and parties to get their messages out.

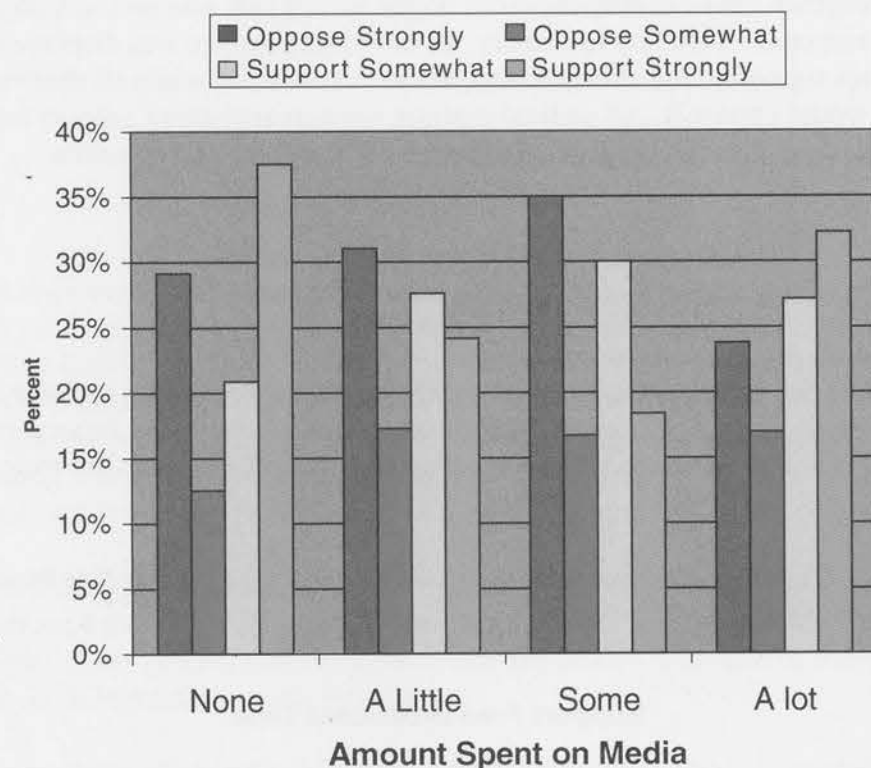
When asked whether the campaign finance laws should be revised to provide free broadcast time the candidates were somewhat supportive.

Support Free Broadcast Time

Support: 55%
Oppose: 45%

Were these conclusions based upon experience with media costs in the 1998 election? Responses by the 148 candidates to the free broadcast time proposal do not show any relationship between support and opposition of the suggestions and how much their campaigns had spent on media.

Do You Support Free Broadcast Time for Candidates?



Provide a federal tax credit for small contributions from individuals: The authors of the "Five Practical Ideas" believe that the more citizens are involved in the campaign process the more stake they will have in the political system. They suggest that a goal of campaign finance reform should be to find ways to encourage small individual contributions and propose a federal tax credit for such contributions to do so.

[Note: The emphasis in this survey question is on a federal tax credit rather than a state tax credit because Minnesota already allows a refund of up to \$50 per individual for contributions to candidates who agree to accept public financing.]

When asked, there were no strong trends indicated in the responses to this suggestion for reform. Among all responding candidates there was a 47% to 53% split in support versus opposition; however, almost one-third, 32%, registered strong opposition to providing a federal tax credit.

When one looks just at the responses of endorsed candidates there is even less of a marked difference in attitudes towards this proposal as displayed in the table on the following page.

Responses by Endorsed Candidates

Party	Support	Oppose
Democratic-Farmer-Labor	57%	43%
Republican	50%	50%
Reform	50%	50%

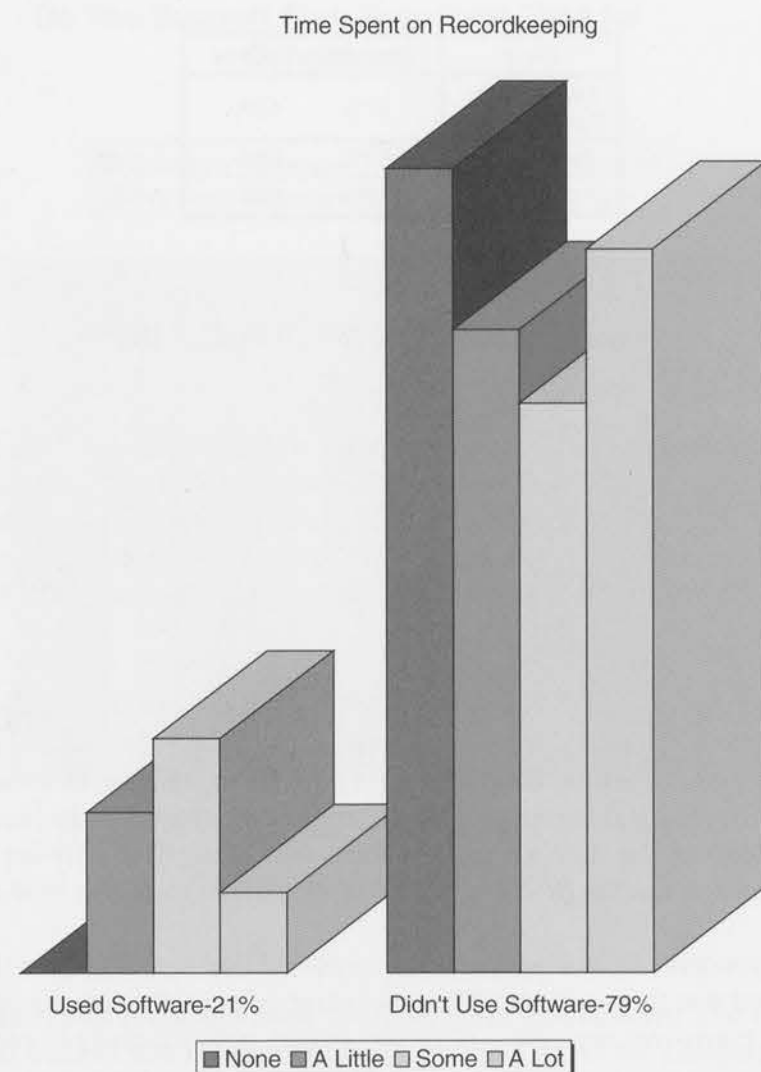
Other Considerations for Campaign Reform

Minnesota's Fair Campaign Practices Act governs campaign practices including legal use of campaign funds, false claims of support and prohibited contributions (such as those from corporations). This Act applies to campaigns of candidates running for all elective offices in Minnesota. Based upon their experiences as candidates in the 1998 elections, of the 181 responding to this question, 76% support the campaign practices laws, with 51% indicating strong support.

Record keeping and reporting are duties connected with campaign finance disclosure which test the mettle of even the most dedicated citizen-treasurer of a candidate's committee. Beginning with the 1998 elections, the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board offered a software program for personal computers. This program is attuned to the record keeping and reporting requirements of the state's disclosure laws and rules. The software was offered to the campaign committees at no charge and with free instructional meetings held across the state.

Among all the respondents to this question 21% reported that they had used the free software while 79% indicated that they had not. The percentage of candidates using or not using the software appeared consistent regardless of office sought, political party or outcome of the elections.

Did those who used the software spend less time on record keeping and reporting duties than those who had not? The graph would tend to indicate that they did.



Sufficiency of campaign spending limits: During the 1998 election the CFPDB received questions regarding the spending limits as well as comments pertaining to the sufficiency of them. The limits are set by state law and adjusted to the rise or fall of the consumer price index. They apply to those candidates who voluntarily agree to abide by them.

Survey responses revealed that 87% found the spending limits to be sufficient with 29% indicating that they believed them to be very sufficient.

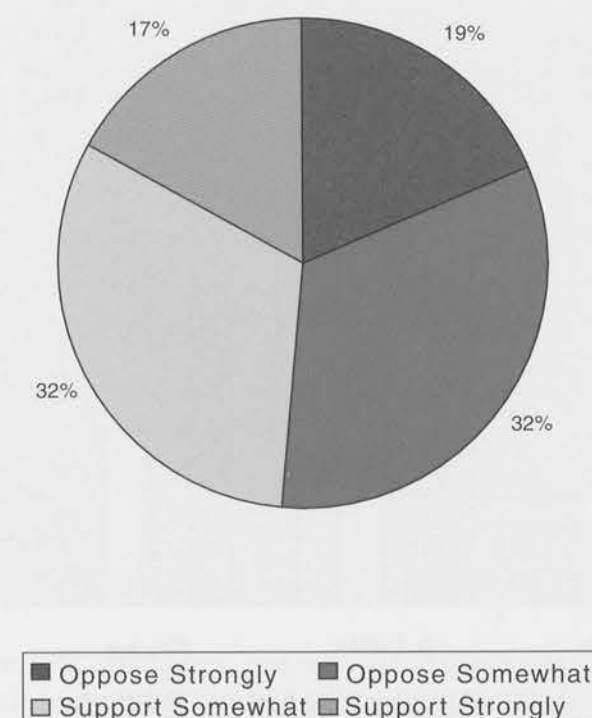
Sufficiency of Federal Campaign Contribution Limits: Congressional candidates are not subject to spending limits on their campaigns; however, the federal law does place certain limits on the contributions to their campaigns. The survey queried the congressional candidates regarding the sufficiency of the federal contribution limits.

The responses were examined as to whether the candidate was running for the first time or was an experienced candidate. First time candidates were evenly split on rating the sufficiency of the limits: 33% found them sufficient, 33% insufficient and 33% had no opinion. For experienced candidates the opinions were different: 50% found them sufficient, 25% insufficient and 25% had no opinion.

"Real Time" Disclosure: The timely disclosure of the receipt of large contributions occupies a significant position in the compendium of suggested campaign finance reforms. With the increasing use of computers, electronic mail and the Internet, some have recommended going to "real time" disclosure. Current law requires the disclosure just in the period immediately before the election. This suggestion would require year-round on-line reporting of the receipt of large contributions.

Accordingly, the survey asked the candidates whether they would support "real time" disclosure. The graph reflects that there is a rather equal distribution of responses with 64% in the middle, either somewhat supporting or opposing the proposal, and relatively equal amounts of respondents at either end of the spectrum, 17% in strong support and 19% in strong opposition.

Do You Support "Real Time" Disclosure?



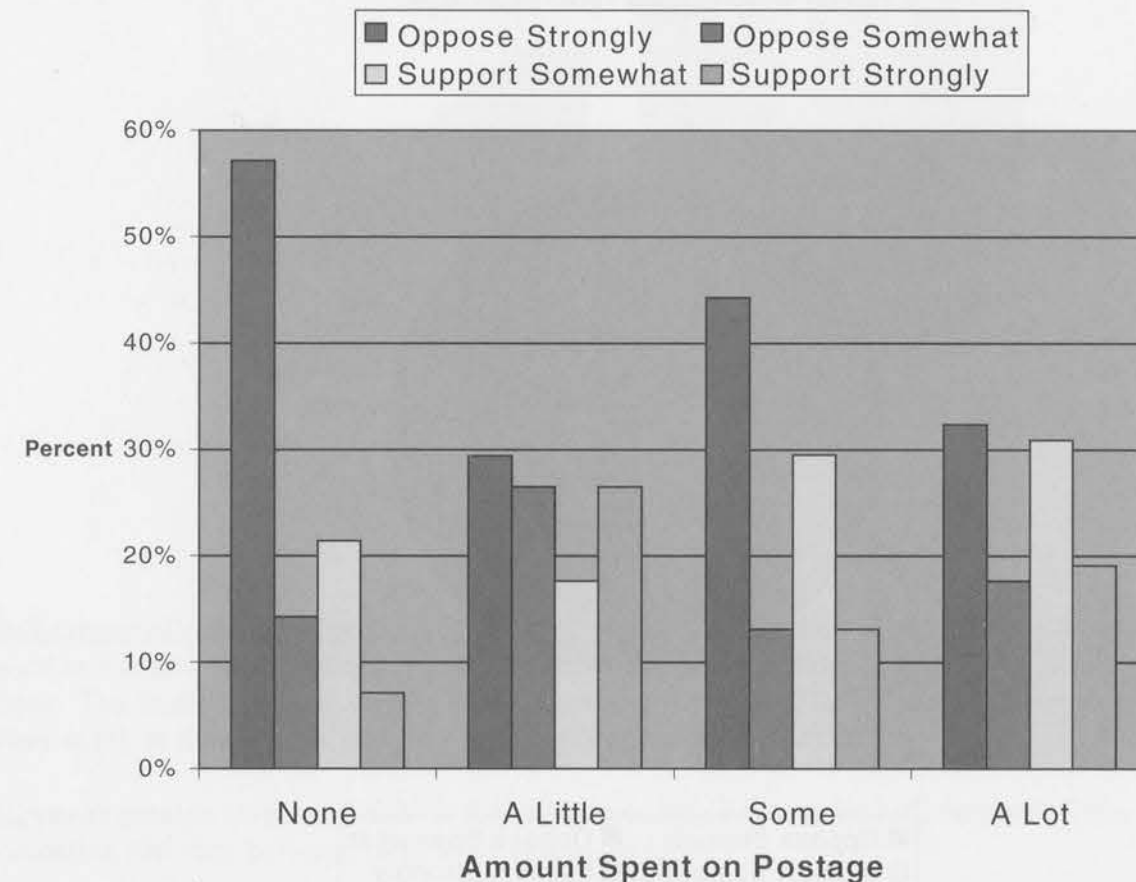
Free Mailing for candidates is another suggestion offered to smooth the way for all candidates - not only those who are incumbents - to reach potential voters with information on their positions on issues, experience and qualifications for elective office. The survey asked the candidates if

they would support or oppose changes that would provide some free mailing privileges to all candidates.

Overall, 55% of responding candidates opposed any changes that would provide some free mailing privileges to all candidates with 37% in strong opposition. When the responses were examined by whether the candidate had won or lost the election the results were a bit different. Of those who won the general election 63% expressed opposition to the proposal while those who lost supported it by 52%.

Would it follow that the more a candidate spent on mailing and postage costs the more supportive he/she would be towards some free mailing privileges? The following graph doesn't seem to indicate that that is the case. For example, even among those reporting having spent "a lot" on postage the amount of opposition to the proposal is almost the same as support of it.

Do You Support Some Free Mailing Privileges For Candidates?



Full Public Financing for Candidate Campaigns: The last proposal for change is the most encompassing; rather than accepting campaign contributions from private sources candidates' campaigns would be totally financed with public funds. Proponents of this suggestion argue that it would be a means to increase public participation in election campaigns, even out competition

for money and enable candidates to reach out to prospective voters with information about their stands on issues.

When looking at all of the responses to this question, regardless of demographic characteristic, the survey shows a general split of 50% to 50% on supporting or opposing this measure. Of the 50% who oppose full public financing 37% registered strong opposition to the proposal.

Time spent raising private funds may diminish the time available for the discussion of issues and meeting with voters. Does the amount of time spent on raising campaign contributions impact the candidates' support of full public financing? It appears to be so for this group of respondents but only slightly.

Support for Full Public Financing

Time Spent on Fundraising	Support	Oppose
None to A Little	48%	52%
Some to A lot	52%	48%

Candidate Suggestions for Campaign Reform

The survey invited the candidates to "offer suggestions, if any, to revise the current campaign finance system." Eighty-three (83) of the 193 candidates responded to this invitation with additional considerations for reform. They included the following:

- Require participation in public forums as part of acceptance of public financing
- Make public financing payments earlier in the election year
- Allow only candidates finishing a term to run for another office
- Prohibit political parties from spending money for election of candidates until after the primary election
- Off-year reporting should be more frequent than once a year
- No matching funds to candidates; instead use the check-off money to send a voter's guide to each home before the primary election and the general election
- Allow candidates to file a spreadsheet listing contributors and amounts without the forms that make the work twenty times as long.

ADDENDUM

About the Campaign Finance Reform Survey:

The research, conducted by volunteer members, is part of the League of Women Voters of the United States Education Fund's "Campaign Finance Reform: Success in the Midwest." This research project is funded in part by the Joyce Foundation of Chicago, Illinois. Minnesota is one of seven Midwest states selected for the project.

Immediately following the 1998 state elections the League of Women Voters of Minnesota (LWVMN) and thirty-two Local Leagues of Women Voters sent a campaign finance survey to Minnesota candidates for 160 offices or seats:

- 134 state legislative seats,
- 5 executive branch offices,
- 8 congressional seats,
- 6 statewide judicial offices and
- 7 contested judicial district court seats.

The LWV received responses from 193 candidates representing a 50.1% response rate. The League assured candidates confidentiality; therefore responses have been reported in summary without attribution.

Demographic profile of the respondents:

Office	Statutory Office	Congressional	Judicial	Grand Total
Legislative	154		Supreme Court 2	
Governor/Lt. Gov.	4		Appeals Court 3	
Attorney General	4		District Court 9	
Secretary of State	2			
State Auditor	4			
State Treasurer	2			
No Response	2			
Total:	172	7	14	193

First-time candidate				
Yes	72	3	7	82
No	97	4	7	108
No Response	3	0	0	3
Total:	172	7	14	193

Incumbent				
Yes	65	2	7	74
No	106	5	7	118
No Response	1	0	0	1
Total:	172	7	14	193

Political Party				
DFL**	88	2	*	90
Republican	69	2	*	71
Reform	9	1	*	10
Minor Party	5	2	*	7
No Response	1	0	*	1
Total:	172	7		179

* Not Applicable for Candidates for Judicial Office
** Democratic-Farmer-Labor

Endorsed				
Yes	155	7	*	162
No	15	0	*	15
No Response	2	0	*	2
Total:	172	7		179

* Not Applicable for Candidates for Judicial Office

Primary Election				
Winner	86	4	1	91
Loser	27	1	3	31
No Response	59	2	10	71
Total:	172	7	14	193

General Election				
Winner	79	2	8	89
Loser	85	4	5	94
No Response	8	1	1	10
Total:	172	7	14	193

On the following pages is a more complete and detailed sampling of responses to survey questions. The responses to the proposals are presented in the order in which related texts appear in the report. Responses from minor party candidates, although few in number, are included in total percentages, where they identified themselves.

Keep campaign laws "as is?"

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	67%	33%
Executive	71%	29%
Congressional	00%	100%
Judicial	36%	64%
First-time candidate	63%	37%
Experienced candidate	70%	30%
Incumbent	70%	30%
Challenger	69%	31%
Primary Election Winner	63%	37%
Primary Election Loser	55%	45%
General Election Winner	71%	29%
General Election Loser	68%	32%
Did Agree to Public Financing	68%	32%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	70%	30%

Remove all campaign laws and start over fresh?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	13%	87%
Executive	29%	71%
Congressional	50%	50%
Judicial	30%	70%
First-time candidate	22%	78%
Experienced Candidate	11%	89%
Incumbent	04%	96%
Challenger	24%	76%
Primary Election Winner	14%	86%
Primary Election Loser	41%	59%
General Election Winner	04%	96%
General Election Loser	26%	74%
Did Agree to Public Financing	12%	88%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	36%	64%

Establish reporting requirements for independent expenditures which will allow candidates timely opportunity to respond before election day?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	85%	15%
Executive	93%	07%
Congressional	71%	29%
Judicial	63%	37%
First-time candidate	83%	17%
Experienced candidate	86%	14%
Incumbent	83%	17%
Challenger	85%	15%

Primary Election Winner	84%	16%
Primary Election Loser	76%	24%
General Election Winner	82%	18%
General Election Loser	86%	14%
Did Agree to Public Financing	86%	14%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	91%	09%

Establish reporting requirements to distinguish issue advocacy from campaign messages?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	79%	21%
Executive	80%	20%
Congressional	83%	17%
Judicial	78%	22%
First-time candidate	83%	17%
Experienced candidate	77%	23%
Incumbent	83%	17%
Challenger	75%	25%
Primary Election Winner	78%	22%
Primary Election Loser	74%	26%
General Election Winner	80%	20%
General Election Loser	79%	21%
Did Agree to Public Financing	78%	22%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	90%	10%

Require more disclosure of contributions to political parties including transfers among state and federal political party units?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	69%	31%
Executive	64%	36%
Congressional	71%	29%
First-time candidate	68%	32%
Experienced candidate	69%	31%
Incumbent	67%	33%
Challenger	71%	29%
Primary Election Winner	69%	31%
Primary Election Loser	65%	35%
General Election Winner	62%	38%
General Election Loser	73%	27%
Did Agree to Public Financing	65%	35%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	100%	0%

Place limit on contributions to political parties?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	40%	60%
Executive	36%	64%
Congressional	43%	57%
First-time candidate	41%	59%
Experienced candidate	42%	58%
Incumbent	41%	59%
Challenger	43%	57%
Primary Election Winner	42%	58%
Primary Election Loser	38%	62%
General Election Winner	38%	62%
General Election Loser	43%	57%
Did Agree to Public Financing	39%	61%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	45%	55%

Note: Among endorsed candidates, DFL candidates supported by 51% limiting contributions to political parties; Republicans and Reform Party candidates opposed the measure by 72% and 67% respectively. Among unendorsed candidates, 57% of DFL candidates and 67% of Reform Party candidates opposed limiting contributions to political parties. Conversely 67% of Republican candidates supported the measure.

Establish registration of employers' plans for employee voluntary contributions to candidates ("conduit plans")?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	66%	34%
Executive	57%	43%
Congressional	57%	43%
Judicial	44%	56%
First-time candidate	69%	31%
Experienced Candidate	57%	43%
Incumbent	60%	40%
Challenger	57%	43%
Political Party		
DFL	77%	23%
Republican	58%	42%
Reform	83%	17%
Primary Election Winner	64%	36%
Primary Election Loser	50%	50%
General Election Winner	59%	41%
General Election Loser	64%	36%
Did Agree to Public Financing	65%	35%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	70%	30%

Ease current restrictions on judicial candidates' campaigns?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	65%	35%
Executive	67%	33%
Judicial	55%	45%
First-time candidate	71%	29%
Experienced candidate	58%	42%
Incumbent	52%	49%
Challenger	73%	27%
Primary Election Winner	61%	39%
Primary Election Loser	72%	28%
General Election Winner	58%	42%
General Election Loser	69%	31%
Did Agree to Public Financing	65%	35%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	50%	50%

Place limit on contributions to judicial candidates?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	72%	28%
Executive	79%	21%
Judicial	37%	63%
First-time candidate	72%	28%
Experienced candidate	70%	30%
Incumbent	70%	30%
Challenger	72%	28%
Primary Election Winner	67%	33%
Primary Election Loser	66%	34%
General Election Winner	71%	29%
General Election Loser	77%	23%
Did Agree to Public Financing	72%	28%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	91%	8%

Require itemization of campaign contributions of \$50 or more?

	<u>% Support</u>	<u>% Oppose</u>
Office		
Legislative	41%	59%
Executive	27%	73%
Judicial	40%	60%
First-time candidate	38%	62%
Experienced candidate	41%	59%
Incumbent	36%	64%
Challenger	43%	57%

Primary Election Winner	43%	57%
Primary Election Loser	41%	59%
General Election Winner	32%	68%
General Election Loser	48%	52%
Did Agree to Public Financing	38%	62%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	73%	27%

Note: Among endorsed candidates 58% of DFL candidates opposed lowering the itemization threshold as did 69% of Republicans. Reform Party candidates were split 50% to 50% on the proposal. Unendorsed candidates favored the issue: DFL: 75%, Republican and Reform Party each 67%.

Provide for free broadcast time for candidates?

	% Support	% Oppose
Office		
Legislative	51%	49%
Executive	87%	13%
Congressional	57%	43%
Judicial	45%	55%
First-time candidate	55%	45%
Experienced candidate	53%	47%
Incumbent	54%	46%
Challenger	55%	45%
Primary Election Winner	59%	41%
Primary Election Loser	49%	51%
General Election Winner	62%	38%
General Election Loser	58%	42%
Did Agree to Public Financing	55%	45%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	55%	45%

Note: Among endorsed candidates, 76% of DFL and 100% of Reform Party candidates favored free broadcast time for candidates. On the other hand 76% of Republican candidates opposed the measure. Among unendorsed candidates, 57% of DFL and 67% of Republican respondents favored free broadcast time with 67% of Reform Party respondents opposing the measure.

Provide federal tax credits for contributions to candidate campaigns?

	% Support	% Oppose
Office		
Legislative	46%	54%
Executive	50%	50%
Congressional	57%	43%
Judicial	20%	80%
First-time candidate	43%	57%
Experienced candidate	47%	53%
Incumbent	50%	50%
Challenger	43%	57%

Political Party		
DFL	43%	57%
Republican	35%	65%
Reform	50%	50%
Primary Election Winner	48%	52%
Primary Election Loser	42%	58%
General Election Winner	46%	54%
General Election Loser	46%	54%
Did Agree to Public Financing	48%	52%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	36%	64%

Minnesota campaign laws govern campaign practices, e.g., legal use of campaign funds, false claims of support. Based on their experience in the 1998 elections, candidates were asked:

How supportive of these campaign practices laws are you?

	% Opposed	% Neutral	% Supportive
Office			
Legislative	3%	19%	77%
Executive	7%	14%	79%
Congressional	0%	29%	71%
Judicial	11%	33%	56%
First time candidates	4%	20%	76%
Experienced candidates	3%	18%	78%
Incumbents	2%	19%	81%
Challengers	5%	19%	76%
Endorsed (by party)			
DFL	0%	12%	88%
Republican	3%	30%	67%
Reform	17%	17%	67%
Minor party	40%	20%	40%
Unendorsed (by party)			
DFL	13%	13%	75%
Republican	0%	0%	100%
Reform	0%	33%	67%
Primary Election Winner	4%	20%	66%
Primary Election Loser	4%	31%	66%
General Election Winner	1%	18%	81%
General Election Loser	5%	22%	73%
Did Agree to Public Financing	5%	18%	78%
Did Not Agree to Public Financing	9%	27%	64%

Did your campaign use free record keeping and reporting software available from the Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board?

	% Used software	% Did not use software
Office		
Legislative	22%	78%
Executive	13%	87%
Judicial	27%	73%

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The Joyce Foundation, Chicago, Illinois

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Mary Ann McCoy, Campaign Finance Reform Survey Project Director

LWVMNEF Campaign Finance Reform Survey Steering Committee:

Judy Duffy, President LWV of Minnesota; Kerri Kleven, LWV of Minnesota Staff; Sally Sawyer, Executive Director LWV of Minnesota; Jean Tews, Development Director LWV of Minnesota; Susan Weisbrod, LWV-St. Croix Valley, Director, Government Issues; Claudia Dieter, LWV-St. Paul, data entry and analysis; Ady Wickstrom, LWV-Arden Hills/Shoreview, database design.

Local Leagues of Women Voters in Minnesota:

New Ulm
St. Peter
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins
St. Louis Park
Winona State Unit
St. Croix Valley
Eastern Carver County
Freeborn County
Austin
Bemidji Area
Cass Lake/Walker/Grand Rapids
Jackson Area
Rochester
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove
Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Heights
Northfield
Minneapolis

St. Cloud Area
Owatonna
St. Paul
Duluth
Golden Valley
Mahtomedi Area
South Tonka
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids
Brainerd Lakes Area
Cannon Falls Area
Woodbury/Cottage Grove
Bloomington
Willmar Area
Red Wing
New Brighton
Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues

BOARD MEMO



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA

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NOVEMBER 1999

Presidents' Mini-Mailing

ENCLOSURES

(...as listed in last week's Board Memo...)

- Unicameral Packet - Erickson/McWilliams
- LWVMN/EF Logo and Print Policy Guidelines - Gochberg/Kargas
- Membership Packet - Frisch
- LOTT Seminar Brochure - Ritter/Avendasora/Tjernlund
- Upper Midwest International Human Rights Fellowship Program brochure

LWVMN AND LWVMNEF LOGO AND PRINT POLICY GUIDELINES

Over the past few years several public relations and graphic design firms have advised our state League staff and project directors that our publications did not portray a clear League image. They suggested that we be consistent in typefaces, papers and use of our logo. Creative possibilities through the use of drop caps, columns, graphics, shades of gray, etc. can make every document look distinctive yet uniquely from the League of Women Voters.

We have been improving our look. In order to further improve, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota and its Education Fund have adopted the following policy and guidelines:

POLICY

The policy of the LWVMN and LWVMNEF for any external publications is to provide a consistent look to state League documents—in print, on the internet, or in other media—for easy identification by the public.

Local Leagues are encouraged to adopt logo/print guidelines that meet their needs. Some local Leagues have developed their own image in their home communities. It is important that any League identify itself in a consistent manner whether by adopting these guidelines or their own.

The state League logo has been used in a variety of ways. Future use of this logo by either the state or local Leagues should abide by the specifications below.

USE OF LWVMN AND LWVMNEF LOGO

In order to establish a graphically clear state League identity, consistent logo usage is important. Adherence to the following will provide instant identification for a League document.

- Instructions for correct logo usage should be provided for every project director and graphic artist.
- The logo should never be used as a stand alone graphic. It should always be identified with the League of Women Voters of Minnesota (or the Education Fund).
- Place the logo in upper left corner on stationery, lower left corner on publications, or as design allows on postcards, etc.
- When the League name appears with the logo it should be aligned with the slash.
- On all letterhead, the internet, and other media where the backdrop is white, the background of the LWV logo should be gray with a red slash.
- Logo typography should be standard.

Use by Local Leagues

When the logo is used by a local League, that League should substitute its name for **MINNESOTA** or **MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND**. If a local League chooses to use its own logo it is suggested that the style, color and placement of that logo be used consistently.

Examples



**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA**

←use **GOUDY, BOLD CAPS, BLACK**

←use **ARIEL, ITALIC, BOLD CAPS, BLACK**

←ADDRESS, IF USED, IN BLACK TIMES NEW ROMAN CAPS



**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND**

←use **GOUDY, BOLD CAPS, RED**

←use **ARIEL, ITALIC, BOLD CAPS, RED**

←ADDRESS, IF USED, IN BLACK TIMES NEW ROMAN CAPS

Printing the Logo

- When the job is to be done by a **professional print shop**, use an EPS file. EPS gives a nice smooth edge, but looks terrible on PC printers.
- The printer will need to be told what PMS colors to use. The gray can be a 40% or 50% black. The red is PMS 185.
- When printing the logo with one color use screens to differentiate the various parts of the logo. If using blue the PMS color is 287.
- When using a **PC printer**, use a TIF file. This produces a good result on home computers. If a TIF file is used for professional print jobs, a ragged edge will be noticeable.
- For **web pages**, use a GIF or JPG file. The logo should be placed in the upper left corner, just as on stationery.
- Downloadable EPS, JPG, and TIF files are available on our web site:
www.lwvmn.org

LWVMN AND LWVMNEF PRINT STANDARDS FOR EXTERNAL PUBLICATIONS

Each publication can be artistic and original within these Print Standards.

Paper

Preferred cover stock, text and brochure paper

- Bright white uncoated
- Recycled white such as Fox river bond or Royal fiber. These two papers make a hard working statement that we want our materials to project.
- Use lowest gloss whites only when intense color is needed for text. Intense color can also be achieved by going one or two PMS shades darker on bright white, newsprint or recycled paper.
- Red and blue uncoated papers can be used in special situations. In such a case the logo should be gray with a black swash.

Colors

The basic color scheme is red, white, blue

- Red is PMS 185
- Blue is PMS 287
- Black
- Grays, such as 40% and 50% black give nice variety to a project without adding cost.
- A PMS shade darker for newsprint, recycled and bright white papers can give intense color and variety.
- Use graphics to differentiate between publications.
- Use of color photographs and appropriate background colors can add another dimension.

Type Face

- Our Logo has been done professionally for our letterheads in Goudy. It is very handsome type for the logo and its continued usage is preferred.
- In major publications the preferred typeface is Times New Roman for text and Ariel for headings. This provides a consistent look. Most computers have a serif typeface such as Times New Roman and a sans serif typeface such as Ariel.
- No document should have more than three typefaces.

Use of Organization's Name

Refer to the organization as

- **THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA**
- **THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND**

A more flexible use of the organization's name is appropriate after first usage and within the text of a document.

In Conclusion

The League of Women Voters has a reputation for providing significant and reliable information. It is important for any League publication to be readily identified as originating from the League of Women Voters, whether local, state, or national.

These guidelines and standards were developed to establish consistency and therefore a product recognizable by the public.

Approved by LWVMN Board November 11, 1999



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

To: Local League Presidents
From: Kay Erickson, Action Co-Chair, Unicameral Committee Chair
Subject: Update of work of Unicameral Committee
Date: November 22, 1999

As you know, the LWVMN Board established a committee to make a recommendation about how the League will respond to the issue of a unicameral legislature. The committee has been meeting since September. Since the last update our work has included:

- 1) Hearing feedback from the League's regional meetings on the Unicameral Committee's process,
- 2) Listening to Rep. Mindy Greiling, a unicameral supporter, and Bill Brady, chair of Opponents of a UniCameral House (OUCH), debate the issue at a committee meeting,
- 3) Updating the Board at its November meeting,
- 4) Hearing from Tom Todd, Legislative Analyst from House Research,
- 5) Developing the tear-off question for a local League/member input survey, and
- 6) Writing articles for a December Voter which will be devoted to the issue.

It is crucial that our members are informed and involved in this process. The committee and the board would like to have a position in time to affect this session of the legislature--it may be too late if we don't have a position (either for, against or no position) by then. Therefore, the committee is asking members to weigh in through a member/local League tear-off in the Voter. **The tear-off will be used to advise the committee that will make a recommendation to the LWVMN Board in January.**

We are asking for your help in informing our members about this issue. We understand that time is short and it is a busy time of year.

1. If you have space in your newsletters, publish information on Unicameral. The House Research piece by Tom Todd, in the October mailing is wonderful background. (We were assured it was all right to reprint if it was presented in an impartial, nonpartisan fashion. Please credit Tom Todd, Legislative Analyst, House Research.) Feel free to publish anything we've sent that originated with the League.
2. Hold a meeting on Unicameral if you can squeeze it into what we know is already a busy schedule. I'd suggest that you call Minnesotans for a Single House Legislature and Opponents of a UniCameral House for speakers. Unicameral Committee members may be able to help. (MSHL and OUCH phone numbers and web pages are on page 3 and on the resource list in this packet.)
3. Encourage your members to send the Voter tear-off to you, the local League president. You should then ascertain that the response form is from a member of your League. You have the option to discuss this issue with your board, compile your local League's response, or to

simply return the tear-offs from your members to the committee. Please return them to the LWVMN office with your local League's advice/comments if you choose to do so. A self-addressed envelope is included in this packet for your convenience.

Deadlines are:

January 14 - individual responses to local League boards
January 20 - local League responses to Unicameral Committee
January 22 - Unicameral Committee meeting
January 26 - Board meeting - vote on recommendation

Just a word about the process. Because LWVMN does not have a specific position on unicameral, the Board formed the Unicameral Committee to recommend a course of action for the League and to determine if the League's principles and positions that deal with government and how government should work could be used to arrive at a position. Under the bylaws we are authorized to take action based on our positions and our principles.

In League, the League handbook published by LWVUS, deals with taking action based on principles: "The Principles are 'concepts of government' to which the League subscribes. These concepts are a direct descendent of the Platform, which served the League from 1942 to 1956 Since that time, the Principles have served two functions, according to LWVUS bylaws: (1) authorization for adoption of national, state and local program (Article XII) and (2) as a basis for taking action at the national, state and local levels (Article XII)."

The wording of the statements that members will be asked to respond to in the Voter tear-off is:

Please check **one** of the following statements:

___ The League of Women Voters of Minnesota should **support** restructuring the Minnesota legislature to a single house.

___ The League of Women Voters of Minnesota should **oppose** restructuring the Minnesota legislature to single house.

After the committee reviews the responses from the member input tear-off, a recommendation will be developed for the LWVMN Board. The Board will vote on the committee's recommendation at its January 26 meeting.

In this packet we have included an outline of the legislative process (some of which will be printed in the December Voter), the revised Positions and Principles/Standards sheet, the relevant League positions, a resources list and a self addressed envelope for you to use to return your member's tear-off forms to LWVMN. We have also enclosed the discussion guide prepared by the LWV of Michigan's Unicameral Legislature Study Committee in 1994 for your information.

If you would like to contact the major groups currently involved in this issue, here are the names and numbers:

Supporters:

Minnesotans for a Single House Legislature (MSHL)

PO Box 32271

Fridley, MN 55432-0271

877/4-1-HOUSE

612/795-9070

<http://www.singlehouse.com>

Opponents:

Opponents of a UniCameral House (OUCH)

Bill Brady

2435 Galtier Street

Roseville, MN 55113

651/481-0273

bbrady@uswest.net

<http://www.twohouses.com>

If you have any questions please call Action Co-Chairs Kay Erickson, 612/474-7324 or Jane McWilliams, 507/645-8423.

Outline of the Legislative Process

In order to consider the relative merits of unicameral and bicameral legislatures, it is important to understand what our present system is, what constitutional changes would need to be made to establish a unicameral system, and what would be left for later statutes and internal rules of that body.

Presently, Article IV of the state constitution provides for the composition of the legislature, currently, a senate and a house of representatives. The length of terms of members are also provided for in the constitution, as is the method for filling vacancies.

A constitutional amendment would be required to create a unicameral legislature and to determine the length of terms and procedures for filling vacancies if these are to be changed. Law currently prescribes the number of members who compose the senate and the house. However, the constitution could be amended to take the decision about the size of the legislature away from that body and put it into a constitutional amendment for voters to decide.

The current constitution provides that the representation in both houses be apportioned equally throughout the different sections of the state in proportion to the population thereof. This principle would remain the same, as it is governed by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling, although the Constitution would need amendment to make it apply to one house, rather than two and districts would be apportioned equally. There are other technical amendments that would need to be made to eliminate constitutional references to two houses.

The constitution provides that the rules by which each house operates (including how bills are enacted, committee appointments, ethical conduct, and many other operating procedures) are determined by the respective house biennially. The Joint Rules of the Senate and House are also adopted biennially by both houses. These include rules for procedures for Joint Conventions (when both houses meet together), conference committee appointments and procedures, and legislative deadlines.

There are a number of bills pending which would provide for a unicameral legislature. Some would create a 135-member body by statute, some 99 members by statute. Several would establish the size through a constitutional amendment. Some provide for 4 year staggered terms, one provides for 2-year terms, some accommodate the short term necessitated by reapportionment.

Unless it is determined prior to the November election, either by statute or by language in the proposed amendment, voters will not know what the size of a unicameral body would be. Nor would voters know what the rules governing the operations of the legislature would be until these are adopted by the new legislature. However, there are a number of questions voters can consider in evaluating the structural differences of the one house versus two-house systems:

1. Will the simplified structure (only one track for bills to follow, rather than two) of a unicameral legislature create a simplified legislative process and be easier for citizens to understand?
2. Does a unicameral system provide sufficient checks on the legislative process when bills are not subject to consideration in a two-track system?
3. Will citizens and lobbyists have more or less direct access to the process and to the legislators with one house than with two?
4. Will a unicameral legislature change the balance of power between the legislative and executive branches of state government?

For a more comprehensive side-by-side analysis of unicameral and bicameral legislatures, members will want to read a Policy Brief written by Tom Todd, Legislative Analyst of the Minnesota House of Representatives Research Department which was included in an October mailing to local League presidents, or may be obtained from the Research Department, (651) 296-6753.

LWV PRINCIPLES AND POSITIONS THAT APPLY TO THIS ISSUE

- Participation of informed and active citizens
- Government accountability and effectiveness
- Encourages responsible government that is responsive to the will of the people
- Dynamic balance of power between the executive and legislative branches
- Freedom from undue influence on elections
- Representative government
- Open meetings - adequate notice

STANDARDS FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE

Representation

- Does the structure of the unicameral legislature ensure that all citizens are represented in a fair and equitable manner? Does it provide effective democratic representation?

Accessibility and Responsiveness

- Do the operations of a unicameral legislature provide citizens an adequate opportunity to participate in the legislative process?
- Will the simplified structure of a unicameral legislature allow for a more informed citizenry?
- Will citizens have sufficient access with fewer elected representatives?
- Will fewer elected representatives in the unicameral legislature be able to adequately respond to constituents and provide constituent services?
- Will a unicameral legislature increase the influence of lobbyists and special interest groups?
- Given the dispersion of the population in the State, does the size of the unicameral legislature effect the accessibility to legislators?

Accountability

- Does a unicameral structure provide sufficient checks and balances during the legislative process?
- Is there sufficient ability to catch and correct legislative error?
- Does the structure of the unicameral legislature provide sufficient opportunity for citizens to hold legislatures accountable for their actions?

Distribution of Power

- Does the structure of the unicameral legislature result in a reasonable and acceptable distribution of power within the legislature?
- Does the unicameral legislature change the balance of power between the branches of government?

Effectiveness

- Assuming Minnesota would retain partisan designation of its representatives, would this negatively impact the effectiveness of a unicameral legislature?

The Solution "fits" the problem

- Is changing the fundamental structure of government the most effective method of fixing the problems identified in Minnesota's bicameral system?

LWVUS Positions Relevant to the Study of a Unicameral Legislature

(Taken from Impact on Issues 1998-2000)

Government

In the summary of this position (page 3), the following are included in the list of items that describe the position and pertain to this study:

- ▶ Promote and open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive;
- ▶ Assures opportunities for citizen participation in government decision making.

In the Statement of Positions (pages 7 and 8) the following are listed and pertain to this study:

"The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens at all levels of government. The League further believes that governmental bodies must protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible." Adopted June, 1984

"The League of Women Voters of the United States believes in the individual liberties guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. The League is convinced that individual rights now protected by the Constitution should not be weakened or abridged." Adopted March, 1982

LWVMN Positions Relevant to the Study of a Unicameral Legislature

(Taken from Program for Action 1997-1999)

Government

Section II, Government (page 13) includes the following which pertain to this study:

Organization of Government: Support of improved structure and procedures for the Minnesota and Legislature and Executive Branches.

Detail includes

- ▶ "Legislative reform through improved procedures for providing information, adequate research assistance, no increase in size (reduction in size is desirable), realistic compensation for legislators, improved organization of committees, legislative sessions of adequate length, and allowing the Legislature to call itself into special session. The Legislature should meet annually and should have the power to determine the time of meeting and length of session and should have the power to recess." (1995, 1968)

Section III, Initiative, Referendum and Recall (page 13) includes the following which pertain to this study:

Detail includes:

Support of:

- ▶ The continued initiation of constitutional amendments by the legislative branch; opposition to all forms of voter initiative of such amendments (direct, indirect or advisory);
- ▶ The continuation of compulsory voter referendum on constitutional amendments;

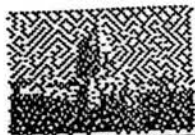
Opposition to:

- ▶ direct initiative and advisory initiative on statutes; no agreement on indirect initiative on statutes;
- ▶ optional and compulsory referendum on statutes; no agreement on petition referendum on statutes;

In addition:

History of State Action:

Amending the Constitution: The 1947 LWV State Constitution study showed the need for change the amending process. Ratification of a constitutional amendment requires a majority vote of all those voting in the election. Thus a voter who fails to vote on the amendment automatically casts a "no" vote. LWVMN believes that the requirement for ratification should be changed to a majority of those voting on the question. In 1974 LWVMN supported a constitutional amendment allowing amendments to be passed by a 55% majority of those voting on the question; the amendment was defeated by the voters.



Minnesota Legislative Reference Library

September 1999

Resources on Minnesota Legislative Issues Unicameral Legislatures

This guide is compiled by staff at the Minnesota Legislative Reference Library on a topic of interest to Minnesota legislators. It is designed to provide an introduction to the topic, directing the user to a variety of sources, and is not intended to be exhaustive. In particular, it is focused on items available in the Legislative Reference Library.

A single-house legislature at the state level is a rare exception in the United States. Three states were initially established with unicameral legislatures; Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Vermont. All three switched to a bicameral system by 1830. Nebraska switched from a bicameral to a unicameral system in 1934, and many states considered adopting this model in the succeeding decades. Nebraska remains the sole single-house legislature. In Minnesota many bills have been introduced over the years, but they garnered scant attention and support.

This issue has gained new prominence with the backing of prominent Minnesota politicians. The Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives, Steve Sviggum, has been a long-time supporter of moving to a one-body legislature. The unicameral legislature has become a cornerstone of Governor Jesse Ventura's legislative agenda. On August 17, 1999, the Governor toured the state to promote a proposed constitutional amendment on the 2000 ballot to create a unicameral legislature.

Minnesotans are beginning to weigh in on the unicameral issue; two organizations have been formed recently. The Minnesota Citizens Committee for a Single-House Legislature is committed to increasing public awareness about the benefits of a single-house legislature. Senator Dave Kleis and Representative Alice Hausman are the Unicameral Legislative Caucus Co-chairs.

An alternative group, OUCH, Opponents of a Unicameral House, advocates maintaining two bodies, and encourages citizens to advocate for improvements to the current system. Representatives Dave Bishop and Mark Gleason are on the OUCH Steering Committee.

INTERNET INFORMATION:

- "Birth of A Bicameral" -- from the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature.
- "A House Divided." -- Minnesota Public Radio coverage of Governor Ventura's August 17, 1999, tour of the state to promote a unicameral legislature.
- Minnesota Citizens Committee for a Single-House Legislature
- OUCH - Opponents of a Unicameral House.
- "Proposal for a Single House Legislature" -- From Governor Ventura's official web site. Governor Ventura has promoted a unicameral legislature throughout his time in office. In his first State of the State message he proposed a need for "a unicameral legislature that spends at least one year out of four cleaning old and intrusive laws off the books."

SIGNIFICANT REPORTS:

Bigelow, Page Elizabeth, Compiler. *Essays on Unicameralism*. New York : National

Municipal League, 1972. (JF541 .B544)

Buehler, Ezra Christian, Ed. *Unicameral Legislatures*. New York: Noble and Noble, 1937. (JF541 .B8)

Cholik, Clare. *Bicameral vs. Unicameral Legislatures*. (Legislative Research Council Issue Memorandum 98-03) Pierre, SD: South Dakota Legislature. State Legislative Research Council, 1998. (JF541 .C56 1998)

Grau, Craig and Dale Olson. *The Unicameral Option*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, 1986 (JF541 .G72 1986)

Johnson, Alvin. W. *The Unicameral Legislature*. Minneapolis: The University of Minnesota Press, 1938. (JF541.J6)

Sittig, Robert. *The Nebraska Unicameral after Fifty Years*. Lincoln, NE: University of Nebraska, Department of Political Science, April, 1986. (JK6666.S48 1986)

Reynolds, Arthur. *How Many Houses? : A Discussion of the Merits of Unicameralism for the Minnesota Legislature*. (A Report for the Minnesota Constitutional Study Commission, Legislative Branch Committee and Professor Charles Backstrom, Department of Political Science, University of Minnesota.) St. Paul: Minnesota Constitutional Study Commission, 1972. (JF541 .R49 1972)

Summers, Harrison Boyd. *Unicameralism in Practice: The Nebraska Legislative System*. New York: The H.W. Wilson Company, 1937. (JK6667.1937.S8)

Todd, Tom. *The Minnesota Legislature: Proposals to Change its Size and Structure* ([HTML Version](#)) ([PDF Version](#)) St. Paul: Minnesota Legislature, House Research Department, August, 1999. (JK6171 .T63 1999)

Todd, Tom. *Nebraska's Unicameral Legislature* ([HTML Version](#)) ([PDF Version](#)) St. Paul: Minnesota Legislature, House Research Department, January, 1998. (JK6666 .T63 1998)

Todd, Tom. *Unicameral or Bicameral State Legislatures: The Policy Debate* ([HTML Version](#)) ([PDF Version](#)) St. Paul: Minnesota Legislature, House Research Department, August, 1999. (JF541 .T63 1998)

Unicameral Legislatures Versus Bicameral Legislatures. Lansing, MI: Michigan Legislative Service Bureau, Legislative Research Division, 1993. (JF541 .M53 1993)

SELECTED ARTICLES:

Todd, Tom. "Nebraska's Unicameral Legislature: A Description and Some Comparisons with Minnesota's Bicameral Legislature," *Journal of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries*, Vol, 4, No. 1, Spring, 1998, p. 15-27.

Wunnicke, Pat. "Fifty Years Without a Conference Committee," *State Legislatures*, October, 1987, p. 20-23.

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION:

Codes for the Library newspaper clipping files and the Vertical File: L60.118.

For additional articles, check the following Inside Issues headings: Legislatures

For additional reports, use the following terms in PALS, the on-line catalog:

Use the keywords 'unicameral' and 'unicameralism' for the most precise searches.

Tribune of the People by Royce Hanson, Univ. of MN Press (available at the library). An in depth study of MN legislature and recommendations for reform including unicameral legislature.



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS

M I N N E S O T A

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

Date: November 23, 1999
To: Local League Presidents
From: Kay Erickson, Unicameral Committee Chair
Re: Attached

Attached is a discussion guide prepared by the Unicameral Legislature Study Committee of the League of Women Voters of Michigan in 1994.

We enclose the guide for your information.



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS

M I C H I G A N

EDUCATING AND ADVOCATING FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

DATE: January 28, 1994
TO: Local League Presidents
FROM: Unicameral Legislature Study Committee

Why is LWVMI conducting a consensus on a Unicameral Legislature? A 1989 study by the Hubert Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota examined the Minnesota Legislature to consider ways of strengthening it. The study, presented in the publication "Tribune of the People: The Minnesota Legislature and Its Leadership," reports that a number of legislators and private citizens have wondered if a bicameral Legislature is good enough. The complexity of issues has increased. The level of public controversy about policy alternatives has also grown. Opinion polls show a loss of public respect for government generally, and state Legislatures are even less well regarded than other institutions. The study reports that in some respects these trends reflect the broader national disillusionment with government following the Vietnam and Watergate debacles. But they also raise troubling and fundamental questions about the capacity of democratic institutions to adapt to new circumstances and to find effective and acceptable ways of resolving public issues. Similar questions have been raised in Michigan, and various proposals to improve the legislative process have been presented, including proposals for a unicameral Legislature.

It is against this backdrop that LWVMI, at its 1993 Convention, approved a study on a Unicameral Legislature for Michigan. The study committee, after reviewing a number of reference sources on the topic, agreed with "Tribune of the People" that standards against which legislative performance can be judged are based in political theory and historical practice. They are debatable, not strictly measurable. Therefore, the Study Guide does not include information such as number of staff or the percentage of bills enacted or cost.

We are pleased to enclose the following documents for the LWVMI consensus on a Unicameral Legislature in Michigan:

- The consensus questions.
- A Study Guide to focus your League's discussion. The Study Guide provides background information, a summary of the major arguments related to each part of the consensus questions, and selected quotations from others who have studied the issue. The selected quotations flesh out the summary arguments and are an important part of the Study Guide.



The consensus questions and Study Guide should be made available to all League members participating in the consensus process.

Also enclosed are several articles on unicameralism to be used as resource materials by your discussion leaders:

- "The Unicameral Option," Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, March 1986.
- Essays on Unicameralism, National Municipal League: "Unicameralism," League of Women Voters of New Jersey, circa 1970.
- "Government in Florida," Study and Action 1993-1995, League of Women Voters of Florida.
- "A Look at Your Unicameral," Patrick J. O'Donnell, Clerk of the Nebraska Legislature.
- "Up to Now," League of Women Voters of Missouri, May 1954.

Responses from local Leagues on the Unicameral consensus questions are due in the State office by May 1.

If you have questions or need further information, please call Pat Donath or E. J. Buss (see attached list of addresses and phone numbers).

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MICHIGAN

Study Guide for Consensus Questions on a Unicameral Legislature in Michigan

January 20, 1994

Of the 50 Legislatures in the United States, only Nebraska's is unicameral. Because of this fact, and because there are demographic and other differences between Nebraska and Michigan, this Study Guide focuses on the philosophical arguments related to unicameralism rather than on empirical data. It provides background information, a summary of the major arguments related to each part of the consensus questions on a unicameral Legislature in Michigan, selected quotations from others who have studied the issue, and a bibliography. The summary arguments and background information have been paraphrased but draw extensively from the resource materials provided, especially the Humphrey Institute and the Nebraska documents. Because we are not studying the entire issue of the legislative process in Michigan, we have adapted the criteria of LWVUS for the U. S. Congress reached by consensus at the national level (see page 9) into the LWVMI consensus questions.

Background Information on Unicameral Legislature

Delegates at the 1787 Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia wrestled with the question of how to organize the legislative branch for our new nation. The Articles of Confederation, which preceded the U. S. Constitution, had provided for a one-house national Legislature but leading political theorists, including John Adams, advocated bicameralism. Edmund Randolph proposed what became known as the Virginia Plan which included a two-house Legislature based on the number of free inhabitants. The New Jersey Plan proposed a one-house Legislature with equal representation from each state. A compromise put forward by Connecticut proposed a two-house Legislature with one house based on population and the other on equal representation from each state. This compromise allowed both large and small states to obtain some of what each sought and broke the deadlock at the national level.

At the state level, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Vermont at one time had single-house Legislatures. However, since 1835 the national pattern of a two-house legislature was adopted without exception until 1934 when Nebraska, after 75 years of following the traditional pattern, adopted a unicameral legislature. No other state has followed suit, although many have considered it.

According to a publication authored by the Clerk of the Nebraska Legislature, political observers have suggested several reasons for the establishment of Nebraska's unicameral system. The vigorous leadership of U. S. Senator George W. Norris was a strong factor. Economics was also a factor. Nebraska was caught in the grips of the Great Depression and suffering from a serious drought as well. Costs of state government were considered a burden. Along with the unicameral amendment were two highly popular proposed amendments: local option on prohibition and legalized parimutuel betting. The popularity of these other issues might have helped carry the unicameral issue.

Many cities, especially in the East, originally followed the national model with a bicameral city council but changed to a single-house council by the early 1900s. By 1986, only Everett, Massachusetts, retained a bicameral city council, according to a study issued by the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota.

Michigan's Legislature, like that of many states, was organized on the principle of one house based on population and the other on equal representation for geographic areas. In 1964, in Reynolds v Sims the U. S. Supreme Court ruled that, unlike the national government, state legislatures had to have legislative districts in both houses based on population. In keeping with that decision, since 1964 Michigan Senate districts (as well as House districts) have been apportioned based on population.

In Michigan, there have been various calls for a unicameral Legislature. At the Michigan Constitutional Convention in 1962, then Senator Harold Miller helped draft a minority platform supporting a unicameral Legislature. In 1971 (after the U. S. Supreme Court "one person, one vote" decision in Reynolds v Sims), Representative Joseph Swallow of Alpena led an effort in support of a unicameral Legislature. In 1993, two groups were actively discussing petition drives to place a proposal for a unicameral Legislature on the ballot, possibly in 1994. As of January 1994, the Cut Excess State Government Committee had started circulating petitions but abandoned that effort in favor of a Constitutional Convention. A group originally led by the late Zolton Ferency, a Michigan State University professor and political activist, has been reactivated by his nephew, Jim Ferency, and has received approval from the Secretary of State for the form of a petition to place the unicameral issue on the ballot. Two Michigan legislators, Representative Jerry Vorva and Representative Richard Bandstra, have also expressed interest in a unicameral proposal.

Summary Arguments on Unicameral Consensus Questions

Question 1-A: Accountable means the actions of members are visible and members are held responsible for their actions and decisions.

Unicameral: In a unicameral body, legislators' positions and voting records are more clear and more readily ascertainable. Legislators cannot advocate a position in one chamber while encouraging colleagues in the other chamber to do the opposite. The one-house Legislature makes it easier for constituents to be informed on the positions and actions of their legislator.

Bicameral: Charges of buck-passing in a bicameral system are exaggerated. Positions and voting records are a matter of public record, and the media as well as numerous interest groups keep the public informed. A legislator who continually fails to be accountable would not be reelected.

Question 1-B: Open means the general public is able to understand the legislative process and to access the process with a minimum of institutional barriers. The Legislature is characterized by deliberations and debate which indicate diversity of opinion.

Unicameral: The process is more direct in a one-house Legislature, and the unicameral form simplifies bill passage. It is easier for the public to follow a bill through the process and hence to participate in the process. Further, a unicameral system ends the conference committee which has extensive powers to resolve differences between the two houses and which frequently does so in a manner not easily accessible to the public. Diversity of opinion is provided by the greater opportunity for public participation in the simplified process.

Bicameral: A bicameral Legislature provides for more careful and deliberate consideration of legislation. Committee meetings and floor sessions in two houses provide twice the opportunity for public participation. Special interests, hidden from public view, can more easily promote desired legislation where control is needed in only one house. In a bicameral Legislature, each citizen has two legislators he or she may contact, making access easier.

Question 1-C: Representative means the Legislature has leaders, committees, and members who represent the state as a whole as well as their own districts. There is diversity in the Legislative membership.

Unicameral: The rationale for creating two houses was that one house was based on population and the other on equal representation for geographic areas. However, that

rationale has been negated by the U. S. Supreme Court ruling (Reynolds v Sims, 1964) that all state legislative districts must be based on population. Having leaders and members who represent the state as a whole as well as their own districts is related to accountability and responsibility, both of which would be enhanced by a unicameral system.

Bicameral: Having two houses, each with different district lines, provides greater diversity and more representativeness in the Legislature. Members of the two houses bring different perspectives and experiences to the debate. There is greater opportunity for religious, ethnic, racial, and gender diversity in a bicameral system. Leaders would be drawn from a more diverse pool of legislators.

Question 1-D: *Decision-Making Capability* means the Legislature has the knowledge, resources, and capability to respond to emerging needs, to resolve complex issues, and to make decisions that reconcile conflicting interests and priorities. The Legislature has the benefit of professional staff research and has procedures to insure adequate legislative debate and public response.

Unicameral: Adequate legislative debate and public response can be better assured by procedural methods than by an outdated two-house system. A one-house system simplifies and streamlines the process of passing a bill, making it easier to reconcile conflicting interests and priorities and to devote energies to responding to emerging needs and resolving complex issues. Further, a unicameral system would facilitate resolution of complex issues by means of the greater visibility of individual legislators' actions and by its greater accountability.

Bicameral: The need for action by both houses insures mature and deliberate debate, allows greater public participation, and prevents bills from being quickly passed under the sway of emotion. The existence of two houses means members bring a broader knowledge base and receive the benefit of research and analysis by the professional staff of both houses. Discussions and negotiations between the two houses provide a mechanism for reconciling conflicting interests and priorities. There is greater participation in debate and in resolution of complex issues.

Question 1-E: *Efficient* means the Legislature is able to function with a minimum of conflict, wasted time, and duplication of effort.

Unicameral: A two-house system inherently has much wasted time and duplication of effort that would be streamlined and simplified with a unicameral Legislature. Conflict between the two houses would be eliminated and debate would focus on problem resolution.

Bicameral: The checks and balances and differing perspectives present in a bicameral system are an important part of participative government, and are not merely wasted time or duplication of effort. Further, conflict can be an important aspect of reaching quality decisions.

Question 1-F: *Cost Effective* means the Legislature makes good use of the tax dollars that fund its activities, and that value is received for funds expended.

Unicameral: A single-house system is inherently more cost effective because there would presumably be fewer members and fewer personal staff as well as fewer committee staff, and less need for support services and costs such as printing, travel, and office space.

Bicameral: Ill-considered legislation, due to lack of deliberate consideration by two houses, can cost the taxpayers far more than the relatively small operational cost of a bicameral Legislature. Further, good government cannot be measured in terms of cost.

Question 2: *Does your League support a unicameral Legislature for Michigan?*
Your League's response to this question should be based on an overall conclusion as a result of your discussion on the parts of Question 1. Your response should not be simply a tallying of the responses in Question 1.

Unicameral: Bicameralism is an outdated system whose major rationale (each house apportioned on a different basis) has been negated by the U. S. Supreme Court in Reynolds v Sims. The system made sense when communications were slow and more remote areas might not have had access to information on pending actions. With today's technology, information on legislative actions is available almost instantly. The checks and balances argument overlooks the fact that our system of government provides checks and balances among the three branches of government, not within a branch. The veto power of the Governor is a far more effective check than a bicameral legislative system. In short, a unicameral system is less expensive, clearer, simpler, more accessible, and more responsible than a bicameral one.

Bicameral: A bicameral system insures mature and deliberate consideration of legislative proposals and prevents bills from being quickly passed under the sway of emotion. A bicameral system is more effective because it provides a broader range of perspectives and experiences, due to the different composition of house and senate districts. It brings broader knowledge, more resources, and greater capability to the legislative process because of professional staff analyses, committee hearings, and debates in both houses. There is greater likelihood for diversity among the legislative membership. Further, cost arguments overlook the fact that ill-considered legislation, due to lack of deliberate consideration by two houses, can cost the taxpayers far more than the relatively small operational cost of a bicameral Legislature.

Selected Quotations on Unicameralism vs Bicameralism

- The important questions about the legislature as an institution of governance are ones with debatable, not strictly measurable, answers. Are the people well represented? Does the legislature provide adequately for deliberation of important matters and does it make reasonable choices among policy options? Are its decisions accepted by the public, and significant divisions of the public, as legitimate? Has it prudently raised revenues and allocated the resources of the state? Does it adequately hold state officials and agencies accountable for their performance...? Is it possible for the public to hold the legislature as an institution, and its individual members, accountable for their performance? Does it operate so as to ensure that government deals fairly with citizens? These questions go to the essence of the legislative function....*"Tribune of the People: The Minnesota Legislature and Its Leadership," by Royce Hanson.*
- An important reason for creating a differently constituted upper house to place a check on the more popularly elected chamber was that few of the states gave their governors the right to veto legislation. . . . Thus the power to check the popular will was given to a second legislative chamber. Those states which had single-house legislatures generally changed to bicameralism in order to place such a check on the "masses." *Essays on Unicameralism, National Municipal League: "The Need for Unicameralism," by William J. D. Boyd, circa 1970.*
- We do not believe that the concept of bicameralism is rendered anachronistic and meaningless when the predominant basis of representation in the two state legislative bodies is required to be the same—population. A prime reason for bicameralism, modernly considered, is to insure mature and deliberate consideration of, and to prevent precipitate action on, proposed legislative measures. *Chief Justice Earl Warren, writing in the Reynolds v Sims decision, 1964.*
- From the voter's perspective, a one-house legislature and the role of each member in it should be easier to comprehend. One house should make it easier for the media to cover than two and the average citizen should find it easier to follow the legislative process and pinpoint legislative responsibility. *"The Unicameral Option," Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, March 1986.*
- The reason bicameral legislatures have been around so long and why there are so many of them is because they work moderately well. No system is perfect. In most states, the bicameral legislative system does work well enough so that a switch to a unicameral legislature would represent serious, substantive, structural reform that might perhaps be achieved in other ways, such as legislatively. *The Nebraska Unicameral after Fifty Years, by Robert Sittig, professor of political science, University of Nebraska, April 1986.*

- It is interesting to note that a century ago nearly all the large American cities had two-house governing bodies, while today there is not a single large city which retains this plan. Nor would any of them give up their single chambers to return to the more cumbersome form of two houses. *"Up to Now," League of Women Voters of Missouri, May 1954.*
- In states with a strong two-party system, which party controls the two houses of the legislature has more to do with whether they will act as a check upon each other than the fact that there are two different houses. *Essays on Unicameralism, National Municipal League: "Unicameralism," League of Women Voters of New Jersey, circa 1970.*
- To say that the legislative process under the two-house system is slow and unwieldy is to compare it with a theoretical standard of unicameralism. There is little actual experience with one-house systems in the United States; Nebraska has operated under a unicameral since 1937. Others, like Pennsylvania, Georgia, and Vermont, once with single chambers, abandoned the system for their present two-house legislatures more than a hundred years ago. Nor do unicameral legislatures in the sparsely-populated Canadian provinces or unicameral bodies in municipalities with dense population in limited areas offer good analogies. More significant evidence based on facts is necessary before the theory that a unicameral system is a better system is established. As it appears now, the claimed benefits of unicameralism as a form of state government remain largely unsupported statements rather than substantiated facts. *League of Women Voters of Missouri, op. cit.*
- We should be careful not to equate speed with good performance. *League of Women Voters of New Jersey, op. cit.*
- A committee of the American Political Science Association found ... that the widely accepted belief that the second house provides an independent and thorough review of bills passed by the other house has been disproved many times. Bills are often received too late in the session in the second house for serious consideration. Some bills are passed in one house without much consideration on the assumption that they will receive more in the second house, and then do not. Some bills are introduced and passed in one house in the expectation that they will be killed in the second. Non-controversial bills are often enacted without much consideration by either house and are sometimes poorly drawn. A reading of veto messages will reveal that many bills passed by both houses have many purely technical errors. Observers of the New Jersey Legislature would probably agree to this as an accurate description of what happens there. *League of Women Voters of New Jersey, op. cit.*

- There is no legislative structure that will eliminate lobbying, nor is this necessarily desirable. However, proponents of unicameralism argue that the openness of one-house proceedings make the activities of lobbyists more obvious. It is suggested that the many steps bills must pass through in two houses increase the opportunities for special interests to exert pressure. On the other hand, defenders of bicameralism suggest it would be easier for lobbies to have only one house to influence. *League of Women Voters of New Jersey, op. cit.*
- Perhaps the most convincing argument is that a one-house legislature would end the use of conference committees. Jesse Unruh, long a power in the California legislature, has observed California conference activity and commented that "...the final bill may well be written in a free-conference committee of six members to resolve the disputes between the houses, or do whatever else comes to their minds." In all the bicameral states, the conference committees have almost unlimited powers to change the bills which they consider and resolve. *Humphrey Institute, op. cit.*
- Any legislator can tell you of the time--and money--wasted on legislation everyone knows is trivial, which is deliberately introduced with the full knowledge that it will never become law. A single house would stop such negative aspects of the present system and the buck-passing between the houses that keeps the public confused as to where the responsibility lies. It would also stop the highly questionable practice of passing a vast amount of legislation in the last forty-eight hours of a session, when each house hastily passes large numbers of bills previously enacted by the other chamber. *Boyd, op. cit.*
- The League favors the bicameral system because it is familiar, politically feasible and, with staggered and longer terms for senators, offers the advantages of continuity and dual consideration of laws. It would not oppose a unicameral legislature. "Illinois Voter," *League of Women Voters of Illinois, March 1970.*
- After lively and extensive debate in 1968-70, fully two-thirds of League's membership decided that a unicameral system was superior to a bicameral one in efficiency, economy, simplification of procedures, and the pinpointing of responsibility. Other reasons considered were that the concentration of responsibility caused legislators to do a better job, that better qualified people were likely to run for office because of the added prestige of the position, that buck-passing would be minimized with the elimination of one house; that public knowledge of legislative actions would be better, and that the conference committee and its attendant abuses would be eliminated. *Government in Florida, Study and Action 1993-1995, Florida League of Women Voters.*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

Excerpts from Government Position

Government

Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive; that has a fair and adequate fiscal basis; that protects individual liberties established by the Constitution; that assures opportunities for citizen participation in government decision making; that provides sound agriculture policies; and that preserves public health and safety through gun control measures.

The League's Position on Congress Announced by National Board April 1972 and Revised March 1982

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that structures and practices of the U. S. Congress must be characterized by openness, accountability, representativeness, decision-making capability and effective performance. Responsive legislative processes must meet these criteria:

ACCOUNTABILITY. A Congress responsive to citizens and able to hold its own leaders, committees and members responsible for their actions and decisions.

REPRESENTATIVENESS. A Congress whose leaders, committees and members represent the nation as a whole, as well as their own districts and states.

DECISION-MAKING CAPABILITY. A Congress with the knowledge, resources and power to make decisions that meet national needs and reconcile conflicting interests and priorities.

EFFECTIVE PERFORMANCE. A Congress able to function in an efficient manner with a minimum of conflict, wasted time and duplication of effort.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MICHIGAN

Unicameral Consensus

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League of Women Voters of Michigan
Unicameral Legislature Consensus Questions
January 20, 1994

1. Would a unicameral legislative system make the Legislature more:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Not Necessarily</u>
A. Accountable	_____	_____	_____
B. Open	_____	_____	_____
C. Representative	_____	_____	_____
D. Effective in its Decision-Making	_____	_____	_____
E. Efficient	_____	_____	_____
F. Cost Effective	_____	_____	_____

2. Does your League support a
Unicameral Legislature for Michigan?

Comment and rationale: _____

Submitted by LWV _____

Please return your League's consensus response by May 1.

A GUIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Members are the life-blood of the League of Women Voters. Without members we cannot establish or accomplish our goals, and we cease to exist. And so the careful recruitment and management of the League's members should not be left to chance or addressed in a haphazard fashion. Next to the president, the membership chair and committee play the most critical role in fostering the health of the organization. (If your League does not have a membership chair, your board will need to cover the most critical tasks.)

This guide is divided into three sections, Getting Organized, The Membership Campaign, and the Appendix. It is designed to cover all of the basic concerns of the membership chair, and to supply you with specific ideas and suggestions for dealing with common tasks and problems. Please take these suggestions and adapt them to your League, your community and your resources.

GETTING ORGANIZED

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Whether your local League is large or small, membership concerns are too important to limit planning, goal-setting and execution of the plans to a single individual. Try to recruit a mix of people in age, experience, geography, working/at home, and from all units. These people will work with the membership program throughout the year, knowing that some months will be busier than others.

THE GOAL OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: To build and maintain a healthy League in your community by attracting and involving members.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE TASKS:

- Keeping membership concerns before the local League board all year long
- Recruitment of new members
- Orientation and assimilation of new members
- Retention of current members - encouraging involvement
- Record-keeping and reporting
- Evaluation and goal-setting for the future

TOOLS TO HELP YOU DO THE JOB RIGHT

First, thoroughly familiarize yourselves with this guide! It covers the basics of what a local League membership committee needs to know and do to be successful.

Second, your **State League Board** is a valuable and accessible resource. These people are experienced members who are committed to maintaining a strong and effective League. They want to help you solve problems and maximize your efforts. They are only a telephone call or letter away. Check the board directory or call the LWVMN office at 612/224-5445.

Third, other materials which specifically address membership concerns are:

In League - basic handbook for all League leaders (LWVUS, #275, \$6)

Membership cards (LWVUS, #277, free)

Join Us Now - new LWVUS membership brochure (free)

Membership Video (#1) for prospective and new members (free from LWVUS)

Membership Resource Packet - (free from LWVUS)

Make A Difference (LWVUS Membership brochure, \$.30 each)

Something Special - The League and You, VHS videotape, membership and recruitment tool (LWVMN owned, available on loan)

INVOLVING THE BOARD

A healthy membership picture must be a primary concern of every League. Concern for building and sustaining a healthy membership must, in turn, find its focus within the local League board.

THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR AND THE BOARD

1. The entire board is responsible for overall policy decisions such as:
 - Setting membership goals for the year
 - Providing an adequate budget for the committee
 - Scheduling membership events in the League calendar
 - Considering the impact of the year's program and activities on the recruitment and retention of members.

The membership chair should seek the board's input and support in these areas. Ask the president for time on the agenda to address these concerns at the appropriate times of the year.

2. You are the members' advocate on your local League board. When decisions are being made, or policies are being established, raise questions about their impact on the ordinary member and the influence they might have on recruitment and/or retention of members.
3. Remind board members often of their responsibility to mix with all members and seek out new ones, as well as visitors, at general and unit meetings, **making everyone feel welcome**.
4. Another job of the membership chair is to provide the board with names of new members to serve on committees, to help with meetings, projects, studies, etc.

EDUCATING THE BOARD TO "THINK MEMBERSHIP"

Every portfolio is related to the task of getting and keeping members. Ask your president to discuss this important topic as part of board orientation. See "Total Board Emphasis on Membership" in the Appendix.

A MEMBERSHIP FOCUS FOR CALENDAR PLANNING

1. Include dates for recruitment-related activities. (Don't surround these with so many other League activities that your members will feel burned out by trying to attend everything.) Consider spring recruitment as well as the more traditional later summer - fall emphasis.
2. Hold September and/or October meetings on high-interest topics - sure to attract old and new members alike, and providing a great League showcase for prospects who haven't yet signed on the dotted line.
3. Encourage the board to incorporate some fun and time for sociability into the year's activities. It is League-like to have fun; it satisfies an important need for many of your members!

SETTING GOALS - A PARTNERSHIP OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE AND BOARD

1. First, the membership committee needs to gather data on membership composition at present and over the last three to four years.
2. Present your data to the board as a tool for evaluation of the current membership picture and of trends emerging over the last few years.
3. Ask the board to work with you in setting specific, realistic membership goals for the coming year. You might target a particular "underrepresented" group that has been identified through your evaluation data. Don't ignore people already represented. They are more likely prospects. Request that the board discuss specific ways that they can assist and support the membership committee in attaining those goals.
4. If you're not sure where the specific problems might lie but know that your membership picture needs brightening, ask your board to respond to "Locking out Members - Present and Potential" in the Appendix.

ENCOURAGING FLEXIBILITY AND OPENNESS TO NEW IDEAS ON THE BOARD

Local Leagues which have been most successful in turning around a membership slump are the ones which were able to throw out the book of "shoulds"; then they concentrated on flexibility and practicality in establishing a new course of action. They are willing to set aside the "we've always done it this way" mind-set and look hard at every new idea someone generated on its own merits.

KEEPING EVERYONE INFORMED

COMMUNICATING WITHIN YOUR LOCAL LEAGUE: Good communication between the membership committee and the board is essential in order to avoid serious slip-ups, assure good servicing of your members and encouraging an open exchange of ideas. Keep the local board, especially the president, treasurer and bulletin editor informed of your plans. If your League has a unit chair or calling committee, contact them so new members may be made to feel welcome.

RECORD KEEPING

Keeping good records from year to year and passing them on to successive committees avoids reinventing the wheel. If you update your records faithfully and periodically, you won't be faced with an overwhelming pile of paperwork and sketchy memory on some distant day! If these kinds of files don't currently exist, now is the time to start them.

1. One essential component of your records should be a system for keeping track of **potential members**. This could be a card file or notebook or it could be done on a computer. It could contain data such as:

Name	Date
Address	Phone
Contacted initially on	(date)
Started receiving bulletin	(date)
Attended meeting on	(date)
Follow-up telephone call	(date)
Recommended by: _____	Friend of: _____
Other comments:	

You will need to decide when it is no longer practical to keep a potential member's name in your file based on your criteria. One rule of thumb is to drop the prospect from your file if s/he has been contacted for two years and has shown no apparent interest in joining.

2. Another section could be for each **current member**:

Name	Date joined
Address	Phone
Occupation, job experience	
Non-League affiliations	
Talents	
League participation (list jobs & dates)	
League jobs declined and reasons	
Recommended by: _____	Friend of: _____

3. You might wish to add a third section with cards for drop-outs, where you note reasons for dropping. In some cases, these people might want to consider rejoining at a later date. The Appendix includes a sample letter you might adapt to your local needs for this purpose.

COMMUNICATING WITH THE STATE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

Several categories of information need to be sent to the state and national Leagues. Who sends it (president, treasurer or membership chair) is not so important, but before sending the information, it's essential that your records and the treasurer's are in agreement. Providing these records accurately and promptly allows state and national to better serve your members. .

1. Monthly notices should be sent to state and national of:

- new members
- transfers
- change of address
- resignations.

Always include full addresses, including zip codes and phone numbers, and for transfers, provide the new address if available.

2. Your local League will receive quarterly computer printouts of its members from LWVUS. That printout should be reviewed and corrected promptly. Return one copy to LWVUS and send one copy to the state League.

Sometimes you will receive a notice from state or national of a transfer or Member-at-Large (MAL) in your area. It is then your responsibility to make contact and invite that member to participate in the activities of your local League. If you're effective in doing this, you'll have another new dues-paying member when the next year rolls around!

State and national are available to assist you when you need help. Both have files filled with useful information. They also can offer individual assistance from highly experienced board members and staff. But that can only happen if you speak up! They are both a letter or phone call away:

LWVMN
550 Rice Street
St. Paul, MN 55103
612/224-5445

LWVUS
1730 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
202/429-1965

WRAPPING UP

Any serious undertaking worthy of your time and effort deserves to be evaluated when it is completed. Evaluation brings you full circle, as you look at the goals and objectives established nearly one year ago, the plans and activities designed to flesh them out, and the final results of all of those elements. It is a time to objectively examine both successes and short-comings, so you can plan effectively for the coming year.

The evaluation process should involve both board and membership committee to be most productive. These are some areas for discussion **before you draw conclusions and formulate recommendations** for the next year. Consider:

1. Current data on membership, which you can compare with data from recent years (if you have it in your files) to identify trends:
 - number of members (numbers in each membership dues category if you have more than one)
 - demographics of the group
 - retention and resignation data
 - member participation;
2. Elements of this year's program:
 - recruitment event(s) and follow-up
 - retention efforts
 - orientation
 - board involvement and support
 - goals and priorities.

Remember that the point of this evaluation process is to get your local League off to a healthy start in terms of membership in the coming year, while hopefully avoiding past pitfalls and reinventing the wheel.

And when it's all said and done, make it a priority to give yourselves a well-earned pat on the back. Knowing that you gave the job your best shot, it's important to allow yourselves to identify your successes - whether large or small - and feel satisfaction for seeing the tasks through to completion.

TAKE A BOW!

MEMBERSHIP CALENDAR

Membership is a year-round job! You can't just blitz it with a few intense weeks of planning for, and execution of, a membership recruitment event in September.

This calendar is a plan for possible membership activities. Not everything may apply directly, and you may need to change the timing to fit the way your local League does things, but it's meant to provide a framework and a reminder of what the basics are.

May

- ___ Meet with previous chair if you are new on the job. Ask about evaluation of last year's program, analysis of membership picture as well as "nuts and bolts" matters.
- ___ Recruit a committee to help you.
- ___ Ask for input from your board on membership goals for the year - both recruitment and retention.
- ___ Renew current members! An eroded base means more new members you have to get.
- ___ Start a list of prospects with help from all members. (See Rochester plan in the Appendix.)
- ___ Set up permanent record file system or update present system.

Summer Months

- ___ Meet with your committee. Agree on membership goals, tasks, and assignments. You'll need to consider:
 - List of prospects
 - Specific activities, including a major recruitment event in the fall
 - Gaining the support of other board members
 - Involving the total membership
 - Follow-up through personal contact with prospects
 - Orientation of new members.
- ___ With the board:
 - Adopt specific membership goals. Present committee plans to board for discussion and approval.
 - Order state and national membership materials, if desired.
 - Enlist help of the PR chair to publicize membership opportunities.
 - Add to your list of prospects.
 - Consider holding informal neighborhood or target group recruiting sessions - most people join because they are invited by someone they know.
 - Decide who will distribute board and membership lists to members.

August/September

- ___ Tell members about recruitment plans. Let them know what kind of help you need from them. Encourage them to bring guests to meetings all year.
- ___ Issue invitations to recruitment events.
- ___ Hold recruitment event. Don't forget to ask "The Question": Will you join?
- ___ Remind unrenewed members to pay dues. Retention is essential to your program. (Give a prize for all who renew by a certain date.)
- ___ Ask the editor to send bulletins to prospects for several months.
- ___ Publish a membership roster for members and board.
- ___ Ask the president to set up clear lines of communication among him/herself, you, the treasurer, unit chairs and bulletin editor to assure that new members are quickly assimilated into the activities of your League according to their desired level of involvement.
- ___ Decide who will be responsible for collecting dues, making follow-up calls to members, and sending reports to state and national.

October

- ___ Invite new members to an orientation meeting - make it fun and informative, not overwhelming!
- ___ Assign mentors to new members - a personal contact throughout the year.

- ___ Survey the interests and talents of all members; see to it that someone follows through and asks each to do what s/he volunteered to do during the year. Voter Service activities are a great place to involve new members. Make sure to follow up!
- ___ Follow up on **all** unrecruited prospects with personal contact!
- ___ Report to membership and board on progress of membership drive.

November

- ___ Publish a new roster for your members.
- ___ Remind board members of their responsibility to involve new members.
- ___ Spotlight new members in your bulletin, each month or all at once.
- ___ Don't give up on likely prospects - some need a lot of prodding!
- ___ Make sure new members are getting state and national Voters and study publications. (LWVUS, 202/429-1965; LWVMN, 612/224-5445)

December

- ___ Hold a holiday party - try a reunion, with special invitations to former members.
- ___ Send your membership list to the state office.
- ___ Mop-up time on renewals and prospects.
- ___ Take a break for the holidays - you've earned one!
- ___ Submit membership count to the national and state offices. Meet with treasurer to be sure your count matches.

January

- ___ If winter is getting long, encourage the planning of a social event to help old and new members get better acquainted.
- ___ Check with new members to see how they're feeling about League. Send satisfaction questionnaire (see Appendix).
- ___ Alert the budget committee to monetary needs of the membership committee for the coming year.
- ___ Review progress on membership work to date; revise plans if necessary.
- ___ Update the board.
- ___ Call attention to the importance of a strong local study as a valuable membership recruitment tool.

February

- ___ Consider whether or not you want to plan any formal spring recruitment activities.
- ___ Share pertinent information with the nominating committee about members' interests and talents.
- ___ Are there any proposals for bylaw changes that will aid in recruiting and/or retaining members?

March

- ___ Prepare report of year's activities and results for file and/or Annual Report.

April

- ___ Issue special invitation (via mentor?) to new members for Annual Meeting.
- ___ Plan recognition of new members at Annual Meeting.
- ___ Evaluate the year's goals, tasks, successes, problems with committee and board.
- ___ Decide how members attending Annual Meeting can help with next year's membership plans/tasks.
- ___ Promote renewing membership at Annual Meeting. Be prepared to collect dues.
- ___ Clean out and update your files.
- ___ Pat yourself on the back - then your committee and Board!

Each month

- ___ Send names of adds/drops to state and national.
- ___ Encourage publicity chair to send information on meetings/programs to specific non-member groups and media.

HOW TO PLAN A MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

1. Review last year's membership efforts and statistics.
2. Set your goal. It should be ambitious but reachable.
3. Know your membership. Review the groups that constitute your membership (age, interests, etc.). This will tell you who you attract now and who you are not reaching.
4. Target a new population for membership. Be specific and tailor your materials and distribution to attract them.
5. Define what you are trying to sell. Design the publicity and activities to reflect what you want to emphasize: opportunities for learning without previous experience or background, community involvement, friendship and fun, outstanding publications, networking, your study for the year, personal development, political skills and awareness.

THE MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

6. Your campaign could include:
 - A survey of members
 - A major membership event(s)
 - Membership materials - brochure, new member information, flyers, letters, etc.
 - Publicity plan for each activity
 - New member orientation
 - Plans to retain present members
 - Evaluation
7. Discuss the plan with your board to solicit their approval and suggestions. Decide on a budget.
8. Enlist the support and participation of your current members:
 - Share the membership goals with all members and ask for their help. They are a good source of names of prospective members. (See the Appendix to learn how the LWV-Rochester gathered the names of prospective members from their current membership.)
 - Urge them to attend recruitment events and share their League experiences with potential members.

- Teach them to tell prospective members they would be glad to take their membership check and pass it on to the treasurer.
 - Offer incentives - a year's free membership for those who bring in five new members, for instance.
9. Organize the campaign: Appoint a coordinator for each activity, set up committees, assign responsibilities, determine a timeline.
 10. Evaluate each activity.

Remember that the IRS requires that any solicitation for contributions, including membership dues, must contain a conspicuous and easily recognizable statement that contributions to the organization are not tax deductible. In soliciting funds you must state their non-deductibility clearly and in a place where it will be noticed by the recipient. Sample wording: contributions to the LWV of _____, or dues for membership in the LWV of _____, are not deductible for income tax purposes.

As you decide on the kinds of activities you will plan for your League, you need to understand why people join the League. Recent surveys indicate most people join the League because:

1. They like League people - intelligent, friendly and community-minded.
2. They want to know more about their community and state. They cannot follow what is going on in state and national legislatures and feel powerless to affect any change in legislative direction.
3. They want to make a difference in society. They want to make their community and state a better place - something they can be proud of.
4. They want to make contacts with people in power - political figures, community leaders, etc.
(LWV-Illinois)

HOW TO FIND NEW MEMBERS

3. Another initial approach is to send a letter to a prospect first, and mention that you'll be calling soon. Naturally, you need to follow through promptly.
4. If you have no special recruitment event in the near future and/or if the individual approach seems best suited to the situation, arrange to have coffee with a prospect.
5. Ask the bulletin editor to send the bulletin to all prospective members for three or four months. Encourage the editor, on a regular basis, to avoid League "jargon" and first name only references in the newsletter.
6. Arrange for interested prospects to attend some kind of League meeting or activity in order to meet other members and experience first-hand what we are all about. Offer a ride from a member and be sure that someone will specifically be watching for the guest, to make her/him feel welcome at the event. If child care is provided, be sure to make that known, too.
7. Don't forget to make a point of asking THE QUESTION - "Will you join?" or "May I take your check?" Actually, it can be downright puzzling to a prospect if you take time to tell her/him about the League and then don't ask the question. Remember that you are selling a terrific product - one loaded with desirable features for members. You're offering an opportunity.
8. Make the League easy to join! Remind all of your members to take advantage of recruitment opportunities as they occur. Make membership brochures available for members to give to friends and acquaintances. They should understand that when someone indicates an interest in joining the League, their immediate response should be, "I can take your check now and forward it to our treasurer." Likewise, when community members praise the work of the League, invite them to be a part of the action.
9. There will still be some likely prospects who will put off sending in their checks until prodded again. Just prior to the time when mailing complimentary bulletins will cease, ask one of your most enthusiastic committee members to call these stragglers to share that message and tell them that dues are indeed due and the League would like to count them as members. This is the kind of dedicated follow-up that produces results; it is well worth the time.

THE MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

Locating potential members is an on-going job. One way to get started is with an analysis of your local League - Who is a member? Why? What is being done by the League in the community to create visibility? Are there groups that are not involved at all - age groups, socio-economic groups or educational levels?

A survey of current members may be helpful in learning about retention of members and member needs. The Appendix contains some sample survey forms.

Remember to:

- leave plenty of space for answers
- make signature optional
- have the form pre-addressed to the membership chair.

Be careful not to make respondents defensive by asking "are you an active or inactive member?" Instead, try something like "which League activities do you participate in most frequently?"

Once you "know the territory" you can develop membership strategies that capitalize on the characteristics of the community and make League visible and accessible.

VISIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY - A PRIMARY RECRUITMENT TOOL

Maintaining a high and positive profile in your community throughout the year is a valuable asset in membership recruitment. It reminds people that you're there and establishes a reputation for thoughtful and concerned involvement in public affairs.

People need to see your name more than once! Try to deliver your message **three** times in **three** different ways.

Here are some suggestions.

1. Use your local media.
 - Place notices of your meetings and special events in community newspapers.
 - Do a membership Public Service Announcement for your radio, TV station, cable TV.
 - Develop a cable TV program on local issues.
 - Place a paid ad in your newspaper.
 - Become a resource for local media; meet with them regularly.
 - Provide a regular column for the local newspaper.
2. Put notices on community bulletin boards, in newsletters of other organizations, in church bulletins.
3. Make sure your League's name is in the voter and/or community information section of your phone book.
4. Write letters to the editor.
5. Participate in community festivals, service projects.
6. Use your finance drive to educate the community about your contributions to its welfare and well-being.

7. Offer League members as speakers for other organizations.
8. Hold joint meetings with other organizations.
9. Design a bookmark to be used by the public library. (LWV-Fridley)
10. Put your message on placemats for local restaurants, cafes. (LWV-Golden Valley)
11. Insert a membership coupon in every newsletter.

ASK YOUR MEMBERS FOR HELP

Your best source of potential members is your current membership! If you ask people why they joined the League, you will find most joined because a friend asked them to come to a meeting. You can build a solid list of prospective members by asking your members for names of people who might be interested in joining. In the Appendix you will find the LWV-Rochester plan for a systematic way to ask members for names of potential League members.

OTHER WAYS TO REACH NEW MEMBERS

1. Have League materials in Welcome Wagon handouts.
2. Take League publications to schools, libraries, groups with a shared interest in a particular issue.
3. Develop a brief unit of study for use in your schools. Offer the services of Leaguers to teach the unit.
4. Do a workshop on public action/lobbying.
5. Provide your board with membership information to carry with them at all times.
6. Put membership information and a name, address and phone number to contact on all materials that go into the community.
7. Have membership brochures/information available at all meetings.
8. Hold neighborhood membership meetings.
9. Call newly registered voters and ask them to join.
10. Give gift memberships to community leaders.

GROUPS TO TARGET

- College and technical students: start a unit on campus tailored to student needs and interests, perhaps a strong emphasis on action.
- Recent high school and college graduates
- Parents taking preschool children to story hours: offer child care during meetings.
- Babysitting co-ops
- Nursery school parent lists
- PTAs: offer to do a program for them.

- Seniors: hold meetings in a room at a senior residence; offer rides to meetings to those with mobility problems.
- Elected and appointed officials and their spouses
- People active in political parties
- Newly registered voters
- New citizens
- Organized or informal groups in the community who share an area of interest with the League, e.g. teachers, health care workers, the physically disabled, social service providers, etc. (An ideal time to appeal to such a group is when you're having a meeting on a topic that meshes with their interests.)
- Family members of current Leaguers
- Co-workers
- People wishing to return to the job market (The League offers terrific opportunities to build, polish skills.)
- New subdivisions, apartment buildings, townhouse complexes (The League is a great vehicle for getting to know your new community.)
- Other civic and social organizations in your area
- Speakers at public meetings
- People who write "Letters to the Editor" in your local newspaper
- Active people mentioned in the local paper
- Contributors
- Teachers
- Ethnic and cultural minorities (You need them to be representative of your community. Let them know that. Communicate it through Letters to the Editor, etc. Make meetings easily accessible to these groups.)
- Newcomers groups.

TURNING PROSPECTS INTO MEMBERS

Above all, let your guiding philosophy be:

PERSONAL CONTACT - LOTS OF IT!

1. Many successful recruitment efforts begin with a phone call to a prospect. Be friendly, informative and enthusiastic as you introduce League to this person. Ask if s/he has had any previous contact with the League; explain in a sentence or two what the League tries to do and share information about current local studies and activities. Mention that local dues also cover membership in the state and national organization. Close with an invitation to an upcoming meeting, a membership recruitment event, an offer to have coffee together to talk more about League, etc. Keep this initial call to no more than five minutes.
2. Follow up the phone call with a letter and written information about the League. See the Appendix for examples.

HOW TO KEEP THOSE NEW MEMBERS

Once you've turned your prospects into full-fledged members, the next, and absolutely essential step in the membership program, is providing them with an orientation to the League of Women Voters. This step serves several important purposes:

1. It tells new members that you're glad they joined and want them to feel comfortable and welcome in League.
2. It provides them with knowledge of the League's purpose, policies and organizational framework.
3. It provides information about local government and stimulates interest in your local League's work.
4. It increases the chances of keeping new recruits as members for a long time to come, by helping them identify a broad range of options for involvement in the League.

KINDS OF ORIENTATION

Orientation efforts can occur at any time during the year, but it's best to reach out to new members soon after they join. Your plan might include these general features:

1. Send a letter from the president thanking them for joining. Enclose a membership card (available from LWVUS).
2. Assemble a new member kit for each recruit. (LWVMN has these available.)
It could include:
 - A brief history of the League and its purpose
 - Factsheet on the League
 - List of board and local League members
 - Copies of bulletins - local, state (back issues are available), national
 - Recent publications
 - "League-L-ese" (a pamphlet available from LWVMN)
 - New member handbook (available from LWV- Iowa)
3. Hold a group orientation session within a month or so of your major membership drive. Your new members can get to know one another as well as some of the "old-timers."
4. Have an informal one-to-one orientation for those who join after you've held your group orientation.
5. Organize a mentor system pairing a new member with an experienced one who is eager to answer what a rookie feels are "silly" or "stupid" questions about the more mystifying aspects of League, and wants to encourage a newcomer to find her/his niche in the organization. (See the Appendix for the LWV-Rochester mentor plan.)
6. Add their names to your newsletter mailing list for 3-5 months.

WHAT TO COVER IN ORIENTATION

It is important to stress what League is: a voluntary, grassroots, nonpartisan, multi-issue organization dedicated to promoting informed and active participation in the political process. New members need to understand that being a local League member is also being a part of the national and state organizations.

An orientation meeting could include:

- Brief history of the League
- Explanation of policies and procedures
- Introduction to local League leaders & committees
- Review of the activities for the year
- Member interest survey.

Membership chairs should have a copy of **IN LEAGUE**, a guideline for League boards, available from LWVUS (Publication #275). Helpful information can also be found in a small booklet, "League-L-ese," a guide to LWV, available from LWVMN. The LWV-Iowa has a booklet, "New Member Handbook," publication #8802. Write to LWV-Iowa, 4817 University, Suite 8, Des Moines, IA 50311, for price and availability.

HOW TO PLAN A SPECIAL RECRUITMENT EVENT

This kind of special event provides your League with a golden opportunity to introduce prospects to the League in general and your members in particular.

Be sure whatever you plan is informative, relaxed and fun. Ask yourself if this event is something people other than your own members would want to attend. Here is a checklist for planning a successful event.

1. Set the date. Start 3-4 months ahead to ensure a smooth-running event. Make your meeting as well-organized and polished as possible. Check your community calendar for conflicts.
2. Make people want to come because of content:
 - Elected officials - especially League members
 - Not-too-heavy presentation of a "hot" topic, whatever is the controversial topic in your community (a panel discussion is a good format)
 - Well-known speaker
 - Food is always a draw. Hold a tea, brunch, picnic, potluck, wine and cheese party, small coffee or dessert buffet.
 - Tour of a facility related to League interests.
3. Make people want to come because of a special location:
 - Places people want to see like Gainey Conference Center, Mayowood or Glensheen
 - Special home
 - Restored building
 - New building/facility
 - Nature center

Parking and accessibility are important. (Sometimes attractive private homes are a drawing card; however, you need to balance that against drawing people merely curious about the home, creating an image of League as a group for the wealthy elite. Think about what will work best in your town.)
4. Plan the agenda. Don't let the program get too long and don't overwhelm the prospects with too much information. Allow plenty of time for informal conversation among members and guests. Have membership chair issue invitation to join. Be sure to include moderator and/or president at final planning meeting to coordinate efforts.
5. Arrange for people to provide refreshments appropriate to the event.
6. Ask your publicity chair to get the word out to the general public via:
 - Ad in newspaper (a paid for, real ad as early as possible), or a notice in the community section
 - Invitation to a reporter to cover the event
 - Well-done flyers posted in strategic locations
 - Radio PSA
 - Cable TV
 - Flyers for members to distribute to friends, libraries, businesses, etc.

7. Issue written invitations (six weeks to a month before the event) to:
 - Current members
 - All identified prospects (Ask your members for names. See Rochester plan in the Appendix. Target a special group.)
 - Former members
 - Other groups (AAUW, PTA, realtors, Chamber, etc.)
8. Make your meeting friendly:
 - Arrange for members to serve as hostesses.
 - Hand out nametags.
 - Introduce guests to members as they arrive.
 - Have a guest book for guests to sign. (Have space for name, address, phone number.)
 - Ask members and board to mingle.
 - Make follow-up phone calls. Offer rides, child care if it would be helpful.
9. Ask prospectives to join. Have membership information/brochures available. Be ready to take their checks.
10. Follow up:
 - Make follow-up calls to those who don't join and to those who were not able to attend.
 - Send prospects your bulletin for three to five months.
 - Invite prospects to another meeting; send additional information.
 - Send thank you letters to speakers and those who organized the event.
 - Thank the organizers in your bulletin.

INACTIVE MEMBERS

Every local League, from time to time, grapples with the issue of "inactive members." All dues-paying members support the League in many ways:

- In the political arena, numbers talk, and every League member - active or inactive - contributes to our "clout" with elected officials.
- Inactive members may not attend meetings or join committees, but they do receive League publications and they can carry the League philosophy with them wherever they go, widening our circle of exposure and influence.
- An "inactive member" may occasionally be available to share advice or lend her/his special expertise to a particular project.
- Members' needs and time commitments can change, and eventually an "inactive" member may turn into a very active one.
- Every League has certain fixed costs that are part of the budget. Spreading those costs over as many members as possible makes sense! If local Leagues could do this in sufficiently great numbers, it could ultimately lead to a decrease in the size of the Per Member Payment to the state and national Leagues.
- Structuring dues to address the costs of encouraging inactive members to remain in League is a smart move. Establish a "guilt-free" category for those members at a rate which covers the full cost of keeping them on the rolls, i.e. sustaining membership category.

Once you've helped your board to understand the value of inactive members and devised a supportive financial strategy, then turn your attention to first-class service to these members, so they'll want to stay in League.

1. Keep them current on local activities via your bulletin.
2. Promptly deliver, in person or by mail, all materials normally handed out at meetings pertaining to studies, updates, etc.
3. At least once a year, call these members for a friendly chat. If you do this at the beginning of the League year, you can find out whether or not they wish to be placed on a regular calling committee or telephone tree list, too.

If you and the board can reach the conclusion that all members, whether active or inactive, are valuable, then the next time someone says, "I can't join the League because I don't have time to be active," you can tell them it doesn't matter and **mean it!**

HOW TO KEEP ALL YOUR MEMBERS

Did you know that the greatest number of people who decide to drop their League memberships have belonged to the organization for **two** years or less? It is difficult to make real gains in membership if you must recruit significant numbers of new members just to replace those who drop out.

An important key to success in membership is understanding that your member retention program must begin the day a new member pays her/his dues! New members will **remain** in the League if:

1. They feel welcome, accepted and needed.
2. Their own personal needs and objectives are being met.
3. They feel some sense of commitment to the organization.
4. They are not overwhelmed with too much responsibility too soon.

MAKING MEMBERS FEEL WELCOME, ACCEPTED AND NEEDED

1. Build a system that lets **all** members in on what's happening:
 - Produce a friendly, informative monthly bulletin. Avoid both unnecessary jargon and use of first names only; provide background information on already established League positions and studies that may lap over from one year to the next; alert members to opportunities for service and enrichment.
 - Establish a calling committee or telephone tree.
 - Organize a mentor system that provides individual support and information for new members.
2. Appoint a hostess for all meetings to greet and seek out guests and new members. Also consider the regular use of nametags.
3. Continue personal contact of a more general nature with new members. Midway through the year, ask membership committee members or board members to call new members, just to check in, find out how their League experience is going, solicit suggestions. Potential problems can be identified and dealt with early through this kind of friendly, informal conversation. Continuing special interest in those "rookies" through their second year in League can also be beneficial. Why not start the year off with a gathering of all those who joined in the last twelve months?
4. Send out a satisfaction survey with self-addressed return envelope to all new members at six month anniversary.
5. Tailor meeting times and locations to the convenience and comfort of your members. Provide babysitting to encourage attendance of those with small children. Experiment and inquire to find the best meeting format for those who regularly work outside the home or are students:
 - Saturdays
 - Dinner meetings; potluck or at a restaurant
 - Breakfast gathering
 - Lunchtime meeting - brown bag or in a convenient restaurant.
6. Build in a social time before all meetings for board and members to talk to prospectives, visitors.

IT IS "LEAGUE-LIKE" TO HAVE FUN!

In these busy times when so many of our members hold down jobs outside the home and/or go to school, as well as care for families, we must remember that their discretionary time is precious. A chosen activity must fill more than a single personal need to be justified. Based on those assumptions, urge your board to look for ways to build fun into the year's calendar! Try:

- Offer food, paired with a standard meeting - sharing a meal often allows time for getting to know one another better in an informal way.
- Plan field trips related to an area of League study or action - a walk in the local park or trail system, a visit to a waste disposal facility, etc.
- Hold events which include spouses, "significant others" - the addition of these guests just naturally promotes a more sociable atmosphere.
- Take time to celebrate something at a regular meeting - the birthday of the League, success in a lobbying effort, a time to honor 10-year members, etc.

Offering a well-rounded experience through League membership provides us with a valuable tool for retaining members.

MAKE MEETINGS WORTH ATTENDING

The great majority of members experience their primary contact with the League by attending monthly meetings. If you want to keep them coming back for more, pay heed to these suggestions for successfully meeting competition for their time and energy:

1. Make sure meetings are worth attending. Structure meetings around an agenda in order to accomplish specific goals.
2. Start and end meetings promptly. Two hours is long enough.
3. Committee presentations should be well-planned and rehearsed.
4. Make sure unit meetings are really **discussion** units where all members feel free to participate. (LWV-Florida)

RECOGNIZE MEMBER NEEDS

Remind the board of the importance of building a sense of commitment in members and suggest appropriate opportunities for doing that. Here are some ideas to get you started:

1. When help is needed on a project, don't always turn to your closest friends or the "old standbys"; ask someone who is new to League or who hasn't been very active lately.
2. Be willing to break jobs into manageable "chunks" to avoid overwhelming or discouraging volunteers.
3. Pair an inexperienced member with an enthusiastic "old-timer" to work on a project.
4. Encourage all members, not just board members, to attend League workshops, conventions, Focus meetings, etc., and budget funds to assist them with all or part of the fees.
5. An excellent way to involve new members with limited time is to ask them to assist in voter service activities, the observer corps, or the finance drive.

THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF RECOGNITION

We all like to feel appreciated, and when we've invested our time and effort in a project, be it large or small, words of thanks and public recognition tell us that what we did mattered. Take time at meetings to recognize new members, those who have been in League for five, ten, fifteen, etc. years, League leaders, those who have done a job well.

Recognition can be expressed in a wide variety of ways, from the personal thank you note or phone call by the committee chair or president, to the much more public expressions in publications and at meetings, to awards for special service to the League. But it can also be more than this final "pat-on-the-back" gesture at the end of a job well done. It can be embodied in board policies and procedures that encourage volunteers and demonstrate how much their efforts are valued: by providing child care for meetings, orienting volunteers properly for the job, asking for a report and/or evaluation of a project.

SPOTTING POTENTIAL DROP-OUTS

Preventive measures are obviously the best way to avoid the drain of drop-outs, but it is important to recognize symptoms exhibited by potential drop-outs. They:

- attend fewer and fewer meetings
- don't pay dues on time
- don't participate in discussion at meetings
- turn down offers of committee assignments, other jobs
- don't socialize with other members at meetings
- join but never attend a meeting
- say at meetings that they don't know enough to offer an opinion. (LWV-Illinois)

If you think you have a potential drop-out on your hands, an important initial step is to talk personally with her/him. Ask about convenience of meeting times, perception of friendliness among members, interest in current program, etc., and try to discover how these kinds of things match up with that member's own needs. That will give you a place to start in matching needs with League opportunities. It is possible to turn that kind of situation around!

MEMBERSHIP STRATEGIES

ASK, ASK, ASK — AND NOT JUST THE FOI KNOW, OR WOULD YOU RATHER F

U ALREADY INCT?

- People seldom join organizations unless they are given a n by another person.

Be sure to put your League's membership coupon in any p with Education Fund money.

p blank and invited

terials not printed

- Inform every member, especially leaders of LWV, that inclusive membership is everyone's job.
Collect lists of prospects and recruit a team to make friendly calls ASAP to these and to guests at any event.

- Develop a diversity policy for your local League or adopt that of LWVMN and display it prominently in materials and at events.

- Make membership, diversity, and barriers to LWV involvement regular agenda items at your board and membership meetings. Use the tools provided in *The LWV Diversity Toolkit* (\$3.50; 3.00 for members available from LWVUS) for short activities or discussion with your board and members. Excerpts may be inserted in your newsletter.

- Make sure everyone carries membership forms in their bag or briefcase.

- Start by inviting your friends, your neighbors, your co-workers, your relatives. Give a young friend a membership as a gift.

- But don't stop there. Think about those you don't know because they travel in different circles, are a different age, or are otherwise unlike you. What steps can you and your League take to become more diverse. Brainstorm the various segments of your community and how to reach out to them through coalitions, events, personally, directly. **Remember, people respond to people who are interested in them for who they are.**

- Make sure your League is listed in any lists or directories circulated in the community.

- Get the League name in your paper with meeting notices—preferably held in public places—with press releases on new projects or events, and with letters to the editor on issues or voter information.

- Don't forget to keep surveying and involving members and respecting their time limitations.

- Recognize and celebrate achievement and endurance.

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League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Diversity Policy
Approved November 10, 1999

The LWVMN affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Minnesota in its membership. LWVMN subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.

LWVMN strives to overcome barriers of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability in the activities of the organization. The LWVMN recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making.

"With diversity as a priority, our positions will better reflect the common good, and our organization will be better equipped to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide." *Becky Cain*

What Is Diversity?

- ✓ **Diversity is those differences between us that represent our uniqueness**
- ✓ **Valuing diversity is a process and lifestyle that not only accepts the differences among people, but also seeks to respect and use those differences to achieve mutual goals.**



Dimensions of Diversity

(Loden/Rosenner, Workforce America)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ✓ PRIMARY DIMENSIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Age- Race- Ethnicity- Gender- Sexual Orientation- Physical Ability | ✓ SECONDARY DIMENSIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Geography- Religion- Parental Status- Marital Status- Military Experience- Education- Income |
|---|--|



Dimensions of Diversity

Do's

Weave diversity into the recruitment process. It needs to be an integral part of everything the League does.

Prepare a written diversity policy and give it visibility.

Seek diversity in the people you recruit.

Encourage diversity. The views, opinions, suggestions and contributions of all League members are important.

View differences as an asset.

Be sensitive to people's needs.

Be proud of diversity. It is a vital part of the League's future.

Assign a mentor to an individual or a new group of League members.

Stress what you have in common with League members. Emphasize your desire to improve the League's effectiveness.

Think in terms of "we."

Try to understand and learn from the perspectives of others in the League, just as you want others to learn from you.

Have a vision of yourself. Look at role models from your group and from others. Others in your group have made it in the League.

Don'ts

Consider diversity to be an "add on" to the membership recruitment process.

Claim ignorance of the issue of diversity.

Limit your scope of members to people "just like you."

Discourage diversity. Show disapproval of the views, opinions, suggestions and contributions of LWV members that differ from yours.

View differences as a barrier.

Be insensitive to people's needs.

View the idea of diversity as lowering the standards of an organization.

Forget how you felt when you were a new League member.

Look for differences that set you apart from another person.

Think in terms of "us" and "them."

Limit your League experiences to a small group of members.

Limit your perspectives of yourself or of the League.

*Diversity chart: prepared by LWVUS
Member Services, 1995*

RANDOM SURVEY RESPONSES OF MEMBERS ATTENDING LWVMN OPEN HOUSE - SEPTEMBER 6, 1999

Think about the responses below and the consistencies and changes in attitudes. Friends, newspapers, and events seem to have been the main recruitment vehicles.

LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP	WHAT ATTRACTED YOU?	HOW JOINED?	NEEDS AS A MEMBER	COMMENTS
2 months	Experience on phone since 50's Most knowledgeable/helpful group-welcome around	Read in newspaper men are	Something to do	
9 months	Wanted to be more involved	Husband ran for City Council Learned about LWV at forum		Really enjoyed open house
1 1/2 years	Members seemed very sharp, intelligent & interested	Attended orientation & signed up Had been at Edina town meeting sponsored by LWVE	Interesting involvement with reasonable time frame	
3 years	Research on issues, education of citizens about democracy	Through my own curiosity	Like to see LWV to continue research on issues	
3 years	The people in it and their principles	Friend encouraged me		Communication essential, email helps
3 years	My neighbor - her knowledge of community & politics	Friend	Willingness to teach me Allowing me to ask questions Seeing where I can fit in Openness to change	
3 years	Important way to learn points of view		Educational opportunities & for unbiased knowledge	
7 years	Opportunity to learn about & be active in the policy process	Friend	Opportunities to become involved in a somewhat controllable manner (working mother/spouse)	

8 years & earlier time	The issues	Friends – <u>the</u> best recruiting tool	Knowing I am welcome whether I have little or lot of time to give/ Just the contact with such wonderful people	We must somehow attract younger members to keep us going/ assure them time commitment can be totally flexible
9 years	Government issues & the studies of those issues	Friend	Interesting unit meetings Variety of topics & variety of methods of presentation	
9 years	Wishing to become more involved politically, always having been a news junkie	Friend & responding to article in local newspaper	We need to increase membership of more young people who care!	
19 years	Non-partisanship	Personal quest		
20 years	Learn about local government	Joined newly formed League Article in newspaper		
Roughly 50 years	Interesting study items - chance to learn details	Friend		Always has been a wonderful group of women - made lots of friends
54 years	Our interest in foreign policy heading up to the establishment of the UN, World Bank, etc.	A friend asked my mother/ she didn't join; I did		I'm intrigued with our new LOTT people

HAVE YOU WANTED TO KNOW WHAT MAKES YOUNG ADULTS GET INVOLVED AND WHAT MIGHT ATTRACT THEM TO THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS? We did so we decided to ask them. What follows is a summary of the responses we got when we held --

A FOCUS GROUP OF "TWENTY SOMETHINGS" - September 21, 1999

ATTENDANCE: Tina Jalivay, Noukou Thao, Meredith Fox, Laura Olson, Kari Paulson, Kristin Borst, Ann Fandrey, Ann Webb, Rebecca Eilers, Mao Vang, Jessica, Laurie Boche, Carol Frisch

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO JOIN GROUPS? Something to put on a resume, contacts, expand my network, for your career; there is no data entry expected of me; it is organized with a plan; I agree with the mission; It makes a difference; there is no obligation; good for social life; offsets boredom of job; there are benefits that come with the membership (Printed guides, etc.); impacts my life; I know someone in it; occupies my time but doesn't have to be a big time commitment. Ownership is shared.

WHAT ARE YOUR MAJOR INTERESTS? Politics, travel, camping, reading, music, shopping, community health, well-being of self and community, all young people want to make a difference and to amass wealth—surpass their parents; finding Mr. or Miss Right; issues affecting women; spirituality; history of women; personal growth; self-development.

HOW DO YOU PREFER TO SPEND YOUR DISCRETIONARY (LEISURE) TIME? Sleeping, alone, hanging with friends, reading, traveling, cooking and cleaning (one person!), time with family, running, biking, TV, movies, eating and eating out, emailing, phone, communicating, surfing the net, shopping, fixing things in the house, being crafty.

WHAT CHARACTERISTICS SHOULD A GROUP HAVE TO ATTRACT YOU? Being inclusive, well organized, friendly, opportunities for development and that fall within my interests, established, well known, affordable, location, parking, meeting time convenient, between 9-5 if work related or week nights rather than week ends. There are acknowledgements, appreciation, awards, diversity of all kinds in the group, fun!!

HOW OR WHAT STEPS WOULD YOU TAKE TO JOIN THIS OR ANY ORGANIZATION? If new I would seek out but being new to the community I have no idea where to start or look. At a specific event; see the group in action; friend's introduction; if the group demonstrated a need I could fill, like I would help by representing my Asian group; school bulletin board; email lists; get on newsletter mailing list; MN Women's Press; career centers—if there is a connection to research. Most said they would want to be able to join by credit card over the Internet.

WHAT DETERS YOU FROM JOINING GROUPS? Impersonal; aggressive recruitment; a negative impression of the members; high cost; other memberships; materials poor quality; lack of a professional look; want accessibility for children; if they'll sell my name; too much mail so I feel like a clearinghouse.

WHAT DO YOU NEED FROM A GROUP IN ORDER TO CONTINUE MEMBERSHIP? Feel needed; something to do; the ability to step back when I want to.

HOW MANY DUES PAYING GROUPS DO YOU BELONG TO? Three people belong to three; one to two; three to one; and the remainder to zero.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE AMOUNT TO PAY FOR DUES TO A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION? It depends on the benefits. One pays \$125 for a professional group. \$25 or more for a professional organization. Would like a trial membership or options for the first year. It depends on what you get out, what you put in, how it affects your life, and how active you want to be.

WHERE AND WHEN DID YOU FIRST HEAR OF THE LWV? Not before this invitation; job hunting in January-May, 1999; working for another women's organization; candidate's guide; all my life from my mother; Women's Press; political debates and forums; college internship; CALNARAL; grandmother or mother involved; history class. Why aren't you in civics classes or infiltrating campus life? One hopes to use as resource for Council on Asians; should reach out to purposefully get the demographics it wants.

HOW RECENTLY AND WHERE HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE ORGANIZATION? Candidate forum, zero outside of the MN Humanities Commission where co-workers discuss it; political campaigns; working at the legislature. They asked, "How many young people are members now? Aren't you worried that you are a graying organization, as you have told us?"
Editor's comment: "Yes, and we had better do something(s) fast!"

IF YOU WERE TO CHOOSE TO JOIN THE LWV WHAT WOULD BE THE DECIDING FACTOR? If convinced it would make a dent in a social problem; to develop leadership of women to run for office; if it would make a difference. It seems like the LWV is not involved in direct action but is a resource, a more sophisticated concept. It's a good "big picture" organizations, but there needs to be a return on involvement. If it made a sustained effort to reach the hard to reach—like giving out new citizen cards or like "Rock the boat", that would be meaningful. People want to get involved right now.

LOCKED OUT

Does your League lock out members? Find out by answering the following with a "yes" or "no."

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Most of my League's meetings are held in private homes. | <input type="checkbox"/> 12. Active party members or "controversial" persons are not actively sought for membership because they may hurt our nonpartisan image or seek to use the LWV for their own purposes. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Board members urge "break times" at unit meetings to confer with each other on board business, thus saving them valuable time. | <input type="checkbox"/> 13. We save money by buying most publications just for committee members; they can share what they have learned through presentations at unit meetings. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. All meetings are held during the day. | <input type="checkbox"/> 14. Minority persons or "blue collar" types are not usually approached for League membership. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Our bulletin carries just local League information because state and national LWV information is in the state Voter and National VOTER. | <input type="checkbox"/> 15. We consider many persons in our community too conservative to enjoy League participation. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Name tags are used only on special occasions. | <input type="checkbox"/> 16. It is pushy to ask someone to join the League and add, "I can take your check now and get it to our membership chair, if that is convenient for you." |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. If other groups ask for assistance on an item that is not part of our program, we wish them well, but explain they cannot participate. | <input type="checkbox"/> 17. Meetings are not scheduled to discuss possible program choices for national, state and local program because members find them too boring. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. One is invited to join LWV primarily by "word of mouth," rather than by a newspaper, radio and other means. | <input type="checkbox"/> 18. We are hesitant to include community groups in the early stages because they do not do the thorough, objective job the League does. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8. A committee member must be a member of the League. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. League "lingo," abbreviations, and first names only are widely used in oral presentations and written materials. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Any member who does not attend meetings is considered "inactive." | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11. Prospect lists are made up primarily of friends of current LWV members. | |

- ___ 19. Being interested and active in only one area of LWV (such as housing) is discouraged because members should have a wider perspective and interest in LWV programs.
- ___ 20. We schedule program making meetings where members must attend if they wish to register their choices.
- ___ 21. Only board members are encouraged to attend state and regional meetings.
- ___ 22. Board members often complain about their workload.
- ___ 23. Men are given special treatment because they have special needs; for instance, most are too busy with their jobs to have time to serve on committees.
- ___ 24. We choose noncontroversial local items so as not to upset our financial contributors.
- ___ 25. If a member is not going to be active in a given year, he or she is encouraged not to join, but to give a financial contribution instead.
- ___ 26. It is difficult for new people to find the membership chair's or the president's phone number.

- ___ 27. Baby sitting and transportation often cause a problem preventing our members from participating.
- ___ 28. The reason people quit or don't join the League is dues.
- ___ 29. Are there present members who feel locked out because they cannot attend all meetings or serve on the board?
- ___ 30. It is solely the membership chair's responsibility to invite people to come, to make them feel welcome, to help them get involved with LWV work.

SCORING—Give yourself four points for each "NO" answer.

- 120-100 The door is open
- 94-76 Persistent knocking is needed
- 72-0 You need to help find the key, pronto: you lock out members

This survey, from the LWV of Wisconsin, is reprinted here from Membership Management, LWVUS.

Registration Form (may be copied)

**LOTT Seminar: Women Making a
Difference in Public Policy**

Name _____

College _____

Major _____

Mailing Address until Dec. 18 _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Anticipated date of graduation _____

☐ I would like to share a room both nights at the Holiday Inn Express. Please match me with a roommate – please add \$80.00 to the program fee. TOTAL=\$275.00
ROOMMATE PREFERRED (if applicable): _____

☐ I would like a private room both nights at the Holiday Inn Express – please add \$160.00 to the program fee. TOTAL=\$345.00

☐ I will make my own arrangements for overnight lodging. TOTAL=\$195.00

Registration and Refunds: All program fees are due at the time of registration. Early registration is encouraged due to limited space. Requests for refunds must be in writing. Canceled registrations before December 28, 1999 will receive a full refund less a \$25 fee. No refunds will be made after this date, but a substitution will be allowed.

Make check payable to:
**League of Women Voters of MN
Education Fund**
and send with registration form to
LOTT, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103
612/550-1265 or 651/224-5445
LWVMN@mtn.org

**LOTT Seminar
Schedule**

Thursday, January 27

4:30 PM Registration and check-in

Dinner with Keynote Speaker:

Katherine Lanpher
Host of MPR's Midmorning Show

Friday, January 28

- Tour of State Capitol
- Panel: *Women Making a Difference from the Inside* including **State Rep. Mindy Greiling**
- Lunch with Speaker
- Panel: *Women Making a Difference in the Courts* including the **Honorable Pamela Alexander**
- *Extraordinary Advocates*
- Discussion: *Why Stick Your Neck Out?*
- Dinner with Speaker

Saturday, January 29

- **LWVMN Citizens in Action Workshop**
- Young Women Mentors Lunch

Leaders of Today & Tomorrow (LOTT) is a program of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund which works to inspire the leadership of women in public life, recognizing that strong, diverse perspectives are needed in the nation. LOTT was founded in 1993 as a program of the MN Women's Consortium with guidance from area colleges and organizations.

Women Making a *Difference* in Public Policy



January 27- 29, 2000

*A program of the
League of Women Voters of
Minnesota Education Fund*

Have you ever wondered?

... WHY there are so few women in elected offices and organizations that make public policy?

... HOW you as a college woman can make a difference?

...HOW you can move issues that are important to you into public discourse?

...HOW Minnesota government and public policy *really* work?

Public policy affects everything you do.

Regardless of your current program of study – business, art, biology, human services, political science, LOTT can show you how to have a voice in decisions that impact your life.

Seminar speakers are Minnesota women leaders representing the legislature, courts, state agencies, media, and interest groups. Students learn how policy is shaped, how current public policy affects women and how they themselves can influence policy.

LOTT's intensive seminars take you beyond the textbooks and classrooms to put you where the action is.

LOTT[®] will help . . .

- *DEMYSTIFY* the legislative process
- *INCREASE* awareness of issues vital to Minnesota women
- *MEET* movers and shakers of women's organizations
- *CONNECT* with women mentors affecting public policy
- *SPEND* hands-on time with women leaders

LOTT Participants have said:

"This was fantastic experience that will be with me forever."

"It was a privilege to be involved in a conference that included brilliant, warm, friendly women from so many different colleges."

"The LOTT program changes my life . . . LOTT gave me confidence, inspiration and drive to take hold of life's opportunities."

"My advisor pushed me into coming...I didn't want to have anything to do with politics. But now I realize that I have no choice but to be involved...It's something we all have to do."

Date:

January 27-29, 2000. Seminar begins at 4:30 PM on Thursday, January 27 and ends by 3:00 PM Saturday, January 29.

Credit:

Students may earn college credits. The seminar offers a minimum of 15 hours of contact time. Check with your college registrar to determine eligibility.

Location:

Seminar locations include the MN State Capitol complex and the Holiday Inn Express at Bandana Square in St. Paul.

Expenses:

Program fee of \$195 includes all meals, activities, transportation between sessions, and student membership in the League of Women Voters of MN. Accommodations are an additional fee (see registration form).

Scholarships:

Several schools offer scholarships to attend LOTT. Please check with your home institution for funds availability.

Limited scholarships are available through LOTT. Please contact our office for more information or an application. A \$25 fee must accompany scholarship application. Awards will be determined by December 15, 1999.

NOTE: Scholarship application deadline is **December 1st** and is earlier than the seminar registration deadline.

LOTT seeks participants of diverse backgrounds and locations from all around the state and encourages women of color and/or from Greater MN to apply.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
550 RICE STREET, ST. PAUL, MN 55103
651/224-5445 FAX 612/290-2145
E-MAIL: LWVMN@MTN.ORG
HTTP://TCFRENET.ORG/IP/POL/LWVMN

To: Local League Treasurers
From: Connie Hondl, LWVMN Treasurer
Date: April 23, 1999

Sample

Invoice No.: 9916

LOCAL LEAGUE PER MEMBERS PAYMENT STATEMENT FOR 1998-2000

The Per Member Payment (PMP) for 1999-2000 is set at \$18.00 per member as determined by 1999 Convention action.

Below is your League's PMP statement for 1999-2000. **It is based on your League's membership as of January 1, 1999.** Members are billed at \$18.00 each. Household members (2nd and 3rd members in a household) are billed at \$9.00 apiece.

Per Member Payments are due at the State Office quarterly: June 1, 1999; September 1, 1999; December 1, 1999; and March 1, 2000. If your League pays its PMP in full by May 15, 1999, it will be discounted by 5%.

LWV of Freeborn County

26 Members at \$18.00 = \$468.00

Household members at \$9.00 = \$0

Total Per Member Payment for 1999-2000 = \$468.00

PMP discounted at 5% if payment made by May 15, 1998 = **\$444.60**

If your League prefers to pay the PMP on a quarterly basis, use the attached statement.

If your League would like to make payment in full by May 15, 1998 and forgo the 5% discount as a contribution to LWVMN, it would be greatly appreciated.

PLEASE RETURN COPY OF THIS STATEMENT WITH YOUR FIRST PAYMENT AND
RETAIN ONE FOR YOUR RECORDS.

CC: Local League President

To: Local League Treasurers
From: Connie Hondl, LWVMN Treasurer
Re: PMP Statement
Date: April 23, 1999

Sample

LWV of Freeborn County

Fourth Quarter PMP due March 1, 2000 **\$117.00**

Amount unpaid from previous quarter(s) \$ _____

Total Amount Due \$ _____

LWV of Freeborn County

Third Quarter PMP due December 1, 1999 **\$117.00**

Amount unpaid from previous quarter(s) \$ _____

Total Amount Due \$ _____

LWV of Freeborn County

\$117.00

Second Quarter PMP due September 1, 1999

Amount unpaid from previous quarter(s) \$ _____

Total Amount Due \$ _____

LWV of Freeborn County

\$117.00

First Quarter PMP due June 1, 1999

Amount unpaid from previous quarter(s)

Total Amount Due \$ _____

INFORMATION FOR STATE MAILINGS

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND TO STATE OFFICE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ANNUAL MEETING.

WV of _____ CONGRESSIONAL DIST: _____
STATE LEGISLATIVE DIST: _____

President: _____
(Last) (First)

Address: _____
(Street/Box #)

(City) (Zip)

Phone: _____
(Area code) (Home) (Area code) (Work)

FAX #'s: _____
(Area code) (Home) (Area code) (Work)

e-mail address: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Treasurer: _____
(Last) (First)

Address: _____
(Street/Box #)

(City) (Zip)

Phone: _____
(Area code) (Home) (Area code) (Work)

FAX #'s: _____
(Area code) (Home) (Area code) (Work)

e-mail address: _____

Place of Employment: _____

If changes in names or addresses occur during the year, please notify the state and national office
IMMEDIATELY!

Board Meetings: _____ week, _____ day, _____ time

October, 1993

Dear Friend of the League,

BE CONFIDENT THAT YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. This is one of the corner stone beliefs passed on to each new member of the League of Women Voter of Edina.

For 39 years that confidence has made a difference in our community's life. Because we believed this, we studied, promoted and lobbied for our ideas in the areas of education, government and the environment. Today the League can point with pride to tangible evidence of our work in Edina:

- the Edina Community Center
- the Edina Community Library
- walking paths
- the recycling center
- violence prevention curriculum in the schools.

Voter education being our foremost goal we held a candidate and referendum information session on October 5, 1993. The community depends on the League for such educational forums.

This year the LWVE is examining ways to increase our organizational diversity. We are delving further into the influences toward violence among children and especially reviewing prevention and intervention curriculum recently introduced in Edina schools.

We will be co-sponsoring with the Edina city government the second annual Family Field Trip to City Hall February 26, 1994. This first such event drew over 200 citizens and provided a pleasant learning adventure for more than 100 children.

How does the League continue to be a vital successful and trusted nonpartisan, nonprofit, organization in the the 1990's? Because our track record of success has given us the confidence to know that we can continue to make a difference on the public's behalf. Our supporters affirm that confidence.

We are not a PAC. We do not endorse political parties or candidates. We do not have paid personnel. We do require your financial support as we begin our 39th year of service to our community. Today you may choose between two giving options: (1) a direct contribution to the operating expenses of our League (LWV of Edina); or (2) a tax-deductible contribution to the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF or LWVMEF). The latter may be used for general unrestricted purposes, including payment of state or national assessments for membership.

We appreciate the support many of you have provided in the past. Be confident knowing that your financial support of the Edina League of Women Voters is wisely spent and really does make a difference.

Sincerely,

Connie Hondl and Carol Frisch
Co - Presidents

SAMPLE
Fundraising
Letter
correct with
about sentence
PMP
Payment with
Ef monies.

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: April 26, 1999
TO: Local Leagues
FROM: Connie Hondl, LWVMN Treasurer
RE: Partial Payment of PMP with Tax-Deductible Money

Beginning April 1st, 1993, each local League has had the OPTION to raise part of its per member payment (PMP) in the form of tax deductible contributions to the LWVMN Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization.

Local Leagues have been able to pay LWVUS PMPs using tax-deductible funds since 1978. The LWVMN policy allows a similar arrangement and follows the LWVUS guidelines.

Q. How much of our PMP may be paid with tax-deductible money?

A. Up to 25%.

Q. Can our local League use funds that are now in our LL Ed Fund account to pay PMP?

A. No. Because of legal considerations, funds raised for specific education projects and deposited in your Ed Fund account cannot be used to pay your PMP obligation.

Q. What Ed funds can be used to pay PMP?

A. Newly raised funds may be used. Your LWV can explain to donors that their contribution will be used for 'general unrestricted purposes, including payment of PMP.' Since previous donors would not have been advised of this, their contributions may not be used to pay PMPs.

Q. How will the LWVMN Ed Fund keep track of funds for educational projects and funds that may be used to pay PMP.

A. LWVMN will establish a separate account for each LL that requests to use a tax-deductible contribution to pay PMP.

In order for a local League to deposit funds in their PMP account, LWVMNEF must have a copy of the local League's fundraising letter stating part of the contribution will be used for per member payment.

In order to request PMP funds from a local League's Ed Fund PMP account, the money must be in that account already.

Q. Does your LL treasurer need to keep a separate account?

A. Yes. A separate account must be kept. The treasurer must also keep a record of the donor, date of check, the amount received, and the transmittal date to the state office.

Q. What are the steps for making partial payment of PMP with tax-deductible money?

A. 1. Ask your donors to make their checks payable to LWVMNEF. Explain that their contribution will be used for general unrestricted purposes, including payment of PMP. Before LL can deposit check, LLs must send state office a copy of their letter of solicitation which explains the contribution will be used also for PMP.

2. Send donor's unrestricted contributions along with the fundraising letter to the LWVMNEF. Your LWV thus acts as a transmittal agent.

3. Send a statement with the check(s) clearly indicating that payment of PMP is intended.

If a donor mistakenly writes a check to your LWV rather than to the LWVMNEF, be sure not to deposit the check into your bank account. Ask the donor either to reissue the check to the LWVMNEF or to provide you with a written statement authorizing its deposit into the LWVMNEF account. If you mistakenly deposit such a check into your LWV's bank account, you may write a check to the LWVMNEF for the sum of the contribution, but it must be accompanied by a written statement from the donor that the funds should be transferred to the LWVMNEF.

Q. What if we have additional questions?

A. Please contact me at (612) 944-1229.

BOARD MEMO



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 612-224-5445 • Fax 612-290-2145
lwvmn@mtn.org
<http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn>

MARCH 1999
1-800-663-9328

Reminder! Convention Registrations are due in the LWVMN Office by March 29th—so that Delegates can receive Convention packets in a timely fashion.

Calendar

- March** 23 – *Board Memo/Presidents' Mailing* to local League Presidents and subscribers
27 – **Leaders of Today and Tomorrow (LOTT) Book Fair at Barnes & Noble, Highland, St. Paul, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**
29 – Deadline for LWVMN Convention Registration
31 – LWVMN/EF fiscal year 1998-99 ends
- April** 1 – LWVMN interview with Senator Rod Grams
6 – Member Resources Committee Meeting; 1:00 p.m.; MWB
11 Convention Delegate Packets mailed by this date
9 – Leaders of Today and Tomorrow ; 9:00 a.m. – Noon, MWB
16-17 – **LWVMN State Convention, Kelly Inn, St. Cloud**
19 – Study Circles Steering Committee; Noon – 2:00 p.m.; MWB
22 – Leaders of Today and Tomorrow Auction of Women's Artwork, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.; Metropolitan State University Great Hall
- May** 5 – LWVMN/EF Board Orientation; 9:00 a.m.; MWB
11 – Legacy Circle Dinner; Heritage Room at Bachman's; more information to come
– Presidents' Mailing to local League Presidents and DPM subscribers

ENCLOSURES

(enclosed with this mailing)

- *Flyer re League's Bookstore at Convention & Spring Catalog for Local Leagues/Kargas
- *Kids Voting Minnesota Newsletter/Duffy
- *Travel with the League/Walz

PRESIDENT

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake , Birchwood, 55110-1631 651/429-9703; GandJDuffy@aol.com)

On March 17th we held the last meeting of the current Board of Directors. It is with some sadness that I say good-bye to those of you who are leaving the Board. I say "some sadness" because each of you is leaving to move on to other exciting work and projects.

While we will miss you, I know you will be using your well-honed leadership skills to someone else's benefit and the League's contribution to the community continues.

I have enjoyed working with each of you. I value your ideas, energy, competency and vision for the League. Also, I have appreciated more than I can express your willingness to share your expertise and time with the LWVMN Board.

My thanks and best wishes go with each of you.

For those of you who are remaining on the Board, let me express the same sentiments plus a big Thank You for your agreeing to stay on for another term. It is important for a smooth transition to have experienced Board members.

This Board Meeting was an opportunity to update everyone on our new Study Circle project on issues of immigration, the activities at the Legislature, the plans for the April LWVMN Convention and ideas for a fall fundraiser with a noted speaker. Too often, we don't have the time for such briefings. It is always energizing to take stock of all that we are doing.

Bouquets and a Million thanks to:

***Peggy Thompson** for her "umpteenth" years of service to LWVMN. She's irreplaceable!

***Kay Erickson** for the overall coordination of President Carolyn Jefferson Jenkins visit;

***Jeanne Matlock** for organizing an absolutely lovely reception for CJJ so that League members could have the opportunity to meet her;

***Anne Borgen** for her ten years of service on the Board, including state President, Voter Service and Field Service Directors;

***Jeanne Walz, Vera Dougher, Cindy Berquist, Mary Dinneen, Helen Palmer and Kathleen Pickering** for all of your contributions to the LWVMN Board. You're Wonderful!

***Carol Frisch, Jeanne Matlock, Judy Covey and Connie Hondl** for remaining on the Board.

FIELD SERVICE

(Anne Borgen, 1811 Pennsylvania Ave. N. Golden Valley, 55427 612/545-7076;
woodhill60@aol.com)

Greetings as another League year draws to a close. This is a bittersweet memo for me to write. It is a goodbye from me personally after ten years on the state board---not goodbye to League and never to the wonderful people I have met, but to the roles I have played for so long. Serving on the state board has been work to be sure, but it has also been interesting, rewarding, and fun. I thank you for the opportunity and recommend the experience to all of you.

The major retirement to be announced is that of Peggy Thompson, long time Field Service staff. No one knows and cares more about local Leagues across the state than Peggy. She is a walking encyclopedia on the subject. It is amazing how often the answer

to a question in the state office is "Ask Peggy." I'm sure she will still answer them by phone when we are stuck. Those of you who know Peggy will understand that no retirement parties or public fusses are acceptable. I think, however, that she might enjoy a note from you or your League. If you send them to the state office, we'll be sure that she gets them. We all owe her a huge thank you for years of service to the League in Minnesota.

The other side of this announcement is the good news that Laurie Boche, LWV of ROMAFH, will try out the position during the State Convention. Laurie is an experienced and enthusiastic Leaguer who has belonged to large and small Leagues. You will have an opportunity to meet her at Convention.

The last item in this memo was written by Mary Hepokoski of Golden Valley at my request. It concerns a form of cooperative effort that nine Leagues in the West Metro Area have developed. At a time when many Leagues are struggling, this arrangement seems to work so I wanted you to have an opportunity to hear about it and to consider if such joint efforts could help your own Leagues.

A Collaboration of West Metro Leagues By Mary Hepokoski

In the fall of 1995 Linda Satorius, LWVMN Field Service Director, sent a memo to nine Leagues in the West Metro Area (Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove, Crystal/New Hope/E.Plymouth, Golden Valley, MEPH, Robbinsdale, St. Louis Park, South Tonka, and Wayzata/Plymouth). She was aware that a number of these Leagues were struggling to hold it together in the face of dwindling membership and leadership.

A dialogue was started which lasted through that year. Areas of possible cooperation discussed were Voter Service, State/Nation/CMAL Studies, fund-raisers, lobbying, newsletters, member recruitment and training, and list maintenance. Some of the Leagues surveyed their membership formally, some informally. It was agreed that the experiment in cooperative ventures would start slowly. We didn't want to make another level of League that would be more burden than help. The idea was to give more satisfaction with less work.

In the fall of 1996 we held a joint informational meeting on the Minnesota State Government Spending Study. After the presentation we divided up into individual Leagues to answer the consensus questions. Satisfaction with the meeting was high. We also had extensive cooperation in the area of Voter Service, reducing conflicts in scheduling forums and helping each other get moderators.

We continue to have several joint programs each year. It allows us to invite well qualified speakers to present before respectably sized audiences. The amount of time spent making arrangements is not significantly more than any one League might spend, but that effort is not being duplicated by all nine Leagues. We have sponsored a well-attended joint membership event, several joint CMAL presentations, and two joint

meetings on the state study of the Election of Judges. None of the Leagues felt they could invite the highly qualified judges who willingly participated on the panel at the first of these meetings to speak to just a few people in one league.

The Leagues also cooperate in planning and executing voter service projects where their political boundaries overlap. As in the case of studies there is less duplication of effort and more satisfaction. The West Metro Leagues applied for and received a Martin Grant last year.

Other benefits include the refreshing opportunity for Leagues that do not have many new or younger members to see the talents of the new members in other Leagues. It is also good for these newer and/or younger members to make connections with similar members in other Leagues. Working with other Leagues is also invigorating for some of the long time local leaders who were feeling burned out.

This joint effort allows individual Leagues to retain their community identity and local boards to spend more time on their local issues. The structure is informal. Local representatives schedule brief informal meetings only as needed—perhaps five or six times a year. Email makes the task of planning and communicating much more efficient. No one person has assumed the leadership of the group, but different members take turns sharing in planning and executing the tasks. It works because of the capability and the dedication of the participants and because it really does reduce the work and increase the satisfaction.

MEMBER RESOURCES

(Jeanne Matlock, 1128 W. Montana Ave., St. Paul, 55108 651/488-0458,
jmatlock@pro-ns.net)

We realize that many facilities now require liability coverage for events and the prohibitive cost for local Leagues has often resulted in the inability to make use of such facilities. The LWVMN Board of Directors has recently expanded LWVMN's liability insurance coverage policy to include coverage for local Leagues.

The policy is held through the Commercial Associates of MN, Inc. Agency with the Citizens Insurance Co. Should you need a Certificate of Insurance prior to an event, contact David Wistrick of Commercial Associates of Mn at 612/890-9332. If you want a copy of your League's Certificate of Insurance for your records, please contact the State League Office. We have your individual policies on file and want to make sure that this information goes to the right person in your League.

Come
browse
at the
League
Bookstore at
Convention

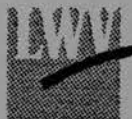


**Pick up League
publications and
products at special
convention prices.**

- * The 1999 edition of **HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE**—*Special price \$7.00*
- * Our new study **CHOOSING MINNESOTA'S JUDGES**—*Special price \$2.50*
- * **WE'VE GOT THE POWER: SKILLS FOR DEMOCRACY**, grades 7-12 curriculum in English and Spanish—*Special price \$18.00*
- * **WE THE PEOPLE: SKILLS FOR DEMOCRACY**, grades K-6—*Special price \$18.00*
- * League pens and pencils with stars and stripes—*Special price \$.70 each*
- * League stationery—*Special price \$3.50 for 10*
- * Award certificates—*Special price \$2.50*

Treat yourself, have some fun, stop by the League Bookstore

Checks, Visa and Mastercard accepted



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA EDUCATION FUND

CATALOG

FOR LOCAL LEAGUES

League Tools

LOCAL LEAGUE PRESIDENT'S NOTEBOOK
\$15.

PORTFOLIO UPDATES

Resource for President and Board. \$3.

PROGRAM FOR ACTION

Guide to LWVMN positions on issues. \$4.

GUIDE TO LOCAL PROGRAM

\$3.50

LOCAL LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING GUIDE

\$1.

LEAGUE-L-LESE

All you wanted to know about League. \$.50

SIMPLIFIED PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Booklet based on Robert's Rules of Order. \$1

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Membership Brochure. \$.30 for 1-50; \$.27 for 51-200; \$.24 for 201 or more

MINNESOTA VOTER

LWVMN newsletter is published 5 times per year. \$10 per year. Free to members.

CATALOG

Lists publications available to general Public. Mailed in President's Mailing. Free

Lobbying

HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

NEW 1999 citizen lobbyist handbook is a must for those who want to be effective lobbyists. 109 pgs. \$10 (\$8 members)

CAPITOL LETTER

Biweekly newsletter during session. LWVMN lobbyists report on issues they follow at the Minnesota Legislature. \$10 per year

Mental Health

HOW ARE WE SERVING MINNESOTA'S MENTALLY ILL?

Valuable Minnesota resource for mental health professionals, consumers of mental health service and their families alike. Includes Executive Summary. \$15

HOW ARE WE SERVING MINNESOTA'S MENTALLY ILL?

Executive Summary

8 page summary of previously listed book. Free (Add \$.50 postage.)

League History

WOMEN IN ACTION, REBELS AND REFORMERS, 1920—1980

\$6.95 (members \$5.95)

Government

CHOOSING MINNESOTA'S JUDGES

NEW Primer on the judicial selection process \$3.00

A CITIZEN'S GUIDE TO STATE FINANCE

An Overview of Minnesota Revenue and Expenditures

Indispensable booklet makes Minnesota tax policy easy to understand with concise explanations, charts and graphs. \$7 (members \$5)

Voter Service

THE ROAD TO ELECTION DAY—VIDEO

14 minute video, study guide included. \$45. One week rental, \$20 (\$45 deposit).

THE ROAD TO ELECTION DAY STUDY GUIDE

Companion to Video. \$1.

CANDIDATE FORUM GUIDELINES

Revised 1998. \$10. (Members \$8.)

PUBLIC CANDIDATE FORUMS A CHECKLIST FOR SPONSORS

\$2.50

HOW TO WATCH A DEBATE

\$1.

PICK A CANDIDATE

\$.75

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION RULES SIGN

FEC required sign for voter registration drives. \$.25

VOTER GUIDE

Available after October 3rd in even-year elections. Call office for price list.

VOTER INFORMATION PACKET

Folder packed with useful information \$8.00

League Products

LWV NOTE CARDS

Package of 10 white linen note cards with red & gray logo. \$4.00, 2 packs for \$7.50, 4 packs for \$14.

PATRIOTIC PENS AND PENCILS

Red, white and blue flag with imprint "League of Women Voters" \$1. each
5 for \$4.50, 10 for \$8., 20 for \$14.

CERTIFICATES

Certificate of Recognition, "We appreciate your service on behalf of the League."
Red, blue and black inks on parchment. A beautiful award. \$3.

LWV BUTTONS

Large green and white button. \$.50

Public Policy Issues

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

A focus on primary prevention efforts. \$3.

THE SALE, USE AND POSSESSION OF FIREARMS IN MINNESOTA

Facts and Issues. Study is a dispassionate examination of issues surrounding firearms. 12 pages free (Add \$.50 postage.)

Curricula

WE THE PEOPLE: SKILLS FOR DEMOCRACY

Powerful citizenship curriculum for kindergarten through sixth.
114 pages, loose-leaf, punched, \$25 (members \$20)
U.S. Constitution parchment replica (13x20), add \$3
3 ring notebook, add \$3

WE THE PEOPLE FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

Guide for teacher workshops complete with overheads, \$20. Available for one week rental \$10 with \$20 deposit. Free with 15 copies.

WE'VE GOT THE POWER: SKILLS FOR DEMOCRACY

Highly acclaimed curriculum designed to empower young people, grades 7-12, to become active, informed citizens in a democracy. Third edition, loose-leaf, punched, \$25 (members \$20); 3 ring notebook add \$3

TENEMOS PODER: HABILIDADES PARA LA DEMOCRACIA

Spanish edition of We've Got the Power \$25
(members \$20); 3 ring notebook add \$3
One copy each of English and Spanish editions \$40. No further discounts.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN U.S. HISTORY

Curriculum. Free (Add \$1. postage.)

David Laird **(chair)**
President
Minnesota Private Colleges
Council
Fund Research Foundation
St. Paul

John Fox Blackshaw
Senior Vice President
Tunheim Santrizos
Minneapolis

Marjorie Christianson
Election Supervisor
Hennepin County
Minneapolis

Judy Duffy
President, Minnesota
League of Women Voters
St. Paul

Patty Bernier
Sales Manager
US West DEX
Duluth

Paul Lindbloom
President
Acrometal Companies, Inc.
Brainerd

Jim McGinnis
President
Murphy McGinnis Media
Duluth

Jeff Cox
(secretary)
City Clerk
City of Duluth

Nancy Cross
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Brainerd
Community
Action
Brainerd

Vicki Gowler
Managing Editor
St. Paul Pioneer Press
St. Paul

Jim Roberts
Vice President
Corporate Relations
Minnesota Power
Duluth

Ellen Sushak
Community Ed. Director
Minnesota Dept. of Children,

Peggy Hanson
(vice-chair, treasurer)
Community Relations
Administrator
Minnesota Power, Inc.
Duluth

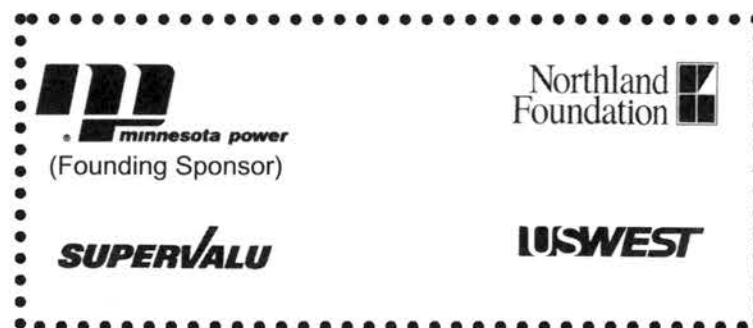
Dr. Tom Nelson
Superintendent
Buffalo School District
Buffalo

Frank Pazlar
Minnesota Utility Investors
St. Paul

Ted Peterson
Community Ed. Director
Hermantown-Proctor Schools
Proctor

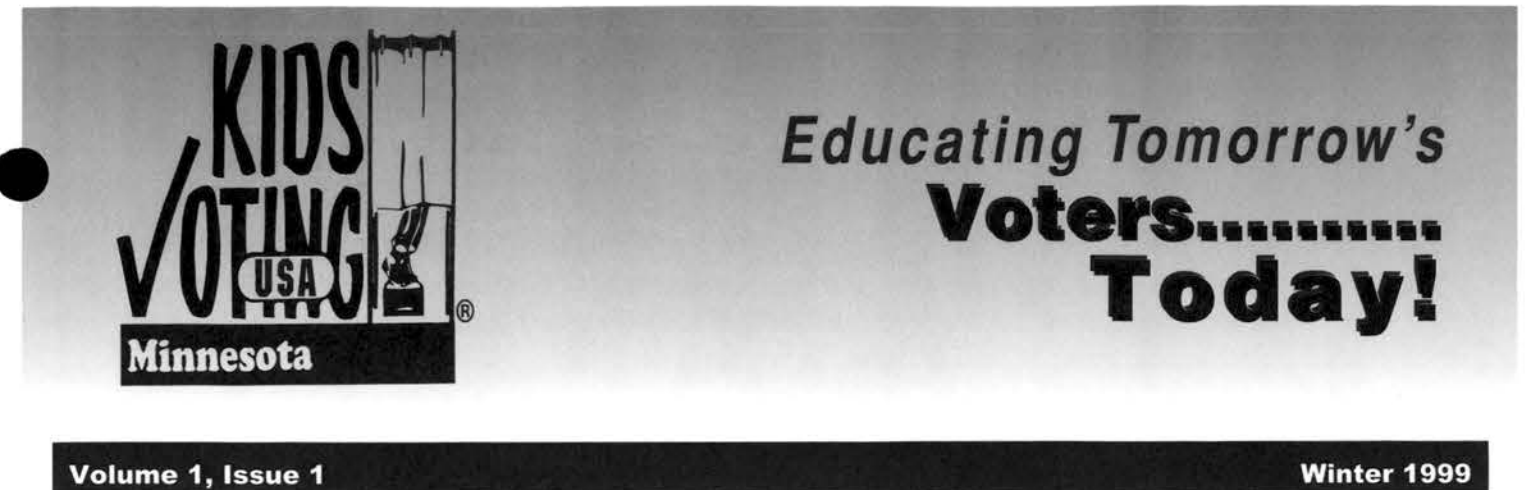
Kids Voting Minnesota Board of Directors

Corporate Sponsors:



Kids Voting Minnesota
30 W. Superior St.
Duluth, MN 55802

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



"KEEP THE FIRES BURNING"

KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA has been increasing voter turnout in Minnesota since 1994 using the same philosophy that got Jesse Ventura elected: fan the flames of democracy in the hearts of the young (in our case, while they are still in school); get the young people excited about voting while they are in their formative years and they'll bring their parents to the polls; instill the voting habit early and when they are grown, they will not depart from it. We won't always have a colorful candidate like Jesse Ventura to get the fires burning, but KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA is stoking the fire in the hearts of students, tapping into the energy and idealism of youth, giving them the opportunity to vote while they are still young, allowing them a vision of determining their future, and setting entire communities ablaze with excitement on election day. All 10 KidsVoting communities recorded adult voter turnout above the state average, ranging from 64% to 79%. Certainly that says something



Governor Ventura and Kids Voting M.C.
Heather Hendrickson



Governor Ventura answers student questions at Mall of America

Ventura Voice of Youth Forum

On Saturday, Jan 9th, Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura met with 150 students from 15 high schools around the state in the first ever Kids Voting Youth Forum. Joining him and the students at the Mall of America in Bloomington was Lt. Governor Mae Schunk. The kids received a special visit from "Snoopy" as well. The Champlin Park High School Band played, and the Governor spent 45 minutes answering questions from the students while thousands of Mall visitors listened in. Heather Hendrickson, a junior at Virginia High School and an important player in Kids Voting Minnesota/Virginia, was the Master of Ceremonies. According to Governor Ventura, the students asked tougher questions than gubernatorial debate organizers had asked. After the event, the students gathered for sandwiches donated by Subway and the Mall of America.

CAN ONE PERSON CONSTITUTE A DEBATE?

We had it all set; The Rotunda at the Mall of America reserved all day long; Voting Hall of Fame display prepared; Election History display ready to be set up; A television station ready to broadcast; 200 students from high schools all over the state prepared to come. Hand held computer keypads so all 200 students could register their reactions instantly on a central computer. But where were the gubernatorial candidates? First we had 2 coming. We worked hard on getting number three. We decided finally a debate could happen with 2 candidates. Then suddenly we had three. Then number two backed out and number three backed out. We were left with one....Jesse Ventura. He had been on board from the beginning. But a person can't debate himself, so Kids Voting canceled the first ever all student- governor candidate debate. We'll try again in the 2000 senate race.



"Lumberjack Days Parade"

KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA welcomes Cloquet to our ever expanding group of affiliates. The 1998 elections were a first for this community and according to all reports, they had a great time. They experienced almost a 50% student voter turnout. The Pine Knot, a local newspaper, and the Cloquet Chamber of Commerce spearheaded the effort. Thanks to Della Lynch and Scott Elwood for their leadership efforts. Kids Voting even had a float in the Cloquet Lumberjack Days Parade.

KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA welcomes Alexandria to the list of Kids Voting communities. For the first time, Alexandria ran Kids Voting elections. They were one of two communities who were able to scan their ballots using a NCS scanner. It certainly makes counting go quickly. KSAX TV's Corliss Stark was instrumental in getting Kids Voting to come to Alexandria. Terry Quist was the project coordinator.

KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA /ESKO took some preventative steps this year to avoid some negative press they experienced in '96. With only one polling place, the adult wait sometimes gets long and although the kids were well behaved, when the adults got impatient with the wait, the kids undeservedly got the blame. This year Kids Voting got a separate room at the community center and all went well. Thanks go to Sara Liimatainen for coordinating the program.



Students blow bubbles representing wishes for our country at Virginia Kids Voting Rally.

CONGRATULATIONS TO KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA/VIRGINIA Virginia was the only Kids Voting community to increase its voter turnout over 1996 elections. Through a lot of hard work, competition and rewards in the schools and the involvement of the high school student council members in promoting Kids Voting, Virginia came in with an impressive 71% student voter turnout. This must have affected their community as well. Adult voter turnout in Virginia was 78%. Congratulations to Patty Phillips and the volunteers in Virginia.

Kids Voting Minnesota/Duluth managed to get Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page to speak to Duluth students. He talked about the opportunities we have to make choices that determine the course of our future. One of those important choices is the decision to vote and who to vote for.

With the aid of an NCS scanner and the help of Mr. Tony Braun from NCS, Duluth was able to finish counting ballots by 10:00 pm on Election Day. This was a first in their history.



Former MN Viking Alan Page meets with Duluth students.



Lindsey Trombley votes at Crow Wing Town Hall, Kids Voting/Brainerd Lakes Area

KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA/BRAINERD made arrangements for Uncle Sam, Betsy Ross, Susan B. Anthony, and Abe Lincoln to visit each of the Brainerd schools and talk to the kids. Each was a great hit with the students.

They also got the local power company to add Kids Voting publicity in the monthly newsletter. In local issues on the ballot, kids identified the most pressing problem they faced as getting good grades at school. They also voted to not allow liquor sales on Sunday in the city, a departure from the adult vote. Theresa Goble coordinated the Kids Voting effort in Brainerd.



Volunteers count ballots on election eve in Hermantown.

KIDS VOTING WEBSITE

KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA has a website thanks to the generosity of Minnesota Power and the help of Linda Holliday, Minnesota Power website designer. You'll find us at: www.mpelectric.com/kidsvoting

There's sample curriculum, pictures of people and events, all the results of KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA elections and links to other websites about voting as well as links to sponsors web pages. There's also a listing of upcoming events. Give us a call soon.

principal at Remer Elementary, and KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA /REMER Coordinator, **Ginger Kinsley**, KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA /COTTON coordinator, and **Julie Olson**, for coordination the KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA / MT IRON program.

THANKS ALSO TO : Chris Olafson , KIDS VOTING MINNESOTA /HERMANTOWN , **Rob Nudell**, the new

TRAVEL with the LEAGUE

Tour Update from Travel Concepts International, Inc. • Spring 1999 Edition

About Travel Concepts International . . .

Our company was formed over 15 years ago, when the New York State League of Women Voters was looking for a modest fund-raiser which would also benefit its members. And so, for more than a decade we have been bringing 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. Most of our tours incorporate home and school visits, embassy briefings and people-to-people contact.

Our cultural tours benefit participating 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 or 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 try to match you with a suitable roommate.

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



-Gwen Erwood, LWV Placerville Area

TRAVEL WITH THE LEAGUE



*One can learn more from traveling a thousand miles
than from reading a thousand books.*

- A Chinese Saying
Contributed by Jo Weiss

NEW

LONDON & PARIS Your Way
A Week in ISTANBUL
Yachting Cruise along the Turquoise Coast
Ancient Cities of PERSIA
Islands of the Mediterranean, MALTA & more



Naadam Festival in Mongolia

Thundering across the steppe, as in the days of Genghis Khan, come thousands of arats (herdsmen) men, women and youth, to compete and celebrate feats of courage, skill, dexterity, marksmanship and horsemanship. And we'll be there - in Mongolia for the annual Naadam Festival. Picture yourself in a comfortable *ger* (yurt) on the endless steppe under a brilliant starry sky...and exploring the Great Gobi Desert where wildlife abounds. Spin a prayer wheel inside a richly gilded Buddhist temple where few foreigners venture. Marvel at exquisite pagodas filled with precious thangkas. Women For Social Progress (WSP) has invited our group to be their honored guests for two full days in Ulan Bator and the countryside. We'll learn about WSP's remarkable efforts for democracy during the critical transition period. Burmaa, founder and chairperson of WSP, has inspired Leagues across the country during her visit to the United States last year. Musical performances round out the program. Make an overnight stop in magnificent Beijing. Be a part of the exclusive few to have visited Mongolia. Soft Adventure!

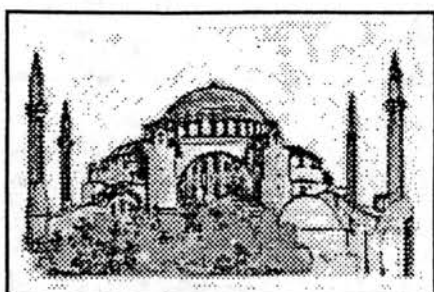
July 3-17 • \$3190 from San Francisco via Air China

LONDON & PARIS Your Way

Here's a 10-day summer vacation designed for first time travelers to London and Paris, as well as those returning to fill their heart's desire. Spend four glorious days in London with elegant accommodations at Bailey Hotel, conveniently located in Kensington. Then we're off on the high-speed Eurostar train via the Chunnel. In Paris our luxurious Hotel de Castiglione is close to the Louvre and Concorde Metro. A cornucopia of reasonably priced options make excursions easy: Bath, Stratford-on-Avon, Versailles, Chartres and more. Been there? Then come with us for a stroll through Monet's garden in Giverny! Working folks who can only be away for a week will find this trip suits their schedules. Well-priced for peak season travel and superior first class hotels. August 6 - 15 • \$1990 from New York via British Air

A week in ISTANBUL Your Way

Imagine a week in fabled Constantinople, center of the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires! Our small hotel, an authentic restored Turkish House of the 19th century, is just steps away from Sultanahmet Square, the Blue Mosque, Hagia



Sophia and Topkapi Palace. We'll have time to fully enjoy them all along with the Spice Market, Grand Bazaar, and a stroll along the Golden Horn. Our group will be warmly greeted for a special meeting of the Turkish American University Association. For those who like a full organized program, we have optional guided sightseeing of Dolmabahce Palace and the Chora Church; a Bosphorus Cruise; a full day excursion to Edirne, city built by famous architect Sinan; and an overnight excursion to Gallipoli and Troy. There's even time to sip tea or Turkish coffee and admire (or shop) for handmade handicrafts such as carpets, ceramics and tiles, leathers and jewelry. *Affordable*
September 25 - October 2 • \$1490 from NY via Turkish Air

Turquoise Coast Gulet Cruise

What's a gulet? A 12-passenger Turkish yacht with a crew of three. After an exciting week in Istanbul and the Marmara Region, fly to Izmir, birthplace of Homer. We'll make our way along the Aegean coastline to Bodrum, where an impressive Medieval castle guards the bay. Known as Hallicarnassus in ancient times, this was the site on one of Pliny's Seven Wonders of the World, the Tomb of King Mausolus. From the Bodrum Peninsula, where the waters of the Aegean and Mediterranean meet, we'll sail on a one week *blue voyage*, said to be the best sailing experience in the world! You don't need to be a sailor to enjoy it though. Even League members need time to kick off their shoes, relax, and bask in soft Mediterranean-Aegean sun as our guide tells us tales of bygone eras! Uncover many hidden treasures of the small Lycian kingdoms, and explore picturesque villages, little islands and gorgeous coves. Visit Didyma and Miletus on the return trip to Istanbul. Turkey is definitely worth a revisit. It's a trip you'll always treasure. *Extension, October 2 - 10*

Combined with A Week in Istanbul, only \$2520

SPAIN & PORTUGAL In Style

Travel in style! This tour is designed for those who prefer four and five-star hotels and resorts, along with a carefully planned and extensive itinerary. From Gaudi's Barcelona, it's the Talgo Train to Madrid with plenty of time to explore the Prado. Visit the Alcazar in Segovia and Holy Toledo. The parador visits include exquisite dining. Venture to Moorish Granada via the heart of Andalusia. Stroll through the Generalife Gardens and then step back into time in the awesome Alhambra and the Arab Mosque in Cordoba. Continue to Portugal's loveliest areas: the Algarve and fairytale-like Sintra. Here is an exquisite program designed for just 15 persons. *Deluxe*

September 30 - October 14 • \$3960 from NY via Iberia

Ancient Cities of Legendary PERSIA

Visit the land of intrigue, mystery and beauty! Drawn by the cultural and historical grandeur of an ancient land, join us for a fascinating journey. We'll search for the fabled Peacock Throne in Tehran; marvel at the architectural wonder of Darius the Great's Persepolis, a majestic city built 518 B.C. Visit Shiraz, the capital of the Zand dynasty and one of the most important cities of the medieval Islamic world, a city of poetry and gardens. In the central city of Isfahan, soak in the beauty of the Imam Mosque, whose peaked arches and intricately cut mosaics have enthralled visitors since the 17th century; the Armenian Cathedral and the Zoroastrian Fire Temple. We'll also take in the claybrick desert citadel of Bam and the Sassanian Palace at Kerman (224-637 A.D.) According to Iran's Tourism Organization, just over 2,000 Americans visited Iran in the past year, only about 0.1 percent of the total tourist arrivals. In contrast, 130,000 Western Europeans, 182,000 South Asians and 312,000 people from the Caucasus visited. U.S. tourists have been warmly welcomed, so we're going!

November 6-17 • \$2825 via British Air from New York

Thanksgiving in RUSSIA

This short action-packed trip is becoming a holiday tradition. Just when we are sure everyone who has wanted to go has gone, we start to receive calls asking whether it is on for this year. Past travelers want to return and new friends are eager to see for themselves. So one more time, enjoy a memorable holiday in Moscow and St. Petersburg! Russia truly is a *winter wonderland*. The theater comes alive and the onion domes sparkle against the snow. Why not take someone special in your family? Airfare, comfortable hotels, extensive sightseeing, Moscow circus and much more! *Affordable*

November 22-29 • \$1250 from New York via FINNAIR



Medieval Towns of the Golden Ring

Travel off the beaten path! Journey to the ancient town of Vladimir, where the Russian nationality was formed. In Suzdal, stay within the walls of the historic and beautiful Pokrovsky Monastery, pictured above. Learn about peasant life in the well-preserved Museum of Wooden Architecture. Visit the workshops and museums in two of the most famous Russian villages, Palekh and Kholui, where traditional lacquered boxes are produced by skilled workmen and women. Partake of authentic Russian cuisine. Sing, dance, shop and experience real Russian hospitality. Join us for this one of a kind adventure! All air service via FINNAIR, the airline with Finnish finesse. *Affordable*

November 27 - December 4 • \$1690 from New York

Combined with Russia Thanksgiving \$2190

Pearls of the ORIENT

Bangkok Singapore Bali

Escape the cold! We're off to the Orient to explore three vibrant cultures! First stop, Bangkok for five action-packed days including a Chao Phraya River Cruise to the ancient capital of Ayutthaya. On to the dynamic Crown Colony of Singapore, an international melting pot of Chinese, Malay and Indian. In Bali you'll soon understand why art is considered a way of life. Our time on the *Island of the Gods*, is divided between a Nusa Dua deluxe resort and a tucked away lodge in the famous art village of Ubud. Our guide will take us to the colorful local festivals and ceremonies! Full program, most meals, first class and deluxe hotels - and low price!

Feb 15- 29 • \$2990 from San Francisco via Cathay Pacific



GREAT SILK ROAD Expedition

For over two thousand years the Silk Road was a conduit for cultural exchange. From Chang'an, China's ancient capital of eleven dynasties, the mystical Silk Road stretched to the shores of the Mediterranean. Silk, spices, tea, precious metals, ivory and textiles, made the journey in about a year and a half. But more, the Silk Road was an exchange of culture between the Oriental and Occidental civilizations, bringing major religions, literature, art and technological advances. Colorful characters such as Italy's Marco Polo and China's Xuanzhuang Monk left romantic tales to add luster to its history. Today the Silk Road is being revitalized and is once again a channel of friendly economic and cultural exchange between China and the rest of the world. This affordable journey covers the entire China portion: Urumqi, Kashi, Turpan, Dunhuang, Lanzhou, Xiahe and Xian. Who says all exotic trips must be expensive? Escorted by Mr. Sam Su.

March 7-28 • 22 days from San Francisco via Air China • \$3240

Islands of the Mediterranean

Malta, the *Island of Sunshine*, is situated between Sicily and Tunisia. The archipelago boasts beautiful natural harbors that have attracted welcomed and unwelcomed visitors throughout history. From the Phoenicians, to the Byzantines, Ottomans, Crusaders, French and English, it has been a crossroads of Europe and Africa. A rich cultural legacy has left Malta a showcase of art and archaeology. It's an island boasting prehistoric artifacts and traces of the Knights of St. John. We'll explore the capital, Valletta, and take an excursion to Europe's oldest archeological sites, the Tarxien Temples (3,000 B.C.). Stroll through walled towns dating back to the Bronze Age, ferry to the island of Gozo and make an excursion to mysterious Hagar Qim. How about an extension to Sicily? TBA

ICELAND, Nature's Marvels



Did you know Greenland is icy, but Iceland is green? Warmed by the Gulf Stream, spectacular birds and Icelandic ponies, as well as Viking descendents, occupy this amazing island. Water performs for you in incredible ways in Iceland. Behold thundering water falls and steamy geysers. Awe before glaciers and let the warm mineral waters of the Blue Lagoon soothe away aches and pains. The fresh air and clean water are exhilarating! Our group last fall was enchanted with Iceland. Besides the natural beauty, we found the people and culture wonderful: Icelandic artists speak to the soul and story tellers keep you smiling. Amazingly, the population is only 285,000 and yet Icelanders have their own language and historical sagas. Iceland also has a tremendous bird population. We'll be there to welcome the puffins as they return from the Faroe Islands and pay a visit to Keiko in Westmann Islands. The days will be long and weather perfect. Depart from New York, Baltimore or Minneapolis. May 27- June 4 • \$2660 via Iceland Air

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1999

- ☐ Naadam Festival in Mongolia • July 3-17
- ☐ London & Paris Your Way • August 6 - 15
- ☐ A week in Istanbul • September 25 - October 2
- ☐ Turquoise Coast of Turkey, Gulet Cruise • October 2-10
- ☐ Spain & Portugal In Style • September 30 - October 14
- ☐ Ancient Cities of Persia • November 6-17
- ☐ Thanksgiving in Russia • November 22-29
- ☐ Medieval Towns of Russian's Golden Ring • Nov 27-Dec 4

MILLENNIUM TOUR

- ☐ Egypt, the Nile and the Sinai • December 26- January 7

2000

- ☐ Pearls of the Orient • February 15-29
- ☐ Great China Silk Road Expedition • March 7-28
- ☐ Islands of the Mediterranean - Malta and more TBA
- ☐ Iceland - Nature's Marvels • May 27- June 4
- ☐ Northern Spain including Bilbao • Fall

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Phone Number _____

- ☐ Please remove my name from the mailing list
- ☐ Please send an update to my friend(s):

Millennium Cruise, THE NILE plus



Abu Simbel
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What better place to celebrate civilization's continuity?

Step back into time. Journey into the past. Visit the Land of the Pharaohs. Let us take you in grand style for a five-day cruise on the Nile to visit the Valley of the Kings and Queens, Thebes (today known as Luxor) and tranquil Aswan. In Giza, see the legendary Pyramids and Sphinx. Fly to the fabled Abu Simbel, Ramses the Great's entrance to Upper Egypt. Our Nabila cruise ship features spacious suites. We'll celebrate the New Year in style and in the best of company! Then fly to the Sinai Peninsula and spend three days at a deluxe resort in Sharm El Sheikh. There's time for ultimate relaxation along the crystal clear waters of the Red Sea. We suggest the optional excursion to St. Catherine's Monastery. For the hearty, take a trek (or camel ride) to the top of Mount Moses for a splendid view of the sunrise. Pilgrims from around the world make the visit a spiritual experience. Enjoy deluxe hotels in Cairo and explore Upper Egypt with a leading Egyptologist and our capable tour manager.

December 26 - January 7

\$4990 from New York via Egypt Air

Visit our Website

www.travelwiththeleague.com

For day-by-day itineraries and further details regarding each program, please visit our website. It's easy to request full brochures through the internet. "Bookmark" the site for new tours and ask your local league to link with us. We aren't listed on any search engines, so please go directly to the website (open location).

Northern SPAIN & Bilbao

A new tour is "under construction". Let us know if this is a destination which interests you and we'll keep you informed when the date and itinerary are set. Fall 2000

Zoya tells her story

Many of our travelers have had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Zoya Zarubina while in Moscow. Her memoirs have been published under the title *INSIDE RUSSIA, the Life and Times of Zoya Zarubina*. To order, contact the author Dr. Inez C. Jeffrey at (512) 478-2336. Interesting reading as told by a former Soviet Intelligence Officer and interpreter during the Stalin years. This is more intriguing than any spy novel!

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TRAVEL WITH THE LEAGUE



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REFERENCE !**

Spring 1999

BOARD MEMO



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA

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lwvmn@mtn.org
<http://tcfreenet.org/ip/pol/lwvmn>

FEBRUARY 1999
1-800-663-9328

Calendar

- February** 25 – *Presidents' Mailing* to local League Presidents, subscribers
- March**
- 1 – LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; MWB, 1:00 p.m.
 - 3 – **LWVUS President Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins** visits LWVMN office and Minnesota Women's Building; 2:30 p.m.
 - Reception for Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins at Minneapolis Hyatt
 - 4 – Westminster Forum, Westminster Church, Minneapolis, featuring Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins; Noon; followed by luncheon and panel, broadcast live by MPR
 - LWVMN hosts reception for Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins at Macalester College Alumni House; 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
 - 9 – LWVMN Member Resources Committee; MWB; 1:00 p.m.
 - 11 – LWVMN Office Management Committee; MWB; 1:30 p.m.
 - 12 – Leaders of Today and Tomorrow Steering Committee; MWB; 9 a.m.
 - 15 – Study Circles Steering Committee; MWB; Noon
 - 17 – LWVMN/EF Board Meetings; MWB; 9:00 a.m. – Noon
 - 23 – *Presidents' Mailing*
 - 27 – Book Fair/Fundraiser for LWVMNEF Fundraiser for LOTT; Highland Barnes & Noble, St. Paul; 1:00 -4:00 p.m.
 - 29 – **LWVMN Convention Registration Deadline**
- April** 16 & 17- **LWVMN Convention at Best Western Kelly Inn, St. Cloud**

ENCLOSURES

- (Enclosed with this mailing to local League Presidents and DPM subscribers)
- *Information and Registration Packet for the 57th LWVMN Convention/Matlock
 - *Slate of Proposed Officers and Directors for LWVMN for 1999-2001/Cooper
 - *Proposed Program for 1999-2001/Hondl, Dinneen
 - *Proposed Budgets for 1999-2001/Witta
 - *Proposed Amendments to LWVMN Bylaws/Matlock
 - *Selection of Judges Position, adopted by LWVMN Board, 2/17/99/Gendler, Palmer
 - **Choosing Minnesota's Judges* order form/Kargas
 - *Leaders of Today and Tomorrow Book Fair Flyer & voucher/Erickson
 - *LWVMN Spring, 1999 Publication Catalog/Kargas

BOUQUETS TO

- *Janet Gendler and Helen Palmer for the Judges' Study conclusion. Fine work!
- *Ady Wickstrom for compliments from the general public on our great website;
- *Judy Covey for compliments on the curriculum unsolicited and from out of state;
- *Mary Dinneen and Connie Hondl for compilation work on local League program planning results;
- *Carol Frisch and Nancy Witta and all of the volunteers for a fine Citizens in Action Conference—a great public service!
- *Kay Erickson and Andrea Lex for work on the Leaders of Today and Tomorrow(LOTT) event;
- *Sally Sawyer for twenty years as LWVMN Executive Director—she's marvelous!

P r e s i d e n t

(Judy Duffy, 505 Lake, Birchwood 55110-1631 651/429-9703)

The LWVMN Convention is coming up. Your materials are included with this mailing.

Thanks to all of you who participated in the program planning process. We know how much work it is but it is a very important part of who we are. While there wasn't a groundswell to drop or update any one topic there were many good comments. Those comments are included with this mailing (part of the proposed program packet) and will be forwarded to the Action Committee for their consideration and certainly you can make further comment at the Convention.

The proposed program for 1999-2001 is enclosed in this mailing. It includes the new recommended study item on immigration, the non-recommended items and the recommended concurrence with the LWVEdina's position on alcohol and tobacco use.

The Nominating Committee's proposed slate of LWVMN Board members and the proposed Bylaws changes are also included.

The Proposed Budgets for 1999-2001 for LWVMN and LWVMNEF are also enclosed. Please take time to look at all of this.

Finally, I do encourage you to make every effort to send delegates to our biennial Convention April 16 & 17. In addition to Convention action on program and budget for the next two years, a variety of workshops will be offered. There will be opportunities to network and learn from one another. Our major speakers, Secretary of State Mary Kiffmeyer, Lt. Governor Mae Schunk and Senator Ember Reichgott-Junge, representing the three major parties in state government, should provide interest and inspiration.

See you there!

Book Lovers, please note: enclosed in this mailing is a flyer for a Book Fair at the Highland Barnes & Noble in St. Paul to benefit LWVMNEF's Leaders of Today and Tomorrow program. The date is March 27th from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The voucher on the reverse side of the flyer for you to present when purchasing your books gives a percentage of the proceeds to LWVMNEF and the LOTT program.

Marketing

(Eydie Kargas, 612/473-8610; e-mail ekargas@wavefront.com)

We the People Citizenship Curriculum(Grades K-6)

We've Got the Power Citizenship Curriculum(Grades 7-12)

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund has published two powerful citizenship curricula, both internationally and nationally recognized, that teachers can use to implement Profile of Learning, People and Cultures. We need your help to get our timely curricula implemented in the schools. This is what our Minnesota teachers need to meet the requirements of the Profile of Learning. They will thank your league for introducing them to these curricula. We will be happy to give you a FREE copy of the curriculum to pass on to a decision-maker in your school district. Leaguers who have kids in school should introduce the curricula to their teachers. Tell teachers and administrators that our curricula fits in with Profile of Learning, People and Cultures and that they can find sample chapters on our web site. I will be happy to talk to any Leaguer who wants to know more about it. Please let me know about anyone interested in using the curriculum. A few Leagues have informed their school districts about the curriculum and it has been implemented. We have sent brochures and letters to **all** the school districts. Now they need your personal touch.

How To Make A Difference: A Citizen's Guide To State Government

Encourage your members and board to purchase our brand new citizen lobbyist handbook, **How to Make A Difference**. Ordering has never been easier because a brochure is being mailed to every league member. You may also order from our 1999 catalog that has been enclosed in this mailing.

How To Make A Difference is a must if you want to lobby effectively: every member should have a copy next to her/his telephone. Also, provide copies for your school districts. Many High Schools and colleges are now using it for a text book. Our spiral bound handbook is full of practical advice on how to write effective letters to legislators, protocol for testifying before a committee and tips on lobbying in person. Maps, phone numbers, addresses and general information about the Minnesota Legislature and the U.S. Congress are all included. 109 pages. \$8.00 for members (nonmembers \$10.00).

**LOOKING TO THE FUTURE/
BUILDING ON THE PAST**

*League of Women Voters of Minnesota
57th BIENNIAL CONVENTION
April 16, 17, 1999
Best Western Kelly Inn
St. Cloud*

Lt. Governor Mae Schunk
Secretary of State Mary Kiffmeyer
Senator Ember Reichgott-Junge

That's our impressive lineup of Convention speakers! We kick off Friday with two workshops—Voter Service and Seeking Public Office with Shirley Nelson. The first session of the Convention is Friday afternoon followed by a reception and dinner with the Lieutenant Governor speaking. There will be two workshops Friday evening—one for presidents and one on FutureTrek.

Saturday morning there will be two sessions of workshops covering a variety of subjects. That will be followed by brunch and then the second session of Convention.

Come join us! Come with non-recommended Program items you feel strongly about. Come prepared to campaign for them.

**COME--
BE part of the decision-making process!
Learn!
Have Fun!**

Don't miss the last Convention of the Century.

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATES AND VISITORS
57TH STATE CONVENTION
Best Western Kelly Inn
April 16, 17, 1999

The purpose of the State Convention is to consider and authorize for action a Program for the next two years, to elect officers and directors and to adopt a budget. Directions for registration are detailed on this sheet and on the attached registration blank.

CREDENTIALS Enclosed are the credential forms for the delegates from your League to the 57th State Convention. If you plan to have two people sharing one delegate seat, please list both their names.

Delegates: Local Leagues are entitled to the number of delegates provided for in Section 4 of Article VIII of the state bylaws. Admittance to the Convention floor is by badge only. Delegate credentials and badges are transferable. This is to aid local Leagues in keeping a full delegation throughout the Convention. When we speak of "each, a, the" delegate, we refer to one delegate seat. As stated above, if that seat is to be shared, indicate so on the credentials form.

Visitors: Visitors may attend all Convention activities. The visitors do not have a voice or vote during the Convention but do have the valuable opportunity of seeing the League in action. Visitor badges are transferable.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION The credential form and a check covering the cost for each person attending should be returned with the completed registration blank, including workshop selections, to the state office by March 29th. If a delegate seat is to be shared, send the information requested on the registration blank for only the person who will arrive there first. That person will receive the Workbook. The same is true for visitors if they are sharing a package. Visitors attending individual events may be registered individually. Early return of this information to the state office will facilitate the advance preparation of badges and other Convention materials and the mailing of Workbooks. For those who find it impossible to register in advance, there will be a Delayed Registration desk next to the Advance Registration desk.

DELEGATE TRANSFER When two people share a delegate seat, the person who will arrive first is the one registered. She/he will receive the Workbook and should check in at advanced registration to receive the badge. It is the responsibility of the two sharing the seat to make the transfer. The second person has to receive the badge and Workbook. She can either use that badge or turn it in at the registration desk for one of her own.

DELEGATE CHANGE There is no provision for "alternate" at Convention. The most satisfactory way to handle any last minute change, in the event a delegate is unable to attend, is to request the change through the state office up until April 5th. After that date, changes may be made at the Advance Registration desk at the Center. The person replacing the delegate must bring a letter signed by the president or secretary of the League declaring accredited delegate status.

THE WORKBOOK Workbook material will include proposals for Program, bylaw amendments, slate of nominees for officers and directors, state budget expenditures and income, and a review of parliamentary procedures. Each delegate will have a copy for pre-Convention study. **BRING THE WORKBOOK WITH YOU TO CONVENTION.**

In the case of a shared delegate seat, the Workbook will go to the person who will arrive first (the one whose name appears first on the registration form). Additional Workbooks, \$7.50 each, may be ordered.

LODGING You will make your own room reservation directly with the Best Western Kelly Inn by calling 1-320-253-0606, ask for room block.. Reservations should be made by April 2nd. The Inn will not hold a block of rooms for us beyond that date. So try to reserve by the deadline if possible. It's convenient to have our own section. The cost of rooms is a flat \$72 plus tax, double - \$62 single. Cost of lodging is not included in the package price.

CAUCUSES Meeting rooms will be available to delegates interested in discussing Program items or other matters of concern after the scheduled events every evening. All plans for meetings will be announced at the Convention. Arrangements should be made ahead of time. Contact the state office.

MISCELLANEOUS Meetings start and end on time. As a courtesy, smoking is not permitted during Convention sessions. During sessions, admission to the floor is only at times designated by the chair. The registration fee for all delegates and visitors will be refunded only if we are notified by April 5th that they cannot attend. See registration blank for complete information on costs.

PREPARING YOURSELF AS A DELEGATE By the time you reach Convention, you should be fully prepared for your role as a delegate from your League. If registration is completed in advance, you will have delegate information from your Workbook ahead of time so that you can become familiar with its content and therefore participate in discussion with more understanding.

Delegates should have all Convention materials that come from the state office and **all current Program Planning information**. It is important that delegates are fully aware of member thinking about Program choices and all other matters to come before the Convention. Although delegates go uninstructed and cast their votes after careful consideration of Convention discussion, they start from and continue to bear in mind the thinking of the members whom they represent.

League presidents should brief delegates on the powers and authority of the Convention, on the duties and responsibilities of delegates - to be fully informed, listen and discuss. Briefing on parliamentary practices should be part of this preparation. Experienced delegates can describe the atmosphere and procedures of Convention and can give practical advice as well. Plan to get acquainted with members from as many other Leagues as you can.

57TH STATE CONVENTION

April 16, 17, 1999

Best Western Kelly Inn
St. Cloud

Total number of delegates (including presidents) per League for the 1999 Convention:

"Each local League 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 25 voting members shall also be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional 25 members or major fraction thereof belonging to said League on January 1st of said year."

Members-at-Large:

"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 League of Women Voters of Minnesota."

--Bylaws, LWVMN

Note: Official membership count used taken from Annual Membership Count form except in the case of Leagues not submitting reports by January 1st; those counts were taken from printouts in the state office.

LOCAL LEAGUE LIST

	Delegates (Including Presidents)	Membership 1/1/99 (does not include US MALs)
Anoka/Blaine/Coon Rapids	3	33
Arden Hills/Shoreview	3	28
Austin	4	54
Bemidji Area	3	21
Bloomington	3	14
Brooklyn Center	3	6
Brooklyn Park/Osseo/Maple Grove	3	15
Buffalo/Monticello Area	3	7
Cannon Falls	3	11
Cass Lake/Walker Area	3	18
Crystal/New Hope/E. Plymouth	3	21
Duluth	6	100
Eastern Carver County	4	42
Edina	7	130
Freeborn County	3	26
Fridley	3	16
Golden Valley	4	44
Jackson Area	3	15
Mahtomedi Area	3	24
Mankato Area	3	25
Minneapolis	14	306
Minnetonka/Eden Prairie/Hopkins	4	57
New Brighton	3	19
New Ulm	3	27
Northern Dakota County Area	3	31

Northfield	5	77
Owatonna	3	14
Red Wing	4	39
Richfield	4	41
Robbinsdale	3	14
Rochester	7	136
Roseville/Maplewood/Falcon Hts	5	86
St. Cloud Area	4	55
St. Croix Valley	3	25
St. Louis Park	4	38
St. Paul	7	118
St. Peter	3	8
South Tonka	3	30
Wayzata/Plymouth Area	3	25
White Bear Lake/North Oaks	4	45
Willmar	4	50
Woodbury/Cottage Grove	3	35
MALs	4	115

57th State Convention
April 16, 17, 1999
Best Western Kelly Inn
St. Cloud

LWVMN CONVENTION '99 AGENDA

**April 16, 17, 1999
Best Western Kelly Inn**

Friday, April 16th

10:00 a.m. **Registration & Coffee**
11:00-12:00 **Workshops**

Voter Service

A Give and Take
What worked, what didn't
How the Martin Grant made a difference

Seeking Public Office— Why Not You?

Shirley Nelson, Director, Women Candidate Development Coalition

12:15 **Lunch**

First Session — Proposed Order of Business

1:30 **Speaker** —Minnesota Secretary of State Mary Kiffmeyer
2:00 Organization of the Convention & Roll Call of the Leagues
2:15 Treasurer's Report
2:30 President's Report
2:45 Bylaws Committee Report and Action
3:00 Nomination and Election of Officers
3:15 Break
3:30 Presentation of Budget
3:45 Presentation of Proposed Program
 Consideration of Non-Recommended Items
4:45 Action Report
5:00 Announcements

5:30 **Reception**

6:15 Dinner

7:00 **Keynote Address**--Lt. Governor Mae Schunk

7:45 Hope Washburn Award
 Peggy Thompson Award

8:15 **Workshops**

Presidents

How to be Positive and Enthusiastic, and Realistic Strategies for Making the Best Use of Less Time and Enjoying it More

FutureTrek

Taking the League into 2000

9:30 **Budget Committee**
 Caucuses

Saturday, April 17th

7:00 **Presidents Round Table Discussion**

8:00 **Registration & Coffee**

8:30-9:30 **Workshops, Session 1**

Study Circles

How to Become Involved in Community Discussions on Challenges and Opportunities Presented by Immigration in Minnesota

FutureTrek (repeat)

Action

How to be Effective Locally

Membership

Sharing Local League Successes

9:40-10:40 **Workshops, Session 2**

Study Circles (repeat)

Nuts and Bolts

Discussion of Some of the Basics

Media Relations

How to get the Media Attention You Deserve

CMAL

Affordable Housing

10:50 **Brunch**

12:00 **Speaker** – Senator Ember Reichgott-Junge

12:30 Debate and Action on Program

1:45 Adoption of Program

2:00 Adoption of Budget

2:45 Direction to Board

3:00 Adjourn

REGISTRATION BLANK

RETURN TO STATE OFFICE BY March 29, 1999

DIRECTIONS:

1. List president, other delegates and visitors - names (first name, please) and address and check appropriate columns. When paying for packages, check just that column.
2. If a delegate seat is to be shared, send name and address of delegate who will arrive first. That person will receive the workbook. Additional workbooks may be ordered.
3. Register and pay for your number of allotted delegates and any visitors. If there are to be delegate transfers, they arrange for all exchanges - keys, workbooks, badges. New badges may be obtained by turning in the original at the registration desk.
4. Enclose check/checks payable to LWVMN covering packages or individual events.
5. Enclose credential sheet listing each delegate.
6. Remember to enclose the workshop selection sheet. This helps us gauge attendance at the individual workshops. You can always change.

[illegible]

ADVANCED REGISTRATION
April 16, 17, 1999
Best Western Kelly Inn, St. Cloud

FROM: League of Women Voters of _____

Total \$ _____ enclosed for _____ delegates _____ visitors
(number) (number)

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Complete Package	\$110.00	Convention registration, 2 meals 4/16, 1 meal 4/17, all breaks
Individual Events		
Convention Registration Fee	\$53.00	Includes workshops, workbook
Workshop Only Registration Fee	\$15.00	One day only
Lunch	\$10.00	
Brunch	\$15.00	
Banquet	\$20.00	
Additional Workbooks	\$7.50	Workbooks are included in all Convention registrations

Remember: Cost of your room is **not** included in the packages. Make room reservations directly with the Best Western Kelly Inn by calling 1-320-253-0606 & asking for room block.

CONVENTION WORKSHOP SELECTION

Please return to LWVMN by March 29th.

Indicate the number of people intending to attend each workshop. Each person should choose one in each time slot. You can make a change later if you wish, but this gives us some idea of how to assign the various workshop rooms.

Friday, April 16th

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon

_____ Seeking Public Office

_____ Voter Service

8:15 - 9:15 p.m.

_____ Presidents

_____ FutureTrek

Saturday, April 17th

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

_____ Study Circle

_____ FutureTrek(repeat)

_____ Action

_____ Membership

9:40 – 10:40 a.m.

_____ Study Circles(repeat)

_____ Nuts and Bolts

_____ Media Relations

_____ CMAL - Housing

DELEGATE CREDENTIAL FORM
57th State LWVMN Convention

This is to certify that the persons named below are duly accredited delegates. (If delegate slot will be shared, include both names.) Please return with registration form.

LWV of _____

President _____

signature

Name: _____

Name: (if shared slot) _____

Name _____

Name: (if shared slot) _____

Name: _____

Name: (if shared slot) _____

Name: _____

Name: (if shared slot) _____

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Name: (if shared slot) _____

Name: _____

Name: (if shared slot) _____

Name: (if shared slot) _____

Name: _____

Name: (if shared slot) _____

Request for Caucus Room

LWV of _____

requests caucus space for
Name of Program Item _____

Request for Display Space

LWV of _____

Full 8' table _____

½ 8' table _____

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors for 1999-2000, 2000-2001

Nominating Committee: Sandy Cooper, Chair, LWV of Eastern Carver County; Carolyn Cushing, LWV of ROMAFH; Linda Satorius, LWV of Minneapolis; Judy Covey, LWVMN; Carol Frisch, LWVMN

Officers

Judy Duffy, President
LWV of Mahtomedi

Carol Frisch, First Vice President, Membership
LWV of Edina

Janet Gendler, Second Vice President, Study Circles Project
LWV of Minneapolis

Jeanne Matlock, Third Vice President, Member Resources
LWV of St. Paul

Jeanette Lang, Secretary
LWV of Duluth

Connie Hondl, Treasurer
LWV of Edina

Elected Directors (up to eight)

Gabi Brockelsby, Program/Making Democracy Work
LWV of Red Wing

Mary Steen, *Voter* Editor
LWV of Northfield

Judy Covey, Curriculum
LWV of Northfield

Stacy Doepner-Hove, Voter Service
LWV of Minneapolis

Kay Erickson, New Century Campaign
LWV of MEPH

Elizabeth Nordling, Development
LWV of Mahtomedi

Gladys Ritter, Leaders of Today and Tomorrow
LWV of St. Croix Valley

Appointed Directors

(up to eight more Directors may be appointed by the Board)

Positions still to be filled: Field Service, Action, Communications, Government Issues, Nominating Committee Chair and two off-Board members, Planned Giving Chair

Off-Board Chairs

Kathy Kolb, Budget Chair
LWV of Minneapolis

Diane Gibson, Technology
LWV of Arden Hills/Shoreview

Ady Wickstrom, Webmaster
LWV of Arden Hills/Shoreview

Proposed LWVMN Program for 1999-2001

57th State Convention
April 16, 17, 1999

CHOOSING PROGRAM

BECOMING A DYNAMIC DELEGATE

OR

HOW TO BE EFFECTIVE AT THE STATE CONVENTION*

Some of you feel strongly about a particular item and hope that others share or will come to share your views. There are effective ways in which you, as an individual member, can win friends for your cause and influence people to vote on your side.

Remember that a non-recommended item must have been submitted to the Board at least three months before Convention and requires a simple majority vote to be considered on the first day of Convention and a three-fifths vote to be selected on the second day of Convention.

League Conventions are marked by intelligent discussion, organization, timing, public relations, fair play and good humor. To start at the beginning:

1. Before going to Convention

- a. Check to see how many other local Leagues suggested the same item you are interested in. Some of them may want to help with organization. (See Recommended and non-recommended Program suggestions in this packet.)
- b. Check to see what other items were suggested which might be related to yours in some way.
- c. Brainstorm ways to appeal to Convention delegates for support for the item you wish to have considered and enlist their aid in working for it.
- d. Set up a caucus the Friday evening of Convention. (Contact the state office so a room will be reserved for you.)
- e. Work up your arguments for your item and why you prefer it at this time. Think of ways in which other suggested items could be tied into yours.
- f. Duplicate your information, and either mail it to each local League or be prepared to distribute it to all members as they arrive at the convention hall.
- g. Study up on your Parliamentary Procedure, especially making and amending motions, etc. (See *Robert's Rules of Order*; an abbreviated version will be included in delegate's packet.)

2. Final Plans

- a. Get out the vote - encourage all the local Leagues favoring your item to send their delegates and to go to your caucus.
- b. Be ready with a symbol related to your item for others who agree with you to wear until after the vote on Saturday.
- c. Have a spokesperson selected - someone with enthusiasm, who projects well, and who is knowledgeable of your item - to present your item. Two seconding speeches are allowed.
- d. Have people selected to ask particular questions for clarification. Read the Convention Rules in the workbook carefully for procedures and time limits.

- e. In order to make certain all arguments are covered, make certain you have a number of people who are well informed on your item who will be ready to speak to your item. Selected speakers should sit close to the microphones and line up early.

*Many thanks to the LWVs of St. Paul and Houston

CRITERIA FOR CHOOSING A STATE PROGRAM FOR 1999-01

For the selection of League Program, two criteria should be met: (See *IN LEAGUE*: Section 10, page 4)

1. Is governmental action needed?
2. Does the proposal fall within the Principles of the League of Women Voters?

Additional questions to consider are:

- How much member interest has been expressed for the issue?
- Is this the crucial time for the issue?
- Is it a current topic of discussion in the community? Could community interest be developed?
- Do the political realities permit effective action? Are local/state officials aware of the issue?
- Is the issue one on which League members will spend time and effort?
- Will the League's involvement make an impact?
- Will the League be able to draw on allies?
- Will League involvement increase the League's political influence and credibility?
- What are the prospects for funding anticipated educational activities and/or action campaign?

Program Adoption

League members receive the program recommended by state Board, including the proposed new study if there is one. Information on non-recommended items is also included.

The wording of a proposed issue may be amended at the annual meeting or convention, provided the intent is not changed nor the scope enlarged. **Only program issues submitted by the deadline may be considered. Since League program consists of issues specifically adopted by vote at the annual meeting or convention, issues previously on the program must be readopted in the same or amended form in order to continue to be part of the program.**

LWVMN PROGRAM 1997-99
adopted at LWVMN Convention, April, 1997

1. **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

- a. **Judiciary:** Support of a judicial system with the capacity to assure a speedy trial and equal justice for all.
- b. **Selection of Judges:** The LWVMN Convention adopted a two year study of the Election of Judges in Minnesota. See page 6 of this packet for full position statement adopted by LWVMN Board on Feb. 17, 1999.
- c. **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.

2. **EDUCATION**

- a. **Equal Opportunity:** Support of increased state responsibility in creating equal public education opportunities for all Minnesota children through measures to correct racial imbalance and insure adequate financing of public schools.
- b. **Financing 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.
- c. **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.
- d. **Library Funding:** Support for increased and restructured funding for public libraries.

3. **GOVERNMENT**

- a. **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.
- b. **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 substantially on population of congressional districts and of all elected state and local governmental bodies.
- c. **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 on 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.
- d. **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.

- e. **State Government Spending:** Belief that a long term vision as well as immediate concerns should guide state spending decisions. Support of the following broad goals, in order of priority: provide high-quality K-12 educational opportunities; provide basic level of health and human services; protect natural resources; encourage economic self-sufficiency; provide for public safety; provide high-quality post-secondary educational opportunities; and preserve open spaces. Support of the use of specific criteria when faced with the need to limit spending, i.e. curtailing subsidies for sports teams and convention centers, maintenance of existing infrastructure over increased infrastructure, tax relief targeted to low-income households and providing services to the most needy.
- f. **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 the 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.

4. NATURAL RESOURCES

- a. **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.
- b. **Solid Waste:** Support of measures to reduce generation of solid waste.
- c. **Land Use:** Support of an overall land use plan with maximum cooperation and implementation at the regional and local level, 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.

3. SOCIAL POLICY

- a. **Equal Opportunity:** Support of policies to insure 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.
- b. **Family Violence:** Support of improved procedures for dealing with family violence; support for improved services for the victims.
- c. **Child Support:** Support of stricter enforcement of court-ordered support payments.
- d. **Child Protection:** Support of adequate staffing and resources for child protection services.
- e. **Child Health:** Support access to comprehensive pre-natal and child health care.
- f. **Child Care:** Support of coordinated public policies and funding to ensure safe, affordable, quality child care throughout the state.
- g. **Teen Pregnancy:** Support prevention efforts to lower the rate of teenage pregnancy.

- h. **Housing:** The League believes that all people have a right to housing. The public and private sectors should work together to ensure that everyone has access to adequate, decent, affordable housing. Support of an active state role in providing long-term, decent and affordable housing for very low-, low-, and moderate-income households. Support of incentives to local units of government to promote a mix of housing opportunities. Support disincentives to local units of government that do not promote such a mix of housing opportunities. Support of revision of the tax system to narrow the tax disparity between rental and owner-occupied residential property; reduction of the tax rate on rental residential property available to very low-, low-, and moderate-income households; encouragement of maintenance of rental property available to very low-, low-, and moderate-income households.
- i. **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.
- j. **Violence Prevention:** Support for violence prevention programs in our community.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SELECTION OF JUDGES POSITION

Position adopted by LWVMN Board, February 17, 1999

LWVMN supports the present system of selection and retention of appellate and district court judges with certain modifications as follows:

- a) a candidate for judge at the appellate or district court level should have at least five years experience as a practicing attorney;
- b) the state government should be required to publish voter information on all candidates running for judicial office
- c) the governor should be required to appoint appellate and district court judges from among the nominees provided by the selection commission.

Regarding the selection system currently in place, the LWVMN

- a) strongly favors retaining the incumbency designation on judicial ballots, and
- b) strongly opposes allowing candidates for appellate and district judge to accept and use endorsements by political parties.

PROGRAM PLANNING 1999

A "study" is an examination or re-examination of an issue usually leading to consensus. An "update" is information on issues on which the LWV already has a position; it does not include consensus and does not lead to a new position; it can take the form of unit meetings, newsletter articles, public meetings, special mailings or any other form of communication with League members. "Concurrence" is agreeing with a statement or position adopted by another League.

RECOMMENDED NEW STUDY

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota recommends a new study as follows:

A Study of Immigration in Minnesota.

Scope: the study would examine:

1. Challenges and opportunities presented by immigration in Minnesota
 - . Social services (housing, health care, child care)
 - . Education (English as Second Language, early childhood)
 - . Government (legal rights of immigrants, should INS regulations be more or less restrictive?)
 - . Assimilation or isolation
2. Impact on Minnesota's economy, society and educational system

(The Leagues of Arden Hills Shoreview, Buffalo/Monticello, Edina, Northfield, Golden Valley, St. Louis Park, St. Peter, Richfield, and White Bear/North Oaks chose Immigration as their first choice. It was the second choice of St. Cloud and third choice of ROMAFH.)

Suggestions and comments received from Local Leagues:

It is not exclusively a metro area issue. (St. Peter)

A look at where immigrants are after 3 years in the USA. Focus on Somali (20,000) and Hmong experiences. We cannot look at national level of immigration without looking at foreign aid. If the USA increases its foreign aid to improve situations elsewhere, people may not have a " need" to escape their home country. We cannot restrict immigration unless we increase foreign aid. (Edina)

It was easy for us to agree that this would be a timely and significant study: state demographics are changing and even small towns in rural areas are experiencing these changes. We could learn something, contribute to good community understanding, and maybe help diversify the League. (Northfield)

Rationale:

Immigration issues are in the public view with attention from the press and other media. Controversy exists over whether immigrants hurt or help the Minnesota economy. A study would educate the public about the impact on our economy and society of the recent immigrants to Minnesota.

With a position on Immigration, League members would be prepared to lobby for improvements in social programs and solutions to legal problems encountered by immigrants. This study was chosen by more local Leagues than any other in our Program Planning Meetings. The Board of LWVMN voted at its February 17, 1999 meeting to recommend its adoption at the Convention in April.

NON RECOMMENDED PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

The following study items were recommended by some members in one or more local Leagues. Exact wording of some study items can be obtained from the report forms and will be available at Convention.

Profile of Learning: Cannon Falls, Duluth, Jackson Area, St. Louis Park

Minnesota's Transportation Systems: Arden Hills Shoreview, Crystal/New Hope/
E. Plymouth, Rochester

Women in Prison: ROMAFH

Other issues which received less support:

The Metropolitan Airport commission - Golden Valley, Richfield (second choice)

Health Care Trends - Fridley

Proportional Representation - Winona, Duluth (second choice)

Agricultural Policies and their impact on Sustainability (St. Cloud)

UPDATES

Updates were requested on the following positions. (Numbers in parentheses indicate how many Leagues asked for the updates.)

Education: Collective Bargaining and Tenure (5)

Natural Resources: Land Use (5)

Social Policy: Equal Opportunity (5)

Natural Resources: Water Resources (4)

ACTION

Action was recommended on these positions (number of Leagues given in parentheses):

Social Policy: Housing (4)

Social Policy: Mental Health (4)

Education: Financing Education (3)

Government: Financing State Government (3)

Government: State Government Spending (3)

Social Policy: Family Violence (3)

Social Policy: Child Protection (3)

Social Policy: Child Care (3)
Social Policy: Violence Prevention (3)

CONCURRENCE

The LWVMN Board voted to recommend concurrence by convention delegates with the position of the League of Women Voters of Edina on ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO USE. This position, revised to apply statewide, is:

Alcohol and Tobacco Use

The LWVMN supports the following as it relates to alcohol and tobacco use:

1. Educational programs that support improved chemical health, including:
 - a. Ongoing programs, especially in the middle and high school years;
 - b. Regular continuing education for adult educators, coaches and school administrators;
 - c. Alternatives to suspension for alcohol and tobacco violations in the schools.
2. Allocation of public funds for state and community initiatives to prevent illegal alcohol and tobacco use.
3. Consistent city and school guidelines for adults who chaperone youth activities.
4. State laws, city ordinances and law enforcement efforts designed to promote chemical health and reduce illegal alcohol and tobacco use.

The Edina League will mail copies of the study to all local leagues in March and will hold a caucus at Convention for members interested in this concurrence.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

M I N N E S O T A

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

TO: Local League Presidents & Delegates to 1999 LWVMN Convention

FROM: Nancy Witta, Budget Chair 612/928-7007

DATE: February 1999

Whether we call it our tool for strategic planning or a vision of the next biennium nothing makes the work of developing and understanding the budget much easier. Increasingly we are discovering that local leagues are loathe to devote precious volunteer time to assist in the process.

The outstanding features of this budget are reflected in the actual budget process itself. We are for the moment in a comfortable financial position but we are becoming more dependent on paid staff to accomplish the tasks that were formerly handled by LWV volunteers. It was disappointing that we could not interest leagues in taking an active part in forming the budget but as budget chair I found myself able to offer only minor suggestions and adjustments to a task that it becoming very technical in its scope and had to rely on Sally Sawyer for most of the actual budget making work. We all owe her our gratitude for the stellar accomplishment of a very difficult task.

The budget reflects our relative financial comfort (we know that it will not last forever) and our need to fortify our staff in several departments.

Here are the major components:

1. There are no changes in member support. PMP's (unchanged in 13 years) will remain the same if the budget recommendations are followed. The same will be true for MAL and state unit dues. Member contributions are expected to be modest with the exception of volunteer hours which amount to \$31,000 of the \$31,600 and \$32,100 budgeted for each year.
2. We have budgeted for two fundraisers (note that they fall in one budget year to accommodate the best timing). One will be a "non-event."
3. It is the expectation that reimbursed services from LWVMNEF will cover 75% of LWVMN expenses.
4. We expect to increase staff to enhance our development, lobbyist, field service and membership capacities. Cost of living increases to existing staff will be 3%.
5. It is our hope to update our technology and our ability to communicate with local leagues.

LWVMNEF

We are also presenting for your understanding the LWVMNEF budget (pink). It will not be approved by the convention but rather at a later date by the LWVMNEF board of directors. It is helpful to look over this document to more fully understand plans for the upcoming biennium.

This budget reflects the beginning of the New Century Campaign (1092 Income) and (7050 expense). We are planning to use the services of a professional consultant to assist in this project.

We have made provision for a new study and extensive voter service projects. A major new initiative is the Study Circles Immigration Project (Income 1108) and expense (11008 and 11009).

THE BUDGET PROCESS AT CONVENTION

Review these pieces of information and instruct your delegates to Convention. Come to the Budget Workshop scheduled for Friday evening following the budget presentation on Friday afternoon.

Full copies are enclosed in this mailing and include narrative descriptions for each item. If there are questions about this document before Convention call Nancy Witta at 612/928-7007 or Sally Sawyer at the LWVMN office.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
DESCRIPTION OF BUDGET CATEGORIES, 1999-2001

INCOME

4000 Membership Dues

- 4001 Memberships-LL PMP (local League per member payment) 1999-01: 1,900 members at \$18 each for both fiscal years. PMP for both years to be based on membership figure submitted for January 1st of each year.
- 4002 Membership MALs (members-at-large) - 75 @ \$40 for both 1999-00 and 2000-01 for those MALs in State Units. 75 @ \$50 for those unaffiliated with local League.
- 4005 Membership - CMAL Assessment; Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues pays for use of office.

4100 Contributions

- 4101 Cash from members and local Leagues-miscellaneous gifts.
- 4102 Non cash from members-contributions in-kind, many of which are reimburseable expenses by Board and committee members. Contributions of volunteer hours are estimated based on 1997-98 year and are included in budget.
- 4110 Hope Washburn Contributions, mostly from recipients of Hope Washburn and Peggy Thompson Awards, go to Board-directed reserve fund..
- 4111 Memorials - no figure budgeted.
- 4112 Large gifts and bequests which go to Endowment or Board Directed fund.
- 4113 Honoraria - stipends/fees earned by League members for workshop, facilitation and presentations to other groups

4200 Publication Sales

- 4210 Voter - subscription sales to libraries @ \$ 10 each; every member receives a subscription
- 4220 DPM/Board Memos - 25 DPMs @ \$15; 30 Board Memos @ \$7.50
- 4222 Membership brochures - produced by LWVMN, resold to local Leagues
- 4225 Captitol Letter - 60 subscriptions @ \$10 each; local League Presidents receive automatically.
- 4228 Program for Action - 25 copies @ \$4 each; local League Presidents receive a copy automatically
- 4250 Calendars purchased from LWV of Minneapolis and resold
- 4290 Other, miscellaneous publications sold to local Leagues, members and the public

4300 Registration and other fees

- 4310 LWVMN Convention - income from registrations, charges to LWVMNEF for costs associated with workshops associated with Education Fund projects; charges for Convention program ads. Income for April, 1999 Convention(next Convention in spring of 2001)
- 4311 1997 Convention income
- 4320 LWVMN Council - in spring of 2000; small fee collected for facility, meals
- 4321 1998 Council income
- 4330 Regional Workshops - planned for Fall, 1999; will include information about new LWVMN study.

- 4500 Services provided LWVMNEF**
- 4510 LL projects – reimbursement of costs for processing local League educational projects; primarily, bookkeeper, development staff, secretarial time.
- 4520 Grant projects**
- 4521 Direct Costs – reimbursed office costs associated with specific education fund projects.
- 4522 Grant project administrative reimbursement – fees reflecting indirect costs of managing EF projects.
- 4530 Program services**
- 4531 Direct costs - reimbursement of office costs for providing support for EF Board and committees, annual report and other EF program support.
- 4532 Program related administrative reimbursements – fee reflecting indirect costs of EF program support.
- 4550 Administration and Development**
- 4551 Direct costs – reimbursed office costs associated with administering and raising money for the LWVMNEF. Note: the LWVMN decided to not bill the administrative reimbursement fee for costs associated with administration and development.
- 4590 LWVMN forgiveness of bills owed by LWVMNEF for office support. LWVMN Board assesses unpaid bills due from LWVMNEF at the end of the fiscal year and “forgives” or wipes off the books those that seem unlikely to be paid. In 1997-98 fiscal year, \$17,803.19 in billings were forgiven by LWVMN.
- 4700 Interest and investment income**
- 4701 Interest income from savings – small amount of cash is held in regular savings account.
- 4702 Board Directed investment income – held in money market account, interest accumulates; principal can be spent at direction of Board.
- 4703 Hope Washburn interest income – principal in certificates of deposit; interest accumulates; only LWVMN Board can authorize expenditure from these funds for projects related to local Leagues.
- 4800 Mental health project – 4801 to 4803 have been omitted from the budgets for 1999 to 2001 because they have been completed. There were two mental health contracts over the past seven years with the Minnesota Department of Human Services, totaling several hundred thousands of dollars.**
- 4900 Other Income**
- 4905 Product sales – assumes development of product or publication to net income of \$1,000.
- 4910 Copier service business – income from sales to local Leagues and individuals.
- 4915 Trip revenue – from time to time we receive a contribution from League members who take “Travel with the League” tours.

EXPENSES

Note: Expense items called "allocated operating" (#5299, 5399, 5419, 5489, 5599, 5812, 5821, 5822, 6099, etc.) are office costs assigned to budget categories. Office costs are reflected in series 6000.

5100 Membership

- 5101 Member at Large Per Member Payment to LWVUS - 150 @ \$21.
- 5102 Local League Per Member Payment to LWVMNEF (25% of total due is allowed)
- 5103 Discount - LL 5% rebate for early PMP payment.
- 5104 LL rebate state Members at Large, who wish to be referred to local League

5200 Direct Service to LLs

- 5201 Regional workshops - expenses for workshops in fall of 1999.
- 5203 Membership/FS Committee - committee member expense and donated volunteer time
- 5205 League contacts: calls and visits-expenses for field service visits.
- 5208 Membership brochure - revised and printed for use/purchase by local Leagues and for state League recruitment of MALs.
- 5210 Membership campaign &/or Task Forces - expenses associated with outreach to groups less represented in the League.
- 5215 Hope Washburn Award expenses for 1999 at Convention.
- 5220 MAL/State Units - visits and calls.
- 5299 Office costs - support provided to Field Service and Membership. In addition to Field Service staff, funds for an additional, half time membership/outreach staff person have been included in the office budget.

5300 Convention and Council**5310 LWVMN Convention**

- 5311 1997 LWVMN Convention Expenses - direct costs
- 5312 1999 LWVMN Convention Expenses - direct costs

5330 LWVMN Council

- 5331 1998 actual; 2000 LWVMN Council; planning money for 1999; facility, meals, materials for 2000; cost for local Leagues has been substantially underwritten by LWVMN.

5360 LWVUS Convention, 1998, 2000

- 5361 1998 LWVUS Convention - expenses for 4 delegates to attend San Diego Convention; same budgeted for 2000 Convention.

5380 LWVUS Council, 1997, 1999

- 5381 1997, 1999 Council Expenses for 3 to 4 delegates
- 5399 Staff, office costs - includes Field Service, Administrative Assistant, Executive Director for materials preparation; also mailing, copying costs

5400 Publications/Communications**5410 VOTER**

- 5411 Voter/PR/Marketing Committee. Note that in-kind contributions of expenses and volunteer time are reflected here.
- 5412 Printing of five to six issues.
- 5413 Postage - cost of mailing five to six issues at bulk rate, using mail house services. Mailed to all members and selected friends of the League.
- 5415 LWVMNEF reimbursement for costs of Voter; 1/3 to 1/2 of issues are devoted to EF projects.

- 5419 Staff costs associated with producing the *Voter*: list maintenance and prep for mail house; review, consultation between Executive Director, President, Editor
- 5425 Directory Listings – for LWVMN for MN Women’s Press, other publications as they arise.
- 5480 **Other Publications**
- 5481 Costs for purchase or printing
- 5483 Calendars – purchase of calendars from LWV of Minneapolis for office and for resale.
- 5489 Staff/Office costs – staff time for filling orders, postage, billing, etc.
- 5500 **Action/Affiliations**
- 5510 Action Committee - expenses; active and large committee. Figure reflects donated expenses and value of volunteer time.
- 5520 Lobbying and Monitoring – expenses and time of volunteer lobbyists.
- 5530 *Program for Action* – costs for revising and printing in first year following LWVMN Convention.
- 5540 Action Resource Materials - purchase of background materials, etc.
- 5550 Seminars/conferences – fees for conferences, workshops, meetings for lobbyists
- 5560 Coalitions Affiliations - membership fees for groups which change according to Legislative priorities; MN Women's Consortium, Citizens for a Safer Minnesota
- 5570 Women Come to the Capitol, contribution.
- 5599 Staff, office costs – in addition to seasonal legislative coordinator and copying, postage, materials for “Capitol Letter,” we have budgeted for a half time lobbyist to augment the efforts of volunteer s at the Capitol.
- 5610 **Mental Health**
- 5611 Contract – Mental Health contract has been completed and is not in budget for 1999-2001.
- 5612 Cost reimbursement for MH contract—see #5611
- 5800 **Other Expenses**
- 5810 Product Sales
- 5811 Cost of Products- line item for expenses, should a product be developed for sale-to realize a net profit of \$1,000.
- 5812 Staff, office costs – associated with overseeing and managing production and sale of such a product.
- 5820 **Copier Business**
- 5821 Office costs for copier business related to LWVMN purpose.
- 5822 Office costs for copier business unrelated to LWVMN purpose.
- 6000 **Administration**
- 6010 President Board - expenses for attending meetings, travel to and from office on official business. Donated volunteer time is also reflected here.
- 6015 Conferences and retreats for Board.

- 6020 LWVUS DPM - subscriptions for Board members; provided at request of Board Members—tool for keeping informed about LWVUS.
- 6030 Budget Committee - expenses of one meeting in '99-'00, three in 2000-01.
- 6040 Nominating Committee - expenses of one meeting in 1999-2000; three in 2000-2001.
- 6050 Bylaws Committee - expenses of one meeting in 2000-2001.
- 6060 Office Management - committee of Board meets about 6 times per year to review needs and functioning of office and to set office budget and salaries/wages – expenses and volunteer time reflected here.
- 6090 Strategic Planning-process completed in 1998-99 year.
- 6099 Staff, office costs for administration includes Executive Director and Administrative Assistant support for Board and committees; planning, agenda preparation, preparation of mailings and background materials, general duties including maintenance of office equipment, supplies.
- 6100 Operating Expenses**
- 6110 Payroll Expenses - Purchases full-time Executive Director, Administrative Assistant, Development Director; 1/2 time Development Assistant; part-time MN Bookkeeper and EF Bookkeeper; 1/2 time Legislative Coordinator for 4-5 months; 1/2 time Lobbyist, Program Specialist; 1/2 time Field Service and Meetings Coordinator; and 1/2 time Membership/Outreach position. Cost of living increases of 3% each year built in.
- 6120 Payroll taxes - related to 6110, salaries and wages.
- 6130 Employee benefits – a choice of benefits is offered to salaried employees: health care, disability, parental leave. Holiday and vacation benefits are also offered and prorated for part time employees.
- 6140 Staff training for technology, software applications, management, efficiency, etc.
- 6200 Office rent - LWVMN pays 40% of rent for office space owned by LWVMNEF - \$600/month.
- 6210 Telephone – pays for three phone lines, two internet access lines, one fax modem, 800 number.
- 6220 Insurance-pays for Workers Compensation policy & LWVMN office/liability package.
- 6225 Small equipment – coffeemaker, staplers, hole punch, pencil sharpeners, etc.
- 6240 Copier rental - copier is leased; also reflects cost of maintenance agreement and meter charges.
- 6245 Copier supplies – paper, letterheads, toner.
- 6250 General Office Supplies: letterhead, envelopes, tape, clips, pencils, pens, memo pads, etc.
- 6255 Computer hardware, software and supplies – toner, upgrades, consultant, software (Quark, fundraising); upgrade second year to Pentium II units.
- 6260 Internet service provider through MTN.
- 6270 Postage and shipping – costs for routine mailings and shipping of publications; increased for 2000 election year.
- 6285 Bank charges
- 6290 Audit and Accounting fees - cost of annual audit of LWVMN and ongoing advice.
- 6300 LWVMN office cost allocation** – Operating expenses are shown as expenditures twice, once as staff and office costs allocated to each program category, and once as line items under Operating Expenses. This item is an offsetting credit for the double accounting.

Proposed Budgets for LWVMN 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
		97-98	98-99	October 98	1999-2000	2000-2001
	Income					
4000	Membership dues					
4001	Per member payments	36,860.75	37,000.00	29,717.00	34,200.00	34,200.00
4002	Members at large	4,744.35	8,000.00	3,090.00	6,750.00	6,750.00
4005	CMAL Assessment		300.00			
Total 4000	Membership dues	41,605.10	45,300.00	32,807.00	40,950.00	40,950.00
4100	Contributions					
4101	Cash contributions - members	66.43	300.00	543.10	600.00	600.00
4102	Non-cash contributions - member	30,374.63	2,500.00		31,000.00	31,000.00
4110	Hope Washburn contributions	610.00	500.00		500.00	
4111	Memorials	2.52			0.00	
4112	Special donations/bequests	75.00			0.00	
4113	Honorarium			700.00	500.00	500.00
Total 4100	Contributions	31,128.58	3,300.00	1,243.10	32,600.00	32,100.00
4200	Publication sales					
4210	Voter	110.00	300.00		100.00	100.00
4220	DPM / BD memos	155.00	400.00	32.00	600.00	600.00
4222	Membership brochures	3.00	50.00	581.00	200.00	200.00
4225	Capitol Letter	353.14	500.00	258.00	600.00	600.00
4228	Program for Action	80.00	150.00	34.00	100.00	100.00
4250	Calendars			78.25	100.00	100.00
4290	Other	95.81	200.00	93.27	100.00	100.00
Total 4200	Publication sales	796.95	1,600.00	1,076.52	1,800.00	1,800.00
4300	Registration and other fees					
4310	LWVMN Convention					
4311	1997, 1999	11,393.18			13,300.00	
4320	LWVMN council					
4321	1998, 2000		1,500.00	709.00		1,000.00
4330	Regional workshops	931.00	800.00		1,000.00	
Total 4300	Registration and other fees	12,324.18	2,300.00	709.00	14,300.00	1,000.00
4500	Services provided LWVMNEF					
4510	LL Ed. Fund account admin	3,240.30	5,000.00	1,069.32	4,375.00	5,000.00
4520	Grant projects					
4521	Direct costs	41,150.86	58,000.00	40,086.18	86,000.00	110,392.00
4522	Admin. Reimbursements	49,058.74	72,400.00	39,354.33	43,000.00	52,708.00
Total 4520	Grant projects	90,209.60	130,400.00	79,440.51	129,000.00	163,100.00
4530	Program services					
4531	Direct costs	11,168.76	13,360.00	4,501.76	40,200.00	35,000.00
4532	Admin. Reimbursements	1,098.06	16,640.00	2,200.11	20,000.00	17,500.00
Total 4530	Program services	12,266.82	30,000.00	6,701.87	60,200.00	52,500.00
4550	Administration and development					
4551	Direct costs	20,087.56	15,735.00	10,915.02	42,750.00	41,500.00
Total 4550	Administration and development	20,087.56	15,735.00	10,915.02	42,750.00	41,500.00

Proposed Budgets for LWVMN 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
		97-98	98-99	October 98	1999-2000	2000-2001
4590	LWVMN forgiveness and billing	(17,803.19)				
Total 4500	Services provided LWVMNEF	108,001.09	181,135.00	98,126.72	236,325.00	262,100.00
4700	Interest and investment income					
4701	Savings and interest income	314.07	350.00	2.17		
4702	Board directed investment income	120.72	250.00	191.76	250.00	250.00
4703	Hope Washburn income	213.01	100.00	65.80	150.00	150.00
Total 4700	Interest and investment income	647.80	700.00	259.73	400.00	400.00
4800	Mental health project					
4801	Contract income	24,187.14	14,735.00	7,221.00		
4802	LWVMN Direct Costs	17,926.36		5,127.50		
4803	LWVMN admin. Reimbursement	1,092.67		250.00		
Total 4800	Mental health project	43,206.17	14,735.00	12,598.50	0.00	0.00
4900	Other income					
4905	Product sales	518.30		33.59		
4910	Copier business	235.43	200.00	120.24	200.00	200.00
4915	Trip revenue	300.00	300.00		100.00	100.00
Total 4900	Other income	1,053.73	500.00	153.83	300.00	300.00
otal Income		238,763.60	249,570.00	146,974.40	326,675.00	338,650.00
	Expense					
5100	Membership					
5101	MAL PMP to LWVUS	3,057.00	3,325.00	1,389.25	3,150.00	3,150.00
5102	EF LL PMP up to 25%	187.35		925.33	1,000.00	1,000.00
5103	LL early payment discount	1,545.15	1,100.00	977.80	1,200.00	1,200.00
5104	LL rebate for state MAL's	100.00	200.00	60.00	200.00	200.00
Total 5100	Membership	4,889.50	4,625.00	3,352.38	5,550.00	5,550.00
5200	Direct service to LL					
5201	Regional workshops	734.03	400.00		500.00	
5203	Membership/field service committee	2,716.39	1,000.00	209.54	2,700.00	2,700.00
5205	Calls and visits to LL's	126.90			1,800.00	1,800.00
5208	Membership brochure	921.63	500.00	452.79	300.00	300.00
5215	Hope Washburn fund expense	25.00			100.00	
5210	Membership campaign		1,500.00	45.50	2,000.00	2,000.00
5220	MAL	170.00	600.00	85.00	200.00	
5299	Office costs	18,676.24	16,100.00	11,465.01	20,000.00	20,000.00
Total 5200	Direct service to LL	23,370.19	20,100.00	12,257.84	27,600.00	26,800.00
5300	Convention and Council					
5310	LWVMN Convention					
5311	1997	13,008.90				
5312	1999	3,124.60	100.00	22.50	13,000.00	
Total 5310	LWVMN Convention	16,133.50	100.00	22.50	13,000.00	0.00

Proposed Budgets for LWVMN 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
		97-98	98-99	October 98	1999-2000	2000-2001
5330	LWVMN Council					
5331	1998, 2000	175.45	1,200.00	909.26	100.00	1,400.00
5360	LWVUS Convention					
5361	1998, 2000	250.00	4,000.00	3,048.60		5,000.00
5380	LWVUS Council					
5381	1997, 1999	2,890.88			4,000.00	
5399	Office costs	5,493.37	4,200.00	2,730.82	6,000.00	6,000.00
Total 5300	Convention and council	24,943.20	9,500.00	6,711.18	23,100.00	12,400.00
5400	Publications/communications					
5410	MN Voter					
5411	Voter/PR/Marketing Comm.	1,306.82	500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00
5412	Printing	5,595.02	8,400.00	5,118.09	9,000.00	9,000.00
5413	Postage	2,725.97	2,400.00	350.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
5415	LWVMNEF contribution - 1/3	(4,614.81)	(4,000.00)	(3,232.00)	(6,000.00)	(6,000.00)
5419	Office costs	1,943.72	700.00	929.30	1,500.00	1,500.00
Total 5410	MN Voter	6,956.72	8,000.00	3,165.39	9,000.00	9,000.00
5425	Directory Listings			55.00		
5480	Other publications					
5481	Publication costs	21.85		22.75	25.00	25.00
5483	Calendars			112.00	200.00	200.00
5489	Office costs		125.00		125.00	125.00
Total 5480	Other publications	21.85	125.00	189.75	200.00	200.00
Total 5400	Publications/communications	6,978.57	8,125.00	3,355.14	9,200.00	9,200.00
5500	Action/affiliations					
5510	Action and program committee	5,818.06	1,000.00		6,000.00	6,000.00
5520	Lobbying and monitoring	11,083.42	1,000.00	68.96	12,000.00	12,000.00
5530	Program for Action	307.00	400.00		400.00	
5540	Resource materials	32.05	100.00		100.00	100.00
5550	Seminars/conferences	110.50	200.00		200.00	200.00
5560	Coalitions and affiliations	244.80	1,000.00	140.00	500.00	500.00
5570	Women come to the capitol	100.00	100.00		200.00	200.00
5599	Office costs	13,206.09	6,900.00	3,147.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Total 5500	Action/affiliations	30,901.92	10,700.00	3,355.96	39,400.00	39,000.00
5610	Mental health					
5611	Contract - non-league expenses	3,408.64	1,100.00	2,362.12		
5612	LWVMN cost reimbursement	20,797.03	13,635.00	6,169.50		
Total 5610	Mental health	24,205.67	14,735.00	8,531.62	0.00	0.00
5800	Other expenses					
5810	Product sales					
5811	Cost of products	795.14				
5812	Office costs	354.87	425.00	6.69		
Total 5810	Product sales	1,150.01	425.00	6.69	0.00	0.00
5820	Copier business					

Proposed Budgets for LWVMN 1999-2000 and 2000-2001

		Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
		97-98	98-99	October 98	1999-2000	2000-2001
5821	Direct costs	244.20	375.00	92.72	200.00	200.00
5822	Office costs	58.50	40.00	19.01	50.00	50.00
Total 5820	Copier business	302.70	415.00	111.73	250.00	250.00
Total 5800	Other expenses	1,452.71	840.00	118.42	250.00	250.00
6000	Administration					
6010	President and board	5,535.96	1,500.00	181.70	6,500.00	6,000.00
6015	Conferences for board	513.52	1,500.00	0.40	1,000.00	1,500.00
6020	LWVUS DPMs	140.00	650.00		650.00	650.00
6030	Budget committee	82.18	100.00		100.00	600.00
6040	Nominating committee	53.25	100.00		100.00	600.00
6050	Bylaws committee		50.00			500.00
6060	Office management committee	1,110.60	300.00	127.25	1,500.00	1,500.00
6090	Strategic planning		200.00			
6099	Office costs	30,975.27	26,100.00	16,033.12	32,000.00	32,000.00
Total 6000	Administration	38,410.78	30,500.00	16,342.47	41,850.00	43,350.00
6100	Operating expenses					
6110	Payroll expenses	120,595.61	161,375.00	65,591.48	177,060.00	184,220.00
6120	Payroll taxes	10,923.66	13,993.00	5,924.61	14,620.00	19,040.00
6130	Employee benefits	13,561.99	17,063.00	6,477.46	22,720.00	25,915.00
6140	Staff training		2,500.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
6200	Office rent	6,806.37	6,750.00	3,504.30	7,200.00	7,200.00
6210	Telephone	5,178.57	5,400.00	3,414.93	5,500.00	6,000.00
6220	Insurance	608.00	900.00	1,545.98	1,000.00	1,100.00
6225	Small equipment		200.00		200.00	200.00
6230	Equipment rental / mtn.	2,723.15	3,000.00	2,272.28	3,500.00	3,500.00
6240	Copier rental / mtn.	6,649.08	6,500.00	3,397.91	6,700.00	6,700.00
6245	Copier supplies	553.28	2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00
6250	Office supplies	2,663.75	3,000.00	2,288.03	3,000.00	3,500.00
6255	Computer software and supplies		2,000.00	169.30	4,150.00	9,650.00
6260	Internet service provider	230.00	1,800.00		250.00	250.00
6270	Postage and shipping	5,344.15	8,000.00	5,216.55	8,000.00	9,000.00
6285	Bank charges	55.25	50.00	80.37	100.00	100.00
6288	Finance charges			13.54		
6290	Audit and accounting fees	2,604.03	2,700.00	82.59	2,200.00	2,200.00
6299	Miscellaneous	321.01	200.00		200.00	200.00
Total 6100	Operating expenses	178,817.90	237,431.00	99,979.33	259,400.00	281,775.00
6300	LWVMN Office cost alloc.	(70,952.26)	(68,550.00)	(34,423.67)	(79,675.00)	(79,675.00)
6999	Uncategorized Expenses	(126.46)				
	Total Expense	262,891.72	268,006.00	119,580.67	326,675.00	338,650.00
	Net Income	(24,128.12)	(18,436.00)	27,393.73	0.00	0.00

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
EDUCATION FUND**

DESCRIPTION OF BUDGET CATEGORIES, 1999-2001

3/18/97

INCOME

Local League Accounts

- 400 Local League Deposits - for deductible contributions from individual and corporate donors to Local League accounts administered by LWVMNEF.
- 490 Interest on Local League Deposits - income to LWVMNEF. Note: EF no longer charges 5% fee for administration of Local League grants.

Unassigned Contributions

- 500 Members and Non-Members (Annual Appeal) - figures
&
505 reflect total goal of \$60,000 for 1999-2000 and \$65,000 for 2000-01.
- 510 Corporations, Foundations - unrestricted or undesignated contributions for general support of EF.
- 515 LWVMN - donation of office services to EF budgeted at -0-; whether LWVMN contributes services or not is determined at end of fiscal year. .
- 520 Interest - on checking account.
- 525 Member non-cash contributions - donation of mileage, baby-sitting, other expenses by volunteers.
- 528 Special Fund - gifts to permanent endowment.
- 530 Gifts to Board directed Fund.
- 532 Legacy Circle luncheon - income to cover costs associated with annual luncheon.
- 535 Fundraiser - gross income figure for precinct caucus "non-event fundraiser" in winter, 2000.
- 536 Fundraiser - gross income figure for dinner/speaker fundraiser, Fall, 1999. Net for both fundraisers is \$5,500.
- 565 Building Rent - payment from LWVMN for 40% of office rent.
- 580 Misc./Copier/Notes - Misc. income from small copier; not budgeted because very small.
- 590 Memorials/Honors - not budgeted because we cannot anticipate the amount.
- 591 American Express charges
- 592 Postage & Handling - reimbursement for shipping, mailing costs
- 593 Sales Tax - reimbursement for sales tax paid on LWVMNEF publications and products

Program/Misc. Projects

- 1028 Choosing Judges - 1997-99 LWVMN study, grants to support research and publication; completed
- 1029 Choosing Judges - Sales of publication in 1999 - 2001.
- 1030 New Study/Grants - year 1-income to cover committee study expenses, development costs; year 2-income to cover publication printing and distribution costs.

- 1035 New Study publication sales – income from sales to be realized 2000-2001 fiscal year.
- 1038 Omit.
- 1039 Omit.
- 1045 Citizen Network, a project designed to build the League's technical capability and linkages with LLs and the communities they serve – first stages completed, next part incorporated in Citizen education project, #1742.
- 1070 History – sales of 75th Anniversary history of LWVMN, printed 1999-2000.
- 1090 Building Better Communities - designed to strengthen local Leagues/communities, completed.
- 1091 LRP/Systems Analysis in 1999-01 biennium – Long Range Plan (*FutureTrek*) completed. Systems Analysis planned for next biennium to examine our structure and communications.
- 1092 New Century Campaign – a major fundraising campaign to raise funds for LWVMNEF endowment and new programs; this reflects income to support the costs of the campaign.
- 1108 Immigration – a major new project, using Study Circle model, to hold community discussions statewide, focusing on “Changing Faces, Changing Communities” as the theme.
- 1109 Mental Health publication revision not carried out due to lack of time and financial support.
- 1200 *Indians in Minnesota* Sales – the revised edition of this reference work will be published in 1999.
- 1210 *Indians in Minnesota* Royalties - income from sales by our publisher, University of Minnesota; scheduled for Fall, 1999 publication.
- 1230 Grants to cover final costs for the publication of the fifth edition of *Indians in Minnesota* to be published in 1999. Most of the budget has been raised for project.
- 1233 *Indians in Minnesota* Interest - interest earned on grants restricted for this project.

Voter Service

- 1610 General Election Debate (U.S. Senate) - planning in 1999-2000; event(s) in Fall of 2000.
- 1620 Voter Guide Sales - marketed to corporations and through Local Leagues; plans include information on U.S. Senate, congressional candidates; 2000-2001 only.
- 1625 Voter Guide Grant - raise money to underwrite production and distribution of Voter Guides to the general public.
- 1626 Primary Voter Guide Grant – to underwrite production and distribution of primary voter guide
- 1627 Primary Voter Guide Sales – during summer of 2000.
- 1629 Secretary of State 800 #/Election Hotline – modeled on 1998 project with Secretary of State; volunteers earn stipends for local Leagues, other non-profits by answering requests for election information.
- 1630 Election Hotline - operation in fall of 2000 (located at WCCO-TV in 1996 and '98).
- 1640 Voter Information: Flyers, PSAs, phone service – staff responds to requests for information from the public year-round both years.
- 1660 Citizenship Curriculum For Schools - "We've Got the Power: Skills for Democracy," English and Spanish editions, have been updated.
- 1661 Sales of curriculum packets – Spanish version
- 1662 Sales of curriculum packets – English version
- 1663 Sales from Elementary Curriculum

- 1664 Elementary Curriculum Grants to develop a parallel curriculum possibly in Spanish - no plans at present.
- 1665 Election Process Training - Voter Service Committee will develop Election Process training package to cover caucus, Primaries, General Election (might use existing videotape, depending on election schedule in 2000).
- 1666 Sales of above..
- 1672 Minnesota Compact - this was a \$47,000 project for 1998 election year—a coalition of organizations whose goal is to raise the level of political campaigns in Minnesota.
- 1690 Local League Voter Service Projects: pass-through grants to LLs to do congressional and legislative candidate forums.
- 1691 Interest earned on Voter Service projects grants

Citizen Information

- 1700 Politics and Money - completion of Campaign Finance: Strategies for Success in the Midwest project.
- 1710 Spring Focus/Meals - in and out.
- 1711 Spring Focus/Admissions - fees for conference.
- 1715 Spring Focus/Grants - Scheduled conference for spring of 2000
- 1720 Leaders of Today and Tomorrow(LOTT) - program to interest and mentor women college students in careers in public policy; major focus on expanding programs.
- 1722 Citizens in Action Conference/admissions, fees for conference.
- 1725 Citizens in Action Conference/Grants - held annually as training for citizen lobbyists, has been expanded to two sessions, one in St. Paul, one in Greater Minnesota
- 1726 *How to Make a Difference* sales. - revised in November of 1998 following elections, is a highly popular resource and sells well; to be revised again in November of 2000 following election.
- 1727 Grant to underwrite cost of revision of *How to Make a Difference*
- 1740 Publications/Audio Visual Sales - Misc. sale of videotapes plus postage and handling fees.
- 1742 Citizen education/citizenship training - Major new initiative to encourage the development of multi-faceted voter participation & education projects, including voter education for new citizens and first-time voters, voter guides, candidate forums, links to statewide network of computerized voter information

EXPENSES

- 4000 Local League Grants - withdrawals from Local League accounts for Local League educational projects.
- 4095 Services/Local League Administration - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN for managing Local League Accounts - (MN Budget #4510).

LWVMNEF Administration

- 5002 Staff Development - fees for training, workshops for staff members.
- 5005 Development Committees - committee volunteer expenses for meetings to oversee fundraising projects.

- 5007 Annual Fund Drive - direct expenses for Annual Appeal/phonathon, printing, mailing. Etc.
- 5008 Annual Fund Drive Local League Earnings - solicitors receive fees for their Local Leagues for phoning prospects.
- 5009 Services/Annual Fund Drive - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN, project director becomes staff position (MN budget #4551).
- 5030 Other Direct Expenses - miscellaneous office costs.
- 5035 Fundraiser - two fundraisers planned—dinner in fall of 1999, non-event fundraiser for winter 2000, conducted at time of statewide precinct caucuses.
- 5037 Services/Fundraisers - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (Budget #4551).
- 5040 Services/General Administration - Office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (MN Budget #4551)
- 5045 Planned Giving Expenses - committee to plan a Planned Giving campaign both years; printing mailings.
- 5047 Expenses for annual luncheon.
- 5050 Planned Giving Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (Budget #3010 and #4551).
- 5065 Building Rent - LWVMNEF pays rent for office space as partner/owner of building. EF pays 60%, MN 40% - see EF income item #565.
- 5067 Services/Building Rent - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (Budget #4551). for time spent by staff on building management, scheduling issues.
- 5093 Sales tax paid on LWVMNEF publications sold.

Program Related Costs

- 7000 EF Board Expense - reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses such as mileage for volunteer Board of Directors for Board meetings, retreat, committees of Board.
- 7001 Conferences (Board) - fees for Board to attend conferences, workshops, training programs.
- 7010 EF Annual Report - report to funders, members and public about the programs of LWVMNEF.
- 7015 EF Legal Fees - budgeted as a contingency.
- 7020 Stationary and permanent Supplies - EF letterhead and envelopes; large mailing envelopes.
- 7025 Subscriptions and Resources - other fundraising workshops, memberships, newsletters.
- 7030 Audit - LWVMNEF requires a certified audit.
- 7040 Program Related Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #4531,4532).
- 7045 Costs associated with running New Century Campaign.
- 7050 New Century Campaign - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#4531,4532).
- 7059 1997-99, Long Range Planning; 1999-2000, systems analysis— see description for Income #1091.
- 7060 Services for staff support for systems analysis reimbursed to LWVMN (#4531, 4532).
- 7061 Remove from budget.

Program: Misc. Projects

- 10026 Expenses associated with distribution of judges study
- 10027 Inventory number for judges publication

- 10028 New Study - direct costs associated with developing project and raising money in '99-'2000; publications, conference (?) for 2000-01. Study adopted by LWVMN Convention '99.
- 10029 New Study Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN(#4521,4522).
- 10030 Government Spending - project complete, remove from budget.
- 10034 As above
- 10070 75th History: research and production costs of history of LWVMN; to be completed in 1999.
- 10073 75th History Services: office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#4531,4532).
- 10090 Building Better Communities project completed, remove from budget..
- 10093 Services - remove from budget.
- 11008 Immigration/Study Circles - direct costs, including project director, facilities, mailing, travel, pass through grants to local Leagues.
- 11009 Services: office support provided to Immigration project reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522)
- 11037,11038,11050,11052,11055 - remove from budget.

Social Policy

- 12000 inventory number for 4th edition of *Indians In Minnesota* - remove from budget.
- 12030 Indians 5th ed. : direct costs for revising and publishing new edition of *Indians In Minnesota*.
- 12031 Services: office costs reflected in MN budget (#4521.4522).

Voter Service

- 16010 Debate 2000 (General Election) - most expenses in '2000-2001 year - candidate forums or debates would be held in fall of 2000 for U.S. Senate.
- 16011 Services: offices costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#s4521,4522)
- 16020 Voter Guide Direct Expenses - Start-up expense 1999-2000; Voter Guide ready for distribution by October 1, 2000.
- 16021 Services/Voter Guide - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #4521,4522).
- 16026 Primary Voter Guide: to be prepared summer of 2000 - timeline defined by new election calendar.
- 16027 Services: offices costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#s 4521,4522)
- 16028 Secretary of State Election Hotline-money for volunteer stipends, project director.
- 16029 Services - office support for this project reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 16030 Election Hotline - cost in '2000-2001.
- 16031 Services - Election Hotline - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 16040 Voter Information - direct costs for information provided to public - publications, some phone volunteer expense year round, but especially at caucus, and fall 2000 election season.
- 16041 Services/Voter Information - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #4521,4522).
- 16059 Inventory number for "Skills for Democracy" curriculum—free distribution.
- 16060 Curriculum - promotion costs for Spanish edition of "We've Got the Power".

- 16061 Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 16063 Curriculum Free: Inventory # for free distribution of Spanish edition of "We've Got the Power."
- 16064 Elementary Curriculum - promotion for k-6 "We the People: Skills for Democracy."
- 16065 Services for Elementary Curriculum reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522.)
- 16066 Inventory number for "We've Got the Power" English version curriculum.
- 16068 Promotion of "We've Got the Power."
- 16069 Services for "We've Got the Power" reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522.)
- 16070 Election Process Training: 1999-2000 plan, and develop training packet to guide voters through 2000 election year. Expenses for production of video, pamphlet and Get Out the Vote packet. Expense depends on whether changes are made in Election calendar.
- 16071 Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #4521,4522).
- 16072 Minnesota Compact - planning in first year; bulk of project in summer, fall of 2000.
- 16073 Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #4521,4522).
- 16090 Local League Congressional/Legislative Candidate forums - pass through grants to local Leagues and funds for project coordinator.
- 16091 Services - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (budget #4521,4522)

Citizen Information

Note: 17000-17016: No Focus Meetings planned at this time.

- 17000 Politics and Money (Campaign Finance Survey) completed in first year.
- 17001 Service for Campaign Finance Survey reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 17005 Citizenship Training - direct expenses for development of materials, computer linkages, training, project director
- 17006 Services for Citizenship Training reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 17010 Spring Focus - direct costs, most likely held in spring of 2000.
- 17011 Services/Spring Focus costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 17020 Direct costs for Leaders of Today and Tomorrow program - project director, promotion, seminars.
- 17021 Services for LOTT reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 17022 Citizens in Action/Meeting - planned for January 2000 and January 2001: facility, speakers, promotion, committee expense.
- 17023 Services/CIA Meeting - office costs reimbursed to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 17024 *How to Make a Difference*: costs for revisions and marketing of this guide for the citizen lobbyist, revised following November, 2000 election.
- 17025 Services/*How to Make a Difference* - reimbursement to LWVMN (#4521,4522).
- 17040 Publications/Audio Video Library - direct costs for meeting requests for our video tapes.
- 17041 Services/Publications - office costs: secretarial, postage for processing orders.
- 17043 MN 1999 Convention - costs related to educational speakers and materials.
- 17045 MN VOTER - reimbursement to LWVMN for EF share of Voter. Calculated by measuring actual column inches. See MN Expense #5415.

20000 Reserves - no money budgeted. Large designated grants for programs such as voter service activities have provided some financial stability. In addition, gifts to the permanent endowment (#528) are accumulating but are not predictable.

WORKING LWVMN EDUCATION FUND BUDGETS FOR 1999-2000, 2000-2001

		BUDGET	Actual	BUDGET	Actual	Budget	Budget
		1997-98	3/31/98	1998-99	10/31/98	1999-2000	2000-2001
	INCOME						
	LOCAL LEAGUE ACCOUNT ADMINISTRATION						
400	Local League Deposits	15,000.00	7,729.00	15,000.00	4,420.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
490	Interest LL Deposits	300.00	476.59	390.00	268.66	400.00	600.00
	SUBTOTAL	15,300.00	8,205.59	15,390.00	4,688.66	15,400.00	15,600.00
	UNASSIGNED CONTRIBUTIONS						
500	Members (An. App/ Mem)	33,500.00	40,878.70	34,500.00	24,671.32	40,000.00	42,500.00
505	Non-Members (An. Appeal/M	14,500.00	18,320.30	14,500.00	6,940.00	20,000.00	22,500.00
515	LWVMN		-	-	-		
510	Corporations/Foundations	38,000.00	44,100.00	40,000.00	34,825.00	45,000.00	50,000.00
520	Interest	100.00	-	100.00	-		
525	Member Non-Cash Contribut	3,000.00	2,927.18	2,000.00	1,024.50	3,000.00	3,500.00
526	Permanent Endowment		9,206.17	-	500.00		
527	Permanent Endow. Interest		1,338.22	-	158.90	1,500.00	2,000.00
528	Special Fund - Endowment	---	14,593.00	-	274.86		
530	Board Directed Endowment	---	-	-	-		
532	Legacy Circle Luncheon	400.00	(15.20)	400.00	(158.37)	300.00	300.00
535	Fund Raiser	18,000.00	5,575.00	18,000.00	450.00	6,000.00	
536	Dinner Fund Raiser		-	-	-	15,000.00	5,000.00
565	Building Rent/Repair	6,750.00	6,806.29	6,750.00	4,088.35	7,200.00	7,200.00
580	Misc./Copier/Notes	---	-	-	6.33		
590	Memorials/Honors	500.00	285.00	500.00	1,020.00	500.00	500.00
591	AMEX			-	(38.81)		
592	Postage & Handling	500.00	691.19	500.00	1,865.41	700.00	2,000.00
593	Sales Tax		172.63	-	1,093.17	300.00	1,200.00
	SUBTOTAL	115,250.00	144,878.48	117,250.00	76,720.66	139,500.00	136,700.00
	PROGRAM/MISC. PROJECTS						
1028	Choosing Judges			7,500.00	6,000.00	500.00	250.00
1029	Choosing Judges Sales			3,000.00	229.00	1,500.00	
1030	New Study	7,500.00	9,094.25		-	12,000.00	21,000.00
1035	New Study Sales	---	341.70		3.00		1,500.00
1038	Fin. State Gov't/Publication S	---	136.00	---	12.00		
1039	Fin. State Gov't II Sales	---	17.00	---	-		
1045	Citizen Network	36,900.00	6,197.80	26,400.00	34.25		
1070	75th Anniversary	-	-	-	-	1,000.00	500.00
1089	Meals LRP		62.40		-		
1090	Build Bet. Com./Community S	25,000.00	434.46	25,000.00	85.39		
1091	L R P/99-01-Systems An	---	415.02	---	49.56	14,000.00	
1092	New Century Camp	15,000.00	350.00	30,000.00	-	45,000.00	40,000.00
	SUBTOTAL	84,400.00	17,048.63	91,900.00	6,413.20	74,000.00	63,250.00
1108	MH III/IV/1999-01- Immigratio	10,000.00	-	10,000.00	-	66,000.00	27,975.00
1109	How MH III/IV Sales	100.00	30.00	2,371.00	-		
	SUBTOTAL	10,100.00	30.00	12,371.00	-	66,000.00	27,975.00
	SOCIAL POLICY						
1200	Indians in Minnesota-Sales*	200.00	212.95	1,000.00	(206.16)	1,000.00	1,000.00
1210	Indians in Minnesota-Royalties	150.00	20.34	2,000.00	-	2,000.00	2,000.00

WORKING LWVMN EDUCATION FUND BUDGETS FOR 1999-2000, 2000-2001

		BUDGET	Actual	BUDGET	Actual	Budget	Budget
		1997-98	3/31/98	1998-99	10/31/98	1999-2000	2000-2001
1230	Indians in Minnesota Study G	14,000.00	-	34,000.00	6,600.00	15,000.00	
1233	Indians in Minnesota Interest	1,500.00	1,890.87	1,000.00	719.83	1,000.00	300.00
	SUBTOTAL	15,850.00	2,124.16	38,000.00	7,113.67	19,000.00	3,300.00
	VOTERS SERVICE						
1610	General Election Debates	15,000.00	20,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00	8,500.00	33,750.00
1620	Voters Guide - Sales	---	-	28,000.00	33,009.06		40,000.00
1625	Voters Guide - Grant	---	5,000.00	3,000.00	20,000.00		2,750.00
1626	Primary Voter Guide Grant	---	-	14,000.00	-	5,000.00	
1627	Primary Sales				3,743.90		4,000.00
1629	Sec'y State HLine				-	500.00	13,250.00
1630	Election Hotline	---	-	30,000.00	30,000.00		32,500.00
1640	Voter Information	12,000.00	-	15,000.00	10,000.00	13,250.00	17,500.00
1660	Curr. Secondary/Spanish	5,000.00	7,900.00	9,000.00	1,545.00		
1661	Spanish Curr Sales		125.00		245.00	1,200.00	700.00
1662	Secondary Curriculum Sales	10,000.00	5,453.33	9,000.00	1,905.00	2,000.00	1,200.00
1663	Elementary Sales	10,000.00	1,845.50	4,000.00	764.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
1664	Elem Curr. (Curr III Elem. Gr	---	187.81	4,000.00	4.48		
1665	Election Process Training	1,500.00	-	2,500.00	-	2,500.00	
1666	Election Video/Packet Sales	1,000.00	600.00	8,000.00	398.00	1,500.00	1,000.00
1672	MN Compact	-	15,000.00	40,000.00	27,146.34	7,500.00	43,750.00
1690	LL Voter Service Projects	10,000.00	10,000.00	2,000.00	-	700.00	10,500.00
1692	Voter Service PJ Interest	-	555.08		1,442.32	1,000.00	2,000.00
	SUBTOTAL	64,500.00	66,666.72	183,500.00	160,203.10	44,850.00	204,100.00
	CITIZEN INFORMATION						
1700	Politics/Money	---	6,260.00	13,025.00	6,856.00	4,250.00	
1710	Spring Focus-Meals-	---	-	---	564.00		800.00
1711	Spring Focus-Admissions-	---	-	---	1,080.00		1,200.00
1715	Spring Focus-Grants-	---	-	---	-		2,000.00
1720	LOTT		-		16,341.39	30,000.00	30,000.00
1722	Citizens in Action-Admissions	1,500.00	829.00	2,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
1725	Citizen in Action-Grants	4,000.00	5,500.00	4,000.00	3,000.00	4,000.00	5,000.00
1726	How to Make a Difference Sa	4,000.00	1,939.54	5,000.00	399.65	2,000.00	2,000.00
1727	How to Make a Difference Gr	-	-	2,000.00	-		1,000.00
1740	Publication/Audio Visual Sale	1,500.00	728.23	1,500.00	2,421.35	1,000.00	2,500.00
1742	Community Facilitation				2,000.00	52,000.00	50,000.00
	SUBTOTAL	11,000.00	15,256.77	27,525.00	32,662.39	94,250.00	95,500.00
	TOTAL LWVMNEF INCOME	316,400.00	254,210.35	485,936.00	287,801.68	453,000.00	546,425.00
	EXPENSES						
	LOCAL LEAGUE PROJECTS						
4000	Local League Grants	15,000.00	13,439.42	15,000.00	10,536.86	15,000.00	15,000.00
4095	Services - LL Administration	8,000.00	3,240.28	5,000.00	1,069.32	4,375.00	5,000.00
	SUBTOTAL	23,000.00	16,679.70	20,000.00	11,606.18	19,375.00	20,000.00
	LWVMNEF ADMINISTRATION						
5002	Staff Development	500.00	143.00	500.00	180.00	500.00	500.00

WORKING LWVMN EDUCATION FUND BUDGETS FOR 1999-2000, 2000-2001

		BUDGET	Actual	BUDGET	Actual	Budget	Budget
		1997-98	3/31/98	1998-99	10/31/98	1999-2000	2000-2001
5005	Development Committees	3,000.00	863.83	3,000.00	267.99	1,000.00	1,000.00
5007	Annual Fund Drive	7,000.00	7,484.14	7,000.00	5,362.57	7,500.00	7,500.00
5008	Annual Fund Drive LL Earnin	1,500.00	1,671.00	1,500.00	15.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
5009	Services-Annual Fund Drive	9,000.00	4,225.53	9,000.00	2,295.88	14,000.00	14,000.00
5030	Other Direct Expenses	800.00	608.07	800.00	524.15	800.00	800.00
5035	Fund Raiser	6,000.00	1,766.17	6,000.00	10.00	8,000.00	
5037	Services-Fund Raiser	3,500.00	362.42	2,000.00	122.98	7,500.00	
5040	Services-General Administra	16,000.00	9,668.20	14,171.00	6,747.00	12,500.00	18,750.00
5045	Planned Giving Expenses	500.00	1,469.68	500.00	254.53	1,500.00	1,500.00
5047	Planned Giving Meals	400.00	55.46	400.00	-	400.00	400.00
5050	Services-Planned Giving	6,000.00	4,592.21	6,000.00	1,124.54	7,000.00	7,000.00
5065	Building Rent/Management	17,000.00	17,041.12	17,000.00	10,220.91	18,000.00	18,000.00
5067	Services-Building Rent	4,000.00	1,239.13	3,000.00	624.62	1,750.00	1,750.00
5093	Sales Tax	---	376.81	---	-		
	SUBTOTAL	75,200.00	51,566.77	70,871.00	27,750.17	82,450.00	73,200.00
	PROGRAM RELATED ADMINISTRATION						
7000	EF Board Expense	1,000.00	528.57	1,000.00	52.38	1,000.00	1,000.00
7001	Conferences (Board)	800.00	-	800.00	-	800.00	800.00
7010	EF Annual Report	1,200.00	1,121.62	1,200.00	246.24	1,500.00	1,500.00
7015	EF Legal Fees & Bank Charg	200.00	133.68	200.00	78.02	200.00	200.00
7020	Stationary & Permanent Sup	2,000.00	1,676.73	2,000.00	937.35	2,000.00	2,000.00
7025	Subscriptions & Resources	150.00	128.00	150.00	-	150.00	150.00
7030	LWVMNEF Audit	2,800.00	2,775.00	2,800.00	-	2,800.00	2,800.00
7040	Services-Program Related	30,000.00	20,789.08	25,000.00	10,056.05	34,200.00	37,500.00
7041	Program Related Bonus		841.00		-		
7045	New Century Campaign	10,000.00	-	25,000.00	-	25,000.00	25,000.00
7050	New Century Camp. Services	5,000.00	216.54	5,000.00	298.81	20,000.00	15,000.00
7059	L R P/Systems Analysis	2,500.00	7,810.37	-	7,318.58	8,000.00	
7060	Services-LRP/Systems Analy	---	5,355.15	---	2,187.42	6,000.00	
7061	Meals LRP		62.97		-		
	SUBTOTAL	55,650.00	41,438.71	63,150.00	21,174.85	101,650.00	85,950.00
	PROGRAM: MISC. PROJECTS						
10026	Judges Pub Free				2,856.00		
10027	Judges Pub Inventory				(3,942.00)		
10028	New Study	1,500.00	1,157.54	5,000.00	4,316.06	1,000.00	10,000.00
10029	New Study Services	6,500.00	9,315.75	5,000.00	9,266.83	11,000.00	12,500.00
10030	Government Spending	-	2,150.34	-	-		
10034	Spending Free (Inventory)	---	90.95	-	-		
10070	75th History	---	-	-	338.75	250.00	
10073	Services-75th History	200.00	381.28	-	172.18	1,000.00	250.00
10090	Build Com/Community Servic	10,000.00	4,695.77	10,000.00	2,200.00		
10093	Services - BBC/Community S	15,500.00	3,151.19	14,000.00	489.37		
11008	MMH/ Immigration St. Circles	5,000.00	-	5,000.00	-	40,000.00	20,000.00
11009	Services-MMH/ Immi. St. Cir	5,000.00	22.25	5,000.00	-	26,000.00	7,975.00
11037	Citizen Network	16,000.00	7,193.15	5,500.00	2,333.00		
11038	Services - Citizen Network	20,900.00	2,733.06	20,900.00	297.50		
11050	Financing State Government		678.24	-	-		
11052	FSG II Free		-	-	-		

WORKING LWVMN EDUCATION FUND BUDGETS FOR 1999-2000, 2000-2001

		BUDGET	Actual	BUDGET	Actual	Budget	Budget
		1997-98	3/31/98	1998-99	10/31/98	1999-2000	2000-2001
11055	Services-Financing State Gov't		326.18	-	-		
	SUBTOTAL	80,600.00	31,895.70	70,400.00	18,327.69	79,250.00	50,725.00
	SOCIAL POLICY						
12000	Indians - 4th ed.	---	8.82	---	-		
12030	Indians in Minnesota - 5th ed	12,500.00	14,232.91	20,000.00	6,341.99	10,000.00	1,000.00
12031	Services-Indians in MN 5th e	3,500.00	5,161.49	14,000.00	3,585.24	7,250.00	625.00
	SUBTOTAL	16,000.00	19,403.22	34,000.00	9,927.23	17,250.00	1,625.00
	VOTERS SERVICE						
16010	Debate (General Election)	100.00	109.67	12,900.00	10,962.45	500.00	15,000.00
16011	Services-Debate	5,500.00	4,687.44	11,000.00	10,056.24	8,000.00	18,750.00
16020	Voter Guide Direct Expenses	---	-	18,000.00	21,041.23		25,000.00
16021	Services-Voter Guide	---	1,031.36	8,000.00	8,336.09	2,000.00	13,500.00
16026	Primary Voter Guide	---	-	10,000.00	12,993.12		13,000.00
16027	Services-Primary Voter Guide	---	-	5,000.00	-	1,000.00	3,500.00
16028	Sec'y State Hotline			-	-		7,000.00
16029	Services			-	-	500.00	6,250.00
16030	Election Hotline	500.00	10.50	15,000.00	4,216.85		20,000.00
16031	Services-Election Hotline	---	1,375.54	15,000.00	3,720.65	1,000.00	12,500.00
16040	Voter Information	2,000.00	-	3,000.00	512.00	1,000.00	5,000.00
16041	Services-Voter Information	10,000.00	12,437.65	11,000.00	6,399.37	12,250.00	12,500.00
16059	Skills for Democracy-Free		54.00	-	9.00		
16060	Curriculum Secondary Spani	4,000.00	7,537.64	8,000.00	378.84	100.00	100.00
16061	Services - Curriculum Sec./S	2,850.00	4,171.12	2,000.00	338.15	1,000.00	500.00
16063	Spanish Curriculum I Free	---	413.50	-	-		
16064	Elem Curr (Cur III Elementar	5,000.00	4,041.33	5,000.00	839.37	100.00	100.00
16065	Services-Curriculum (III)	2,500.00	2,036.28	2,000.00	1,153.30	1,000.00	1,000.00
16066	WGTP free		162.00	-	9.00		
16068	WGTP English	8,000.00	8,763.56	8,000.00	1,186.20	500.00	500.00
16069	Services - WGTP English	2,500.00	2,191.77	2,000.00	580.78	625.00	625.00
16070	Election Process Training	1,000.00	842.21	2,000.00	346.91	1,000.00	
16071	Services - Election Process T	1,000.00	769.31	1,500.00	159.39	2,875.00	500.00
16072	MN Compact	500.00	82.15	25,000.00	16,091.56	5,000.00	25,000.00
16073	Services-MN Compact	500.00	3,920.71	15,000.00	12,171.28	2,500.00	18,750.00
16080	Misc. Voter Service	---	377.29	-	632.80	200.00	1,000.00
16081	Services-Misc. Voter Service	---	-	-	-		1,000.00
16090	LL Get Vote	---	279.00	8,000.00	4,771.00		8,000.00
16091	Services - LL Get Vote	1,000.00	472.02	2,000.00	578.41	700.00	2,500.00
	SUBTOTAL	46,950.00	55,766.05	189,400.00	117,483.99	41,850.00	211,575.00
	CITIZEN INFORMATION						
17000	In The Pub Interest P&M	---	20.40	3,685.00	6,440.68	2,000.00	
17001	Services-P&M	---	2,582.57	12,000.00	13,255.40	2,250.00	
17005	Citizenship Training					25,000.00	21,000.00
17006	Services C T					27,000.00	25,000.00
17010	Spring Focus	---	-	-	608.90		2,000.00
17011	Services Spring Focus						2,000.00
17020	LOTT		18.75	-	4,623.69	20,000.00	20,000.00
17021	Services LOTT		879.90	-	1,785.81	13,500.00	12,500.00

WORKING LWVMN EDUCATION FUND BUDGETS FOR 1999-2000, 2000-2001

		BUDGET	Actual	BUDGET	Actual	Budget	Budget
		1997-98	3/31/98	1998-99	10/31/98	1999-2000	2000-2001
17022	Citizens in Action Meeting	500.00	1,047.75	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	1,000.00
17023	Services-Citizens in Action M	8,000.00	9,190.56	6,000.00	697.35	5,000.00	6,250.00
17024	How to Make a Difference	2,000.00	1,359.37	2,500.00	83.33		2,000.00
17025	Services - How to Make a Dif	2,500.00	898.59	2,000.00	756.06	1,250.00	4,000.00
17026	Free Distribution - How to MA	---	315.00	-	-		
17027	How to MAD Inventory		381.00	-	162.00		
17040	Publications/Audio Visual Lib	500.00	1,808.96	500.00	1,063.55	500.00	1,000.00
17041	Services-Publications/AV Lib	1,500.00	850.70	1,000.00	374.69	500.00	625.00
17043	MN Convention	---	647.75	-	-	1,000.00	
17045	EF Share of LWVMN Voter	4,000.00	4,614.81	4,000.00	3,232.00	5,670.00	5,670.00
17046	Misc. Accts. Pay. (Auditor)		(78.16)	-	-		
	SUBTOTAL	19,000.00	24,537.95	32,685.00	33,083.46	104,670.00	103,045.00
20000	LWVMNEF Reserves						
	To spread to Admin. Reimb.						
	TOTAL LWVMNEF EXPEN	316,400.00	241,288.10	480,506.00	239,353.57	446,495.00	546,120.00
	Net Income (Loss)	-	12,922.25	5,430.00	48,448.11	6,505.00	305.00

Proposed Amendments to the
League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Bylaws

Recommendations by the Bylaws Committee: Jeanne Matlock, Cindy Berquist, Mary Dinneen
Rationale: to make the LWVMN Bylaws consistent with the LWVUS Bylaws.

*[(Italics within parentheses indicate deletions) **Bold and underlined indicate additions.**]*

Note: all recommended amendments came from the LWVMN Board.

Article II
Purpose and Policy

Section 1. Purposes

The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota *(is)* **are** to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected government issues.

Section 2. **Political** Policy

(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) **The League** shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

Article III
Membership

Section 1. Eligibility

Any member who subscribes to the purposes and political policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

(Section 2. *How composed.*

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 2.

(Section 3.) **Types of membership**

- a) **Voting members. Citizens at least 18 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of local Leagues, state Leagues and LWVUS.**
 - 1) **individuals who live within an area of a local League may join that league or any other local League;**
 - 2) **those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members-at-large;**
 - 3) **those who have been members of League for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from the payment of dues.**

- b) Associate members. (Shall be) All others (members) Who (are enrolled in recognized local Leagues or the League of Women Voters of Minnesota.) join the League shall be associate members.
- (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 V

Section 5. Regular Meetings

“There shall be at least (six) four regular meetings...” to read “There shall be at least four regular meetings...”.

Rationale: This change reduces the minimum number of required Board meetings, but does not preclude holding more meetings as necessary.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MINNESOTA

550 RICE STREET ST. PAUL, MN 55103 PHONE (651) 224-5445 FAX (651) 290-2145

TO: Local League Presidents

FROM: Election of Judges Study Committee
Helen Palmer and Janet Gendler, Co-Chairs

DATE: February 22, 1999

Attached is the new position on the selection of Minnesota's judges, approved by the study committee and adopted by the LWVMN Board on February 17. It will be readopted with the other positions in Program for Action at our convention in April.

Committee members present at the final meeting were Karen Cole, Stacy Doepner-Hove, Janet Gendler, Isabel Huizenga, Kirsten Beard Kimball, Helen Palmer, Peggy Pluimer, Sally Sawyer, Karen Schaffer, and Ardis Wexler.

We had a great response to the consensus questions with 39 Local Leagues participating. Thanks for your interest and effort in making this a truly participatory process.

Additional copies of the study publication, "Choosing Minnesota's Judges" are available for purchase from the LWVMN office. Available on loan from the League office are video copies of the May 1, 1998, forum "Judicial Elections: Can We Make Them Work?"

Finally, we would like to thank the whole committee: Karen Cole, Barbara Deneen, Stacy Doepner-Hove, Judy Duffy, Karen Fraase, Isabel Huizenga, Kirsten Beard Kimball, Kathleen Meyerle, Marguerite Murphy, Lois Rem, Peggy Pluimer, Carole Ryden, Sally Sawyer, Karen Schaffer, Jerry Weigenant, and Ardis Wexler.

Criminal Justice Selection of Judges Position Position adopted by LWVMN Board, February 17, 1999

LWVMN supports the present system of selection and retention of appellate and district court judges with certain modifications as follows:

- a) a candidate for judge at the appellate or district court level should have at least five years experience as a practicing attorney;
- b) the state government should be required to publish voter information on all candidates running for judicial office

c) the governor should be required to appoint appellate and district court judges from among the nominees provided by the selection commission.

Regarding the selection system currently in place, the LWVMN

- a) strongly favors retaining the incumbency designation on judicial ballots, and
- b) strongly opposes allowing candidates for appellate and district judge to accept and use endorsements by political parties.

BACKGROUND REMARKS

LWVMN is very clearly against keeping the present selection and retention system with no changes.

Of those who wished to abandon the present system and adopt a new one, the choice was about evenly divided between the merit commission plan with periodic retention election and gubernatorial appointment with periodic review by a retention commission. Those who wished a new system were resoundingly opposed to partisan elections as well as to gubernatorial appointment for designated term with legislative confirmation and gubernatorial appointment to life term with legislative confirmation.

Those wishing to maintain the present judicial election system with certain changes were divided about evenly on the questions of

- a) providing public financing for judicial elections,
- b) creating an agency or commission to conduct evaluations of judges' job performance, and
- c) increasing public access to proceedings of the Board on Judicial Standards.



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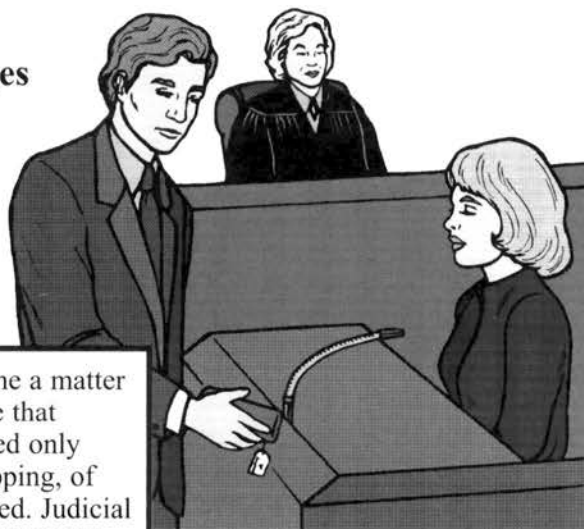
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- ✓ Analysis of our current system of selecting judges
- ✓ Comparison of methods used in other states
- ✓ Alternatives for improving or fundamentally changing the selection system
- ✓ Cost is \$5.00 (members \$3.00)



The method by which judges are selected in Minnesota has become a matter of considerable concern for the citizens of our state. Some believe that although imperfect, the process in place works well enough to need only minor adjustments; others claim that a major overhaul, even scrapping, of the system is necessary. Certainly attention to the issue is warranted. Judicial elections are threatened by the spread and deepening of problems that will erode the public's confidence in our judiciary if left unattended.

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Program for Action

Guide to LWVMN positions on issues. \$4

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New Choosing Minnesota's Judges

Primer on the judicial selection process includes background information about judges and the court system, how judges are selected, their performance evaluated and how discipline is handled, analysis of our current system of selecting judges, comparison of methods used in other states, and alternatives for improving or fundamentally changing the selection system. \$5.00 (members \$3.00)

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Spring 1999

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ELECTIONS

The Road to Election Day

Chris Conangla and Kalley King of the Eyewitness News Team lead us on the road to participation in the Minnesota election process with four stops along the way: the caucus, convention, primary election and general election. 14 minute video with *Study Guide* included. \$45. Available for one week rental, \$20 with \$45 deposit. Additional *Study Guides* \$1 each.

Voter Guide

Available after October 3rd in even-year elections. Comprehensive information on all candidates for statewide office and voting information. Voter Guide is only statewide source of information on minor party candidates. Call League office for price list.

Voter Information Packet

Folder packed with useful information about who can vote, how to register to vote, how to pick a candidate, how the Minnesota election process works, sample registration form and more. \$10.00 (members \$8.00)

MENTAL HEALTH

How are We Serving Minnesota's Mentally Ill?

This is a valuable Minnesota resource for mental health professionals, consumers of mental health service and their families alike. Book is the result of monitoring public mental health programs in 16 counties for two years. The monitoring project found that a full array of services were not available to all clients in their home communities. Includes Executive Summary. \$15

How are We Serving Minnesota's Mentally Ill?

Executive Summary

8 page summary of previously listed book. Free

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LWVMN newsletter is published 5 times per year. \$10 per year. Free to members.

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Leaders of Today & Tomorrow (LOTT) is a program of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota Education Fund which works to inspire the leadership of women in public life, recognizing that strong, diverse perspectives are needed in the nation. **LOTT** was founded in 1993 as a program of the Minnesota Women's Consortium with guidance from area colleges and organizations. Leaders of Today & Tomorrow inspires college-aged women to become active citizens and to envision themselves as future leaders. LOTT offers intensive seminars, mentoring opportunities, networking and more to today's promising young women. We thank the Minnesota Women's Fund, and many individuals and organizations for their support through the Rosalie E. Wahl Fund for Leaders of Today & Tomorrow.

Proceeds from the books purchased during the **Barnes & Noble Highland Bookfair** will support LOTT.

There will be a lively discussion for about 45 minutes on women's history - then & now at the bookfair starting at 1:30 pm. Panelists are: **ROSALIE MAGGIO**- *"New Beacon Book of Quotations by Women"* and *"How To Say It: Choice Words, Phrases & Sentences for Every Situation"*; **KATHLEEN RIDDER** - *"Shaping My Feminist Life: a Memoir"*; **NINA ROTHSCHILD** - *"In the Company of Women: Voices from the Women's Movement"*.

LOTT's Goals

- Increase the participation of women in government and fields affecting public policy
- Demystify the legislative process
- Promote the diversity of women's leadership
- Match young women with encouraging, supportive mentors
- Cultivate civic responsibility
- Explore the many career opportunities for women in the public arena

- Relate current critical policy issues to a personal level
- Introduce young women to women role models who are making a difference

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St. Paul, MN 55103**

*Barnes & Noble Highland Bookfair
2080 Ford Parkway, St. Paul, MN 55116
612-690-9443*

**LOTT (Leaders of Today & Tomorrow)
League of Women Voters of MN Education Fund**

Organization

March 27, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Date/Time

*Please present this form to the cashier at the time of purchase.
The organization above will receive a percentage of the sale. Thank you.*

PLEASE RESPOND ASAP!

*We've had a tremendous response
to our phone calls, but*

*Due to the limited amount of space at
the luncheon with*

*League of Women Voters of the US
President Carolyn Jefferson Jenkins,
Thursday, March 4*

*We'd like to give you a choice
to come to the:*

- Luncheon , 1 to 2:30 p.m., Minneapolis*
- Evening Reception, 5 to 7 p.m., St. Paul*
 - Or Both*

*At the evening reception,
there will be hors d'oeuvres
and it will be a perfect opportunity for
all local league members and boards to
meet and visit with our National President
Space is unlimited.*

*Please RSVP to Joann Buie ASAP
At 612/933-3390.*

More details on location will follow.

BOARD MEMO



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 651-224-5445 • Fax 651-290-2145
lwvmn@mtn.org
<http://tcfreenet.org/ip/pol/lwvmn>

J A N U A R Y 1 9 9 9
1-800-663-9328

Calendar

- January** 22 – *Board Memo* mailed to local Leagues and subscribers
- Voter Service wrap-up meeting, 9:30 a.m.
30 – “Citizens in Action” Workshops, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- February** 1 – Deadline for Program Planning & Bylaws recommendations
- LWVMN Action Committee Meeting; MWB, 1:00 p.m.
2 – Member Resources Study Committee, 1:00 p.m.
6 – Choosing Minnesota’s Judges consensus meeting; 10:00 a.m.,
LWVMN office
13 – LOTT(Leaders of Today and Tomorrow) planning retreat;
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
15 – “Women Come to the Capitol; Presidents’ meeting with Leadership
17 – LWVMN/EF Board Meetings, MWB, 9:00 a.m. – Noon
(rescheduled from 2/10)
- Mental Health Day on the Hill
20 – “Citizens in Action” Workshops, Duluth; 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
21 – “Women and Girls Come to the Capitol,” 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., Earle
Brown Continuing Education Center, St. Paul (see enclosed registration)
22 – “Women and Girls Come to the Capitol, Christ Lutheran Church, 10:00
a.m. to 2:00 p.m., see enclosed brochure and registration)
23 – *Presidents’ Mailing* sent to local League Presidents/subscribers
- March** 4 – Carolyn Jefferson Jenkins, President of LWVUS, speaker at
Westminster Forum in Minneapolis; details in every member
mailing
- April** 16-17 – LWVMN Convention in St. Cloud

Do not be concerned—you have not misplaced the January *Presidents’ Mailing*! Do watch for the February *Presidents’ Mailing*, containing Convention Registration materials, Proposed Program, Bylaw Amendments, Budget, Slate of Officers and Directors for 1999-2001 and the new LWVMN position on the selection of judges. This mailing should be in your hands by February 24th or 25th.

Enclosures: “Women Come to the Capitol” brochure, registration; Mental Health Day on the Hill Action Alert, and from MN NOW, a “Women Friendly Workplace Survey,” entirely optional (deadline has been pushed back from 2/1/99 to 3/1/99).

ACTION



THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS
MINNESOTA

550 Rice Street • Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103
Phone 612-224-5445 • Fax 612-292-9417
lwv@freenet.msp.mn.us
<http://freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/pol/lwvmn>
New Phone Prefix: 651
New FAX 651/290-2145

1919
A VOICE
FOR CITIZENS,
A FORCE
FOR CHANGE
1994

TO: Mental Health 10-Minute Activists
FROM: Pat Bugenstein, LWV Lobbyist
RE: Mental Health Day at the Capitol
DATE: January 22, 1999

Please note! February 17, 1999 is Mental Health Day at the Capitol. Please come if you can and make appointments with your legislators.

There will be a briefing on the issues from 10 – 11:30 a.m. at the Kelly Inn (the hotel next to Sears). We'll get updates so we can be up-to-the-minute when talking to legislators.

The rally will be in the Capitol Rotunda at 12 noon.

Call me if you have any questions – Pat Bugenstein 612/888-5309.

Minnesota Women-Friendly Workplace Survey

Does your workplace come through for women? In an economy where there is low unemployment and more women are leaving welfare to enter the workforce, women need to know what our employment choices are. The Minnesota Chapter of NOW (the National Organization for Women) is conducting this survey to help women compare employers and to get an overall picture of the status of workplace issues for women. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey and return it as soon as possible- no later than **March 1, 1999**.

Name of company/organization (see section on confidentiality): _____

Type of business: _____ **Location:** _____

Number of employees (approx.): _____ **Your job title:** _____

Please answer the following questions Yes, No, or Don't Know by circling Y, N, or DK:

1. Does your workplace have an affirmative action policy? Y N DK

2. Does your workplace have a sexual harassment policy? Y N DK

3. Has your workplace implemented pay equity (equal pay for comparable work)? Y N DK

4. Are women represented at all levels of leadership in your workplace? Y N DK

5. Does your workplace hold training or require other employee and management education on discrimination, diversity, and harassment issues? Y N DK

6. Are all employees in your workplace paid a living wage? (\$13.81 an hour, the most recent estimate by the JOBS NOW Coalition for a full-time worker supporting two children.) Y N DK

If no, what is the lowest wage paid? _____

7. Does your employer offer health care coverage for employees? Y N DK

If so, does it include full reproductive coverage, including maternity benefits and abortion services? Y N DK

How much do you pay in co-pays _____ or deductibles? _____

8. Does your employer give sick leave? Y N DK

If so, how much paid _____ or unpaid? _____

9. Does your employer provide family leave (for the birth or adoption of a child or extended illness of a family member)? Y N DK

If so, how much paid _____ or unpaid? _____

10. Does your employer offer on-site child care or other child care assistance? Y N DK

If so, what type? _____

11. Does your employer provide retirement or pension benefits? Y N DK

12. Does your employer offer domestic partner benefits? Y N DK

13. Do part-time employees receive benefits? Y N DK

How many hours a week are required in order to receive benefits? _____

14. Does your workplace allow flexible hours, work at home, and/or job sharing? Y N DK

15. Are there adequate health and safety procedures at your worksite? Y N DK

16. Does your employer offer or support training or education for career advancement? Y N DK

If so, please specify: _____

17. Are employees required to work overtime (more than 40 hours a week)? Y N DK

18. Are there any areas where your employer does not follow or communicate official policies (related to the previous questions or otherwise) that affect women employees? Y N DK
If so, please explain: _____

19. Are there unions in your workplace? Y N DK
If so, approximately what proportion of women workers are part of a union? _____

20. Is there affordable individual and family housing within 5 miles of your workplace? Y N DK

21. Is there adequate public transportation to your workplace? Y N DK
Is there affordable, convenient, and safe parking for your workplace? Y N DK

22. What else affects the quality of your workplace for women? _____

23. Please list the two or three issues in this survey that are most important to you: _____

CONFIDENTIALITY:

We will not use your name or any other identifying information in the published report. Please indicate below if you have other confidentiality concerns or requests.

_____ Please do not contact my employer with follow-up questions.

_____ Please do not include my employer's name in the published report.

Other Concern/Request: _____

Mail survey to: Minnesota NOW, 550 Rice Street, #106A, St. Paul, MN 55103

Help make the most of this survey!

Get copies to your women friends, neighbors, and family members! Get involved on women friendly workplace issues! Contribute and/or become a member of Minnesota NOW!

_____ Please send me _____ copies of this survey to distribute to other women I know.

_____ Please put me in touch with other women in my: workplace field town (circle as many as you want) who are concerned about women-friendly workplace issues.

_____ Please inform me of any actions NOW takes related to (specify issues): _____

Here's my Contribution:

_____ Benefactor: \$500 or above
_____ Supporter: \$100-\$249

_____ Sponsor: \$250-\$499
_____ Contributor: \$50-\$99

(Unless requested otherwise, all who contribute will be listed in the published report and in the Minnesota NOW Times. Those who contribute \$100 or more will automatically receive a copy of the report.)

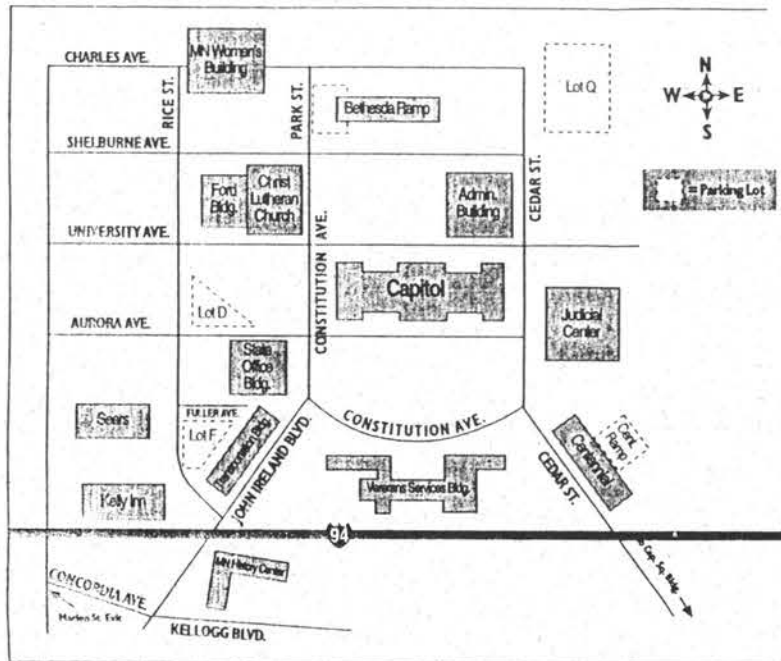


_____ Sign me up as a MN NOW Member (\$35 regular dues; \$15-34 sliding fee scale.)

Name: _____ Telephone number: _____
(Needed only for those who contribute, want copies of the survey, or want to be contacted in the future.)

Address: _____ Town: _____ Zip: _____

Getting To The Capitol



Getting To The Earle Brown Continuing Education Center

DIRECTIONS:

From I-94 go north on Snelling Avenue to Dan Patch Avenue, formerly Commonwealth Avenue, and the entrance to the State Fairgrounds. Go through the fairgrounds on Dan Patch Avenue for one block and turn right on Cooper Street. Go approximately two blocks and turn left on Randall. The center is one half mile on Randall and Buford.

From I-35 take Highway 36 exit and turn south on Cleveland Avenue to Larpenteur Avenue. Go left on Larpenteur to Gortner, turn right on Gortner and go to Buford. Turn left on Buford to the parking area.

Earle Brown Continuing Education Center
1890 Buford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
(612) 624-3275

Directions

From I-94E: Exit at Marion Street and turn left. Turn right on University Avenue and go two blocks. Christ Lutheran Church is on the corner of University and Park.

From I-94W: Exit at Marion Street and turn right. Turn right on University Avenue and go two blocks. Christ Lutheran Church is on the corner of University and Park.

I-35E northbound: Exit at Kellogg Blvd. and turn left. Turn right on John Ireland Blvd. Follow Ireland to Constitution which turns into Park. Christ Lutheran Church is on the corner of University and Park.

I-35E southbound: Exit at University Avenue and turn right. Christ Lutheran Church is on the corner of University and Park.

Parking

Lot Q north of the Capitol at Cedar Street and Sherburne Avenue.

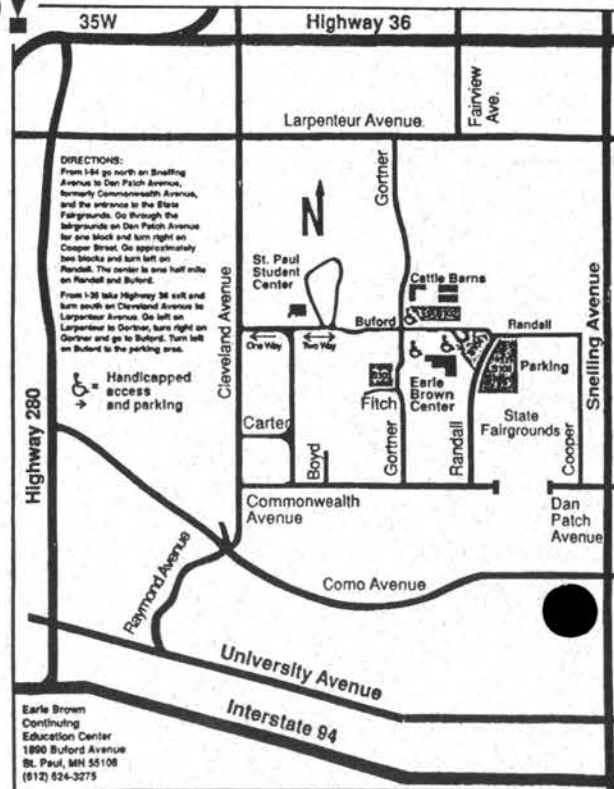
Lot D next to the State Office Building at Aurora Avenue and Rice Street (hourly only).

The Orange Level of the Centennial Building Ramp at Cedar Street and Constitution Avenue (handicapped parking available).

Bethesda Hospital Ramp two blocks north of the Capitol at the corner of Park Street and Sherburne Avenue.

Southwest corner of the Sears parking lot under the big sign (free—please place this flyer in your window).

Parking is limited during the legislative session. The Metropolitan Transit Commission can provide you with bus route information (612) 827-7733.



GET INFORMED!

To help make your trip to the capitol productive, you may want to contact various offices around the capitol before the Women Come to the Capitol event.

State Representative's name, address & phone number

House Information Office
175 State Office Building
612.296.2146, or 800.657.3550

State Senator's name, address & phone number

Senate Information Office
231 State Capitol
612.296.0504

The offices listed below publish weekly information newsletters about what is happening at the Legislature. They also have informational brochures of all kinds, including lists of all the Representatives, Senators, Departments and other agencies of State Government.

Status of legislation, information on bills listed by committee, topic, author, file number & other categories

House Index Department
211 State Capitol
612.296.6646

Provides copies of bills at no charge, has agendas for House sessions and the "Journal of the House"

Chief Clerk's Office
211 State Capitol
612.296.2314

The
Minnesota Women's Consortium
presents:

Women and Girls Come to the Capitol

1999



Dinner and Evening Program
Sunday, February 21, 1999
5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Earle Brown Continuing Education Center
University of Minnesota
1890 Buford Avenue
St. Paul

Day Program
Monday, February 22, 1999
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Christ Lutheran Church
105 W. University Avenue
and
State Capitol Building
St. Paul

Women and Girls Come to the Capitol 1999

Since 1985, Women Come to the Capitol Day has brought women together to talk about legislation, learn about lobbying, and establish a physical presence at the Capitol. Our mission is to equip women to speak to their legislators about women's concerns, educate their peers, and develop leadership skills.

This year, the Minnesota Women's Consortium is building on this mission by inviting young women to make their voices heard. While we encourage women of all ages to attend this year's event, we will focus on issues affecting young women, pair teens with volunteer mentors, and give young women a fun and informal introduction to the state legislature.

The Minnesota Women's Consortium thanks the Otto Bremer Foundation for providing a major portion of the funding for this year's event and the many organizations and individuals who helped with planning and staffing.

Evening Program Sunday, February 21, 1999

Earle Brown Continuing Education Center
University of Minnesota

- 5:00 p.m. Registration and social hour.
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner.
- 7:00 p.m. Minnesota Daughters:
Building Our Future.
- 8:30 p.m. Close.



Please send your registration card/s
and check in the amount of \$20/person
for the evening program to:

Minnesota Women's Consortium
550 Rice Street
St. Paul, MN 55103

For more information contact
Dede at (651) 228-0338.

Day Program Monday, February 22, 1999

Christ Lutheran Church

- 10:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:30-10:50 Session I
- 10:55-11:15 Session II
- 11:20-11:40 Session III
- 11:45-12:05 Session IV

Each participant will rotate through all four sessions which include:

Lobbying 101: Talking to your legislator and finding your way around the Capitol complex.

Health issues: Protecting access to confidential and affordable health services for women and girls.

Economic/education issues: Financial security for women and girls.

Violence prevention: Reducing crimes against women and girls.

State Capitol Building

- 12:15 p.m. Pizza, Pop, and
Politics luncheon,
Great Hall.
- 1:00-2:15 p.m. Meet with legislators.
- 2:20-2:30 p.m. Closing remarks,
Great Hall.

Pre-Event Checklist

◆ Please fill out one or both of the enclosed registration cards. Feel free to contact Dede Wolfson at the Minnesota Women's Consortium, (651) 228-0338 with your questions and concerns. Child care and deaf signing services are available upon request.

◆ Make an appointment with your state representative and senator for the afternoon of Monday, February 22. They will welcome the opportunity to meet with you.

To obtain your legislators' names, addresses and phone numbers, contact the House Information Office, 175 State Office Building, St. Paul, MN 55155, 1-800-657-3550, or the Senate Information Office, 231 State Capitol, St. Paul, MN 55155, (651) 296-0504.

◆ Research issues of interest to you in your local paper and/or contact the House Index Department, 211 State Capitol, St. Paul, MN 55155, (651) 296-6646 for information on current bills.

For copies of bills at no charge contact the Chief Clerk's Office, 211 State Capitol, St. Paul, MN 55155, (651) 296-2314.

Also, check out the MN State Legislature Web Site at <http://www.leg.state.mn.us/>

Dinner and Evening Program Registration

Name _____ Phone _____

Street _____ City & Zip _____

E-mail _____

Organization/school name _____ City _____

___ I will attend the dinner and evening program with ___ guests. Enclosed is my check for \$___ (\$20/person).

___ I am enclosing an additional \$___ as a charitable contribution to the Minnesota Women's Consortium.

___ I am 25 years old or younger.

___ I have a special dietary request: _____.

___ Please send me ___ (number) additional Women and Girls Come to the Capitol brochures.

Please register by February 15.

Make checks payable to:

Minnesota Women's Consortium, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

(651) 228-0338

Day Program Registration

Name _____ Phone _____

Street _____ City & Zip _____

E-mail _____

Organization/school name _____ City _____

___ I will attend the day program with ___ friends/students (please attach names, addresses, and phone numbers).

___ I am 25 or younger (please provide your age: ___) and do / do not (circle one) wish to be paired with a mentor.

___ Please contact me about financial assistance for travel and/or lodging for ___ (number of) people.

___ I am willing to be an informal mentor and tour guide to a less experienced participant.

___ I live in the metro area and am willing to house ___ (number of) out of town participants on Friday, February 21.

___ I am enclosing \$___ as a charitable contribution to the Minnesota Women's Consortium.

___ Please send me ___ (number) additional Women and Girls Come to the Capitol brochures.

Please register by February 15. Make checks payable to: Minnesota Women's Consortium, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55103

(651) 228-0338

REGISTRATION

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone Office: (_____) _____ Home: (_____) _____

\$25 (student rate \$10)

Payment enclosed _____ Make check payable to HUMPHREY INSTITUTE POLICY FORUM and mail to:

Conference Registration • Humphrey Institute Policy Forum • Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs • 301 19th Ave. S. • Minneapolis, MN 55455

Please call (612) 625-8330 for more information.



Humphrey Institute Policy Forum
Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs
301 19th Avenue South
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN 55455



**HUMPHREY
INSTITUTE**
POLICY FORUM

GOVERNOR VENTURA:

MINNESOTA'S GUBERNATORIAL

ELECTION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS

FOR THE BODY POLITIC

JANUARY 14, 1999

THE HUMPHREY INSTITUTE
OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

GOVERNOR VENTURA: MINNESOTA'S GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE BODY POLITIC

The Humphrey Institute Policy Forum will host a public seminar examining the ground-breaking gubernatorial election. What are the local and national implications? What really happened? Why did Minnesota voters elect Jesse Ventura, a political outsider from a fledgling third party? How did the debates and the polls affect participation and the election outcome? What have we learned about the future of campaigns, political parties, media coverage, and citizen participation? And, as we move into Governor Ventura's first term, how will the politics of the election influence public policy and the process of governing?

Join Policy Forum co-directors **Tim Penny** and **Vin Weber** as well as journalists, pollsters, and representatives from the Coleman, Humphrey, and Ventura campaigns to explore these and other questions raised by the November election.

COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

The Citizens League
League of Women Voters of Minnesota

For more information about the Humphrey Institute Policy Forum or to request disability accommodations, contact:

Cindy Orbovich
Associate Director
(612) 625-2530

Victoria Wilgoeki
Program Assistant
(612) 625-8330

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1999

*Cowles Auditorium
Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs
301 19th Avenue South, Minneapolis*

Noon Registration

12:30-5:30 p.m.

Round-table discussion moderated by **Gary Eichten**, host of MPR's "Midday" program, and **Chris Gilbert**, political analyst and professor of political science at Gustavus Adolphus College

Participants include:

- campaign chairs, advisors and pollsters
- representatives from state-wide polls and Minnesota media organizations
- debate sponsors and political activists
- political correspondents from the national press

5:30 p.m. Reception

Directions and Parking

The Humphrey Institute, located in Minneapolis on the West Bank of the University of Minnesota campus, is one block east of Cedar and one block north of Riverside Avenue on 19th Avenue South at 3rd Street. Suggested parking: West Bank Parking Ramp (21st Avenue between 4th and 5th Streets); the 19th Avenue Ramp (across from the Humphrey Institute); and the city parking ramp between the Holiday Inn and Grandma's (at Seven Corners).

The Humphrey Institute Policy Forum promotes informed discussion and debate on important domestic and foreign policy issues. Each year, the Policy Forum organizes conferences, seminars, and leadership development activities around a current, carefully chosen theme.

This seminar is sponsored in part by
the generous support of:

Cargill, Inc.
Cargill Foundation
Northwest Airlines
Star Tribune Foundation
Vance Opperman
University of Minnesota

Registration and Refund policy

\$25 (student rate \$10)

Early registration is encouraged. Registration is not considered final until full payment has been received. We regret that we are unable to refund registration fees after Tuesday, January 12.

The Humphrey Institute is hospitable to a diversity of opinions and aspirations. The Institute itself does not take positions on issues of public policy.

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

Sponsoring Organizations:

League of Women Voters of Minnesota
Education Fund

Common Cause Minnesota

Food First Coalition

Minnesota Congress of Parents, Teachers
& Students

Minnesota Council of Nonprofits

Asian Pacific American Women's Forum –
MN Chapter

Urban Coalition

Cooperating Organizations:

Children's Defense Fund

Jobs Now Coalition

Joint Religious Legislative Coalition

Loaves and Fishes Too

Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable
Housing (MICA)

Minneapolis Urban League

Minnesota Food Shelf Association

MN Citizens for Tax Justice

MN Community Action Association

MN Parenting Association

Office for Social Justice – Catholic Charities

The **Citizens in Action Conference** has
been made possible by a grant from the
Minnesota State Bar Foundation and
contributions from *e.m.smith design* and
Reynolds Printing, Inc.

Citizens In Action

1999

HOW TO

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Saturday, January 30

St. Paul State Capitol, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
and

Saturday, February 20

Duluth – Woodland Middle School,
201 Clover St., 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

St. Paul — January 30 Schedule

8:30 – 9 a.m.Registration in the Capitol Rotunda

9 – 9:50 a.m.**Keynote Speaker:** *Dean Barkley*, Reform Party activist and member of
the Governor Elect's Transition Team, "A Personal History – One Citizen's Impact on
Minnesota State Government."

10-10:50 a.m.Workshops

***A. BEGINNER'S CONTINUOUS TRACK IN TWO SESSIONS**, *Marcia Keller Avner*, Minnesota
Council of Nonprofits. This introductory workshop series will provide you with an
understanding of the legislative process, how to build and present your case, and the
importance of choosing the right strategies to make your message heard. **If you register for
A, do not register for any other workshops.**

B. A CASE STUDY IN POLITICAL ORGANIZING OF A GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT, *Emile
Tan-Graf and Mai Kao Thao*, Asian Pacific American Women's Forum–MN Chapter. Practical
application of organizing techniques by a diverse collection of dedicated Asian and Pacific
Islander women and girls to forge a grassroots progressive movement for social and
economic justice and political empowerment. This course will be offered again at 11 a.m.
in St. Paul.

C. COMPUTER LOBBYING, *Marc Asch*, Common Cause. A course to provide information
about how to use the computer to lobby from your home. Instruction will be given on
how to access the Capitol via e-mail and how to track legislation on the Internet.

*This course is a 2-hour session.

D. PREPARING YOUR CASE/WRITING TESTIMONY, *Jane McWilliams*, League of Women Voters of Minnesota. Explore what works when lobbying and how to deal with the politicians, the press and the public. In addition to the steps of the process, the participants will learn the many levels of involvement in which they can take part.

11 – 11:50 a.m.Workshops

E. ADVANCED LOBBYING, Those who have some lobbying experience and/or knowledge will benefit from this workshop. Designed to expand the participants' understanding, this course will focus on the details that will help in all lobbying efforts. Rules of protocol that govern all lobbyists will be discussed.

F. BUILDING AND MAINTAINING GRASSROOTS COALITIONS, *Brian Rusche*, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition. Working together in temporary alliance for specific purpose calls for inclusiveness and diversity. This workshop will help to identify others with common interests who will widen the demographic range of support around an issue.

G. See B on previous page.

Noon – 1 p.m.Capitol Tour (Optional) Meet in the Capitol Rotunda.

Duluth — February 20 Schedule

8:30 – 9 a.m.Registration

9-9:50 a.m.General Session

10-10:50 a.m.Workshops

I. BASICS OF LOBBYING, This course is for the person with an interest in the political process, but who knows little or nothing about it. A foundation of basic information about the political process and citizen involvement will be provided.

II. COMPUTER LOBBYING, A course to provide information about how to use the computer to lobby from your home. Access the Capitol via e-mail and track legislation on the Internet.

III. ADVOCACY STRATEGIES FOR LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, This workshop is designed to help resolve some of the barriers that low-income people and people of color encounter when they come to the Capitol. Advocates have observed the need to encourage members of these communities to play a greater role in the political process.

11 – 11:50 a.m.Workshops

IV. PREPARING YOUR CASE/WRITING TESTIMONY, Explore what works when lobbying and how to deal with the politicians, the press and the public. In addition, the participants will learn the many levels of involvement in which they can take part.

V. ADVANCED LOBBYING, Those who have some lobbying experience and/or knowledge will benefit from this workshop. Designed to expand the participants' understanding, this course will focus on the details that will help in all lobbying efforts. Rules of protocol that govern all lobbyists will be discussed.

VI) BUILDING AND MAINTAINING GRASSROOTS COALITIONS, Working together in temporary alliance for specific purposes calls for inclusiveness and diversity. This workshop will help to identify others with common interests who will widen the demographic range of support around an issue.

Noon – 1:00 p.m.Coffee and Conversation with Elected Officials

\$10 Registration Fee Includes HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, a lobbying handbook. No one will be excluded for lack of fee. Scholarships are available upon request.

St. Paul Information: Call LWVMN office (651) 224-5445

Duluth Information: Call LWV Duluth (218) 724-0132

Please register me for Citizens In Action

1999

Deadline is January 23 for St. Paul and February 13 for Duluth.

Make checks payable to LWVMNEF and mail to League of Women Voters of MN, CIA Conference, 550 Rice Street, St. Paul MN 55103.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Organization _____

Choose Workshops:

St. Paul A*) _____ B) _____ C) _____ D) _____ E) _____ F) _____ G) _____

Duluth I) _____ II) _____ III) _____ IV) _____ V) _____ VI) _____

*This course is a 2-hour session.