

League of Women Voters of Minnesota Records

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FOURTH ANNUAL APPLIED ETHICS SEMINAR To be held on March 9, 1985

January 24, 1985

Gloria Griffin, Coordinator Minnesota Women's Consortium 316 West University Avenue St. Paul, MN 55103

Dear Ms. Griffin:

Your letter of January 18 to Kay Cady about the all-male ethics seminar has been referred to me because I am the person most directly reponsible for this unhappy state of affairs.

First, thank you for your letter. You're right—we goofed, and it is appropriate for you to call attention to it. We will see that this doesn't happen next year.

Second, as Debbie Nankirvell may have explained, we did have two women on the program and lost them at the last minute. I do not consider this an excuse, because obviously we didn't try hard enough to maintain a gender balance.

Third, in retrospect, I have this after-thought (not a defense of our all-male program). I suppose a masculine perspective on politics and government tends to focus on getting and using power, whereas a feminine perspective might be more sensitive to what is good for people and bad for them. If this is true, then maybe it is a good thing to encourage men to look at politics and government in this more feminine way, as they are obliged to do in this seminar. Perhaps women would like to see how well they do so and also to respond to what these men have to say.

Thanks again. We hope to deserve your cooperation and support in the future.

Sincerely,

Ray Anderson Planning Committee

MINNESOTA WOMEN'S CONSORTIUM

316 West University Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55103

C'i Tews Duffy Hendrigson Lucas Files (612) 228-0338

373-3200

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JAN 2 3 1985

January 18, 1985

Ms. Kay Cady Augsburg College 731 - 21st Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55454

Dear Ms. Cady:

We received your note of January 16, 1985, requesting us to publicize the "Ethics in Government" Seminar and it was accompanied by the news release that I am sending back to you, marked by me.

The Minnesota Women's Consortium is an association of 126 organizations and thousands of individuals dedicated to full equality for women. Women as role models are, of course, very important to us, and I am frankly appalled at the enclosed news release.

Your college is presenting a day long seminar totally and completely run by men, and you are asking an organization dedicated to equality for women to publicize it? Should I laugh or cry?

I do hope your planning committee wil reconsider what it is saying to the audience: "Only men are qualified to speak about ethics." or: "There are no women qualified to speak about ethics.".

We will not publicize the seminar in our Calendar of Events, but I will probably write a note about our reaction to it in our news column.

Sincerely,

Gloria Griffin Coordinator

GG/1h

cc: The League of Women Voters MN - The Citizens' League - Common Cause/MN - The Eye of the Needle

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT

Fourth Annual Seminar on Applied Ethics
Sateren Auditorium, Augsburg College, March 9, 1985
(In the Music Hall, across Riverside Avenue from Fairview Hospital)

Register by calling: Ray Anderson, 330-1059

8:45 Session: Ethics and Government - how are they related:

Viewpoint: Professor Lance Barker, Professor of Church in Community,
United Theological Seminary, New Brighton
Is there a public ethics?
Whose ethics are the publics? How do we select?
Can religious ethics be social ethics?

Viewpoint: St. Paul Mayor George Latimer

The practitioner's challenge - maintaining an ethical balance.

10:30 Session: How should government promote social and economic justice? What are appropriate goals and means?

Viewpoint: Robert Terry, Director of Reflective Leadership Program at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Art, ethics and authority - a context for governance.

Viewpoint: Mulford Q. Sibley, former Professor of Political Science,
University of Minnesota, visiting professor, Hamline School of Law.
An examination of one of the central issues - property, its use and abuse. This raises questions of the nature of the right to property, property as means and end, and the problem of distributive justice.

1:30 Session: PACs - How dangerous is big money in politics?

Viewpoint: Debbie Nankivell, Executive Secretary, Common Cause/Minnesota The Common Cause view of political action committees, their impact on elections and campaign financing.

Viewpoint: Frank Sorauf, Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota There are some dangers in political action committees but the data on PACs do not support the widely held view that they are an important source of corruption in public life.

3:15 Session: Intergenerational justice - How much should we sacrifice for future generations?

Viewpoint: Professor Terence Ball, Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota

This question arises in many arenas - farmland, waste disposal, protection of wildlife, use of non-renewable resources, etc.

Since the idea of justice tends to entail some notion of reciprocity, what concept of justice can help us to clarify what we owe to future generations?

Viewpoint: Ken Nelson, Legislator, Minnesota House of Representatives A look at the political realities involved in the effort to meet current needs while also taking seriously the needs of future generations.



CAPITOL BULLETIN

the minnesota women's consortium

NOW SERVING 125 ORGANIZATIONS

1985 /(612)228-0338 BULLETIN#188 / January 16,

GLORIA GRIFFIN STAFF:

KAY TAYLOR

GRACE HARKNESS

LEONE CARSTENS

LORRAINE HART



ST. PAUL LOVES US! THE SHUTTLE BUS WILL RUN ON JAN.29 TO GET YOU TO CELEBRATION V, ORDWAY THEATRE, 5-7 PM. SEE ENCLOSED FLYER FOR MAP/PARKING RAMPS/BUS ROUTE.

"MINNESOTA'S REVENGE": BITTER COLD SNAP THAT CANCELED PRES. REAGAN'S INAUGURAL PARADE.

SPEAKER JENNINGS new power: he decides if a bill or amendment exceeds budget or raises taxes. THANKS TO YOU: STROH'S beer is removing an objectional TV commercial from the air.

■ MN SENIOR FEDERATION told surprised GOV. PERPICH: tax plan will cost them \$137 million in 1985.

WOMEN & MINORITIES IN MN STATE GOVERNMENT (Biennial Work Force Report, 1983-84) Affirmative Action Programs 1976 1984 2.1% 3.8% Racial Minorities in state employment 4.0% 16.0%

Women Managers in state employment PAY EQUITY: In 1975, women in state employment earned 69¢ for each \$1 earned by men.

In 1984, state employed women increased this to 78¢. Statewide average is only 57¢.

■ BUT BAD NEWS from the Legislature: Representative RANDY STATEN says neither the I-R Caucus or the DFL Caucus has hired any black staff members this year.

WHAT'S REALLY HAPPENING IN THE FARM CRISIS?

MN FARMERS RALLY: On Capitol steps, hundreds gathered seeking farm foreclosures help. COMMERCE DEPT: In 1984 farm proprietors had largest income gain of any group. Up 105.3%. U.S. AGRICULTURE DEPT: 60% of net farm income in 1984 was earned by 1% of nations farmers. When we say "FARMERS" half the people we are talking about are WOMEN.

PRESIDENTS AND JUDGES (Rita Ciolli in Newsday)

■ CARTER appointed 258 judges in 1 term ■ REAGAN appointed 167 judges in 1 term (99 openings now). BLACKS HISPANICS **PRESIDENTS** WOMEN The conservative Center for Judicial 3.3% Johnson 1.6% 2.5% Studies says Reagan followed Repub-2.8 1.1 0.6 Tican platform and appointed those Nixon 1.9 5.8 1.9 who would not "enlarge the rights of Ford 6.8 Carter 14.1 14.1 criminals, stymie New Federalism or Reagan 9.2 0.8 5.4 further the cause of abortion."

596 MEDICAL STUDENTS & NEW DOCTORS SURVEYED IN CALIFORNIA (USA Today)

DR. MARNA SKAAR, MWP, EMERGENCY ROOM PHYSICIAN, ABBOTT-NORTHWESTERN, RESPONDS:

1. Deciding who will benefit is tough, complicated question. Perhaps panels would do it better.

Agrees. Alternatives like HMOs in Minnesota will continue to grow.
 Equal access to good education is of more concern to her than limiting number of doctors.

4. Prevention has been underemphasized and needs more attention. GAIL GRIFFIN, WIM, FOURTH YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT, U of M, RESPONDS:

1. "Acceptable" to whom? The doctor...The patient...Society? It's our toughest question.
2. Agrees. We are in a time of flux; the traditional payment structure is changing.

3. Number of students is already self-limiting because funding is so hard to find.

4. Research M Ds will still be excited by new cures; Primary Care M Ds will emphasize prevention.

NOTE: THE U.S. MEDICARE BUDGET IS \$75 BILLION PER YEAR. 28% OF THIS IS SPENT MAINTAINING PEOPLE
IN THEIR LAST YEAR OF LIFE, AND THE BULK OF THAT IS SPENT IN THE LAST MONTH.

KEEPING UP WITH WONDERFUL WOMEN

MARILYN KRUEGER elected Chair of the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners and is also the new Head of the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission.

PATTY BAKER elected new President of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

KATHLEEN RIDDER, public affairs consultant, Consortium member, presented with an honorary doctor of laws degree from the William Mitchell College of Law.

ANN D MONTGOMERY moved up to Hennepin County District Court Judge by Governor Perpich. LaJUNE T. LANGE appointed Hennepin County Municipal Judge by Governor Perpich. MARY WINGFIELD, 25, law student, newly elected mayor of Birchwood Village, MN.

RUTH ANN WEFALD, Economic Security Deputy Comm; new Chair Emergency Food/Shelter Action Group.

CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND/DIRECTOR LUANNE NYBERG, OUR NEW RENTER, PHONE: 612/227-6121.

SALLY HILL, elected moderator of the Twin City Area Presbytery, and SHEILA GUSTAFSON, Moderator of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies—the first time both posts have been held by women.

JANET HAGBERG, Consortium member, author of "Real Power", THE book to read in the corporate Twin Cities. Published by Winston Press Inc., 430 Oak Grove, Mpls. 55403. Available at: B. Dalton Bookseller stores in the area; The Bookcase, Wayzata-474-8341.

MARY K. MARTIN, West St. Paul attorney, head of Martin & Associates law firm, is the one new

appointment to the Metropolitan Council by Gov. Perpich, Reappointed were LIZ (MARY E.) ANDER-SON, St.Paul; Charles Wiger, N.St.Paul; Leon F. Cook, Mpls., MARY M. HAUSER, Birchwood; DOROTHY M. RIETOW, St. Louis Park; JOSEPHINE D. NUNN, Champlin; Dirk de Vries, Minnetonka.

BÉRYL J. LEVINE, FIRST WOMAN APPOINTED TO THE North Dakota Supreme Court!!

REV. MARGARET J. THOMAS, new executive director (first WOMAN), of The Minnesota Council of Churches.

WE SAID NO to a request from Augsburg College to publicize an all-day seminar "Ethics in Government." The day, in 4 sessions, has 10 (ten) MEN moderators and speakers--NO (0) WOMEN.

To complain: Augsburg College/Public Relations. Office/731 - 21st Ave So./Mpls. 55454 or 330-1186.

calendar consortium Z8^^*MWC BROWN BAG LEGISLATIVE LUNCH - NOON - ROOM 59B/STATE CAPITOL*NOTE:DAY CHANGE TUESDAY**JAN. 29***MWC CELEBRATION V - ORDWAY MUSIC THEATRE 5 - 7 PM MONDAY***FEB. 4***MWC CABLE TV BROWN BAG LUNCH-NOON-314 W.UNIVERSITY/DIANA PIERCE-CHANNEL 11
TUESDAY**FEB. 12***MWC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 5 PM - 316 WEST UNIVERSITY

JAN. 26 Saturday. WAMM Annual Meeting at Luther Theological Seminary. 9-1:30. 827-5364 info.

JAN. 27 Sunday. "Defend Abortion Rights! Stop Clinic Violence!" Program to include CARLA WHIT-TINGTON, Pres. TC/NOW; Susan Apstein; Ruth Voights; & TINA WELSH (DULUTH WOMEN'S HEALTH CENTER) at the Militant Forum/508 N. Snelling/St. Paul. 4 PM. \$2 don. Info: 644-6325.

Monday. EQUAL VOICE: "To Life, Part II", a new series about mid-life and older women, issues, concerns, strengths. KUOM 770 AM Radio. 1:30 PM. JAN. 28 Monday. ST. PAUL YWCA invites you to their 77th ANNUAL MEETING with guest speaker DR. LINDA JOHNON, Comm.-MN. Dept. Human Rights. 4:30-6:30 PM. Main lounge. Tickets for JAN. 28

this event \$7/person. Reservations 222-3741 Helen Adams.
Tuesday thru Feb. 12. "How to Write a Grant Proposal" Workshop. 4-7 PM. \$40. Sponsored by St.Paul Ramsey United Arts Council Resources & Counseling. Info:292-4381 Ms.Williams. JAN. 29

THE MINNESOTA WOMEN'S CONSORTIUM CELEBRATION V at the Ordway Music Theatre. 5-7 PM. JAN. 29

Wednesday. JOINT RELGIOUS LEGIS. COALITON "Day on the Hill Legis. Conference" at the Holiday Inn-Capitol/161 St. Anthony/St. Paul. 8-3:30. \$20/\$10. Info: 870-3670. Wednesday. The Metropolitan Council's 1985 "STATE OF THE REGION" Program at the JAN. 30

JAN. 30

Hilton Inn/1330 Industrial Blvd/Mpls. 4-7:30 PM. Info: 291-6464. Wednesday. "STREET LOVE" (U.S.A. 1983) scheduled in the Women's Film/Women's Reality JAN. 30 Series, cosponsored by the U Film Society & Film in the Cities. 7:30 PM only. Willey Hall 125 on West Bank of U of M. \$3/\$2. Further info: 373-5398.

Wednesday. ERICA BOUZA to speak on "Women in Prison: A Question of Rights, A Question JAN. 30 of Human Rights" at the MPLS YWCA/1130 Nicollet Mall/Mpls. Noon-1 PM. Free. 332-0501. Saturday. DFL FEMINIST CAUCUS Annual Meeting at the Mpls. YWCA. Featured speaker

FEB. 9 GLORIA STEINAM. More info: 646-4004.

GREATER MINNESOTA EVENTS

JAN. 26 Saturday. THIEF RIVER FALLS: Noon luncheon. Topic: "Networking". DORIS HEROFF will present the concept and purpose of the WOMEN'S NETWORK OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY's grant. Best Western. Information: Linda 218/681-5557.

JAN. 28 Monday. DULUTH. WOMEN'S COORDINATING COMM. (UMD) Brown Bag Series. Noon--Kirby 355-357.
Topic: "Weight Maintenance & Nutrition for Women", Ruth Setterlund UMD Health Service.
FEB. 7 Thursday. MARSHALL. MAINSTAY, INC. OFFERS "The Business Plan" workshop to address issues

surrounding business start-up. Information: 507/537-1546 Karla Jo Skinner.

CONSORTIUM ORGANIZATIONS: The LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS with ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN *UNIVERSITY WOMEN, NOW, and NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN will have a "Day on *the Hill" in April. Speakers-lobbyists-lunch...then lobby your own or other legi*lators. If your organization wants to join: LWV MN 612/224-5445. Make an impact!

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPERATING ENGINEERS (Local #49) Joint Apprenticeship Committee will accept applications for possible selection into their apprenticeship program Feb. 4 thru Feb. 15, 1985. Following times only: Monday, Feb. 4 to Sat. Feb. 9: 9AM til Noon; Monday, Feb. 11: 5 to 8 PM; Tuesday, Feb. 13. 45. 15: 2 to 5 PM; the said of the said o Feb. 12 thru Friday Feb. 15: 2 to 5 PM at Local 49 Hdqtrs/2829 Anthony Lane So/Mpls. (One mile west of 35W on County Road C in Roseville.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF MN needs a Secretary for their Ed & Public Affairs Dept. Accurate

typist, good phone manner. Immediate. 698-2401, Ext. 37 for more information.

HOME FREE, A Shelter for Battered Women and their Children, has openings for women's advocates, group & volunteer coordinator and administrative assistant. Send resume to Home Free/3405 East Medicine Lake Blvd/Plymouth 55441 by Jan. 28. Full job descriptions avail. at the Consortium office. 228 - 0338.

METROPOLITAN WASTE CONTROL COMMISSION has 2 position: Programmer (Job Position No. 536-1061) and Interceptor Serviceworker I (Job Position No. 536-1067). Deadline: Feb.1. Call: 612/222-8423.

MINNESOTA WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS/MINNESOTA WOMEN'S EDUCATION COUNCIL 1985 ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, JAN. 26-8:00AM to 3:00 PM - Plymouth Cong. Church/1900 Nicollet/Mpls. Info: 224-0995.

DEPT. OF LABOR REPORTS DEC. '84 UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS ONLY 7.2%. THAT STILL MEANS 8.2 MILLION PEOPLE ARE OUT OF WORK. BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT IS 15%; HISPANICS; 10.2% TEENAGERS 18.8%.

MINNESOTA WOMEN'S CONSORTIUM

316 West University Avenue St. Paul, Minnesota 55103

FIRST CLASS MAIL U. S. POSTAGE PAID St. Paul, MN Permit No. 7472

#188 JANUARY 23, 1985

CELEBRATION V - TUES. JAN. 29, 1985

ರಶಶ League of Women Voters, MN 555 Wabasha Avenue St. Paul, MN 55105 +

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT

SEMINAR NOTES

Coffee breaks will be held at 10:15 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Lunch can be purchased at the Augsburg College Center or at restaurants in the area. A restaurant list will be available in the lobby outside Sateren Auditorium.

The Annual Seminar on Applied Ethics is made possible by the Batalden Applied Ethics Fund. This year, the seminar on ethics in government is co-sponsored by Augsburg College, the League of Women Voters, The Citizens' League, Common Cause/Minnesota, and The Eye of the Needle, a social ethics monthly. Additional resources are provided by the Augsburg College Convocation Committee.

The Seminar is free and open to the public. Registration—please return the attached form.

For more information on this Seminar, contact Ray Anderson, Professor of Speech Communication, Augsburg College, 731 21st Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55454. Phone 612-330-1180.

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT

Saturday, March 9, 1985 8:45 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

> Sateren Auditorium Music Hall Augsburg College Minneapolis



FOURTH ANNUAL SEMINAR ON APPLIED ETHICS

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT/Saturday, March 9

SESSION 1 8:45 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

Ethics and Government—How are they related?

Moderator: Kenneth Bailey, Professor of Philosophy, Augsburg College

Viewpoint: Lance Barker, Professor of Church in Community, United Theological Seminary, New Brighton

Is there a public ethics? Whose ethics are the publics? How do we select? Can religious ethics be social ethics?

Viewpoint: George Latimer, Mayor of St. Paul The practitioner's challenge—maintaining an ethical balance.

SESSION 2 10:30 a.m.-12 noon

How should government promote social and economic justice? What are appropriate goals and means?

Moderator: Myles Stenshoel, Professor of Political Science, Augsburg College

Viewpoint: Robert Terry, Director, Reflective Leadership Program, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs

Art, ethics, and authority—a context for governance.

Viewpoint: Mulford Q. Sibley, former Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota, Visiting Professor, Hamline School of Law Property, its use and abuse. The nature of the right to property, property as means and end, and the problem of distributive justice.

SESSION 3 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.

Political Action Committees—How dangerous is big money in politics?

Moderator: Gerald Olson, Vice President for Governmental Affairs, The Pillsbury Company

Viewpoint: Randy Huwa, National Common Cause Lobbyist, Washington and Nationally Recognized Authority on Campaign Financing How political action committees (PACS) affect elections and legislation.

Viewpoint: Frank Sorauf, Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota, and Nationally Recognized Authority on Campaign Financing A response to the Common Cause position: Does the research support the view that PACs are an important source of corruption in public life?

SESSION 4 3:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

Intergenerational Justice—How much should we sacrifice for future generations?

Moderator: Bradley Holt, Associate Professor of Religion, Augsburg College

Viewpoint: Terence Ball, Professor of Political Science, University of Minnesota

As we think about farmland, waste disposal, wildlife, and the use of non-renewable resources, what concept of justice can help us to clarify what we owe to future generations.

Viewpoint: Ken Nelson, Legislator, Minnesota House of Representatives

A look at the political realities involved in the effort to meet current needs while also taking seriously the needs of future generations.

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT

Nar	ne
Affi	liation
Pos	sition
	I plan to attend this seminar on Ethics in Government.
	Will anyone be coming with you to the seminar?
	Indicate number

Return this form to Ray Anderson, Augsburg College, 731 21st Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55454.



DEC 0 6 1984

FOURTH ANNUAL SEMINAR ON APPLIED ETHICS

December 20, 1984

From: Ray Anderson, Seminar Planning Committee

To: Co-sponsors of the 1985 Seminar on Ethics in Government

Thank you for agreeing to co-sponsor Augsburg's Fourth Annual Seminar on Applied Ethics to be held on Saturday, March 9, 1985. The seminar is being co-sponsored by Augsburg College, The Humphrey Institute, the Citizens' League, Common Cause/Minnesota, The League of Women Voters, and "The Eye of the Needle," a social ethics monthly.

As you know, the topic this year is ethics in government. An up-dated program is enclosed for use in publicity. For sponsors that are able to enclose copies of a printed program, we will provide copies about the middle of January.

There will be four 90-minute sessions. At each session, two speakers will present contrasting viewpoints (about 25 minutes each) with open discussion following.

I will continue to keep you informed as conference plans take shape.

Sincerely,

Ray E. Anderson, Chairman

Planning Committee Home: 331-3666

Office: 330-1059

ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT

Fourth Annual Seminar on Applied Ethics Sateren Auditorium, Augsburg College, March 9, 1985 (In the Music Hall, across Riverside Avenue from Fairview Hospital)

8:45 Session: Ethics and Government-how are they related?

Viewpoint: Professor Lance Barker, Professor of Church in Community, United Theological Seminary, New Brighton Is there a public ethics? Whose ethics are the publics? How do we select? Can religious ethics be social ethics?

Viewpoint: St. Paul Mayor George Latimer
The practitioner's challenge--maintaining an ethical balance.

10:30 Session: How should government promote social and economic justice? What are appropriate goals and means?

Viewpoint: Robert Terry, Director of Reflective Leadership Program at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs
Art, ethics, and authority—a context for governance.

Viewpoint: Mulford Q. Sibley, former Professor of Political Science, Univerity of Minnesota, visiting professor, Hamline School of Law. An examination of one of the central issues—property, its use and abuse. This raises questions of the nature of the right to property, property as means and end, and the problem of distributive justice.

1:30 Session: PACs--How dangerous is big money in politics?

Viewpoint: Debbie Nankirvell, Executive Secretary, Common Cause/Minnesota The Common Cause view of political action committees, their impact on elections and campaign financing.

Viewpoint: Frank Sorauf, Professor of Pol. Sci., University of Minnesota There are some dangers in political action committees, but the data on PACs do not support the widely held view that they are an important source of corruption in public life.

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Viewpoint: Professor Terence Ball, Professor of Pol. Sci, University of Minnesota

This question arises in many arenas—farmland, waste disposal, protection of wildlife, use of non-renewable resources, etc. Since the idea of justice tends to entail some notion of reciprocity, what concept of justice can help us to clarify what we owe to future generations?

Viewpoint: Ken Nelson, Legislator, Minnesota House of Representatives.

A look at the political realities involved in the effort to
meet current needs while also taking seriously the needs of
future generations.



STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

ST. PAUL 55155

October 5, 1983

DCT - 6 1983

League of Women Voters of Minnesota 555 North Wabasha Street St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Ladies:

Lieutenant Governor Marlene Johnson, Chairperson of the Commission on Open Appointments, invites you to attend an informational session on the Open Appointments process on Friday, October 11, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 123 of the State Capitol, St. Paul.

The Open Appointments Commission is charged with making recommendations for appointment to Governor Perpich. On January 1, 1984 there will be 233 openings on 80 boards and commissions.

The Perpich Administration is committed to providing broad representation on all state agencies. Lieutenant Governor Johnson is seeking your help in recruiting individuals from groups that have been traditionally underrepresented (women, minorities, small business, etc.).

For further information on available positions and how members of your organization may actively participate in the policy-making process, plan to attend this session on October 11, 1983. If you have additional questions, you may contact the Open Appointments Commission Office at 612/296-0477.

Sincerely,

Roberta Schneider Executive Director

Open Appointments Commission

adneider

RB/jl

files



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA * ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102 * TELEPHONE (612) 224-5445

October 10, 1983

Margaret LeSourd, Librarian Urban and Regional Planning Documents Collection University of Florida Gainesville, FL 32611

Dear Ms. LeSourd:

We have received your letter requesting the mailing address for the St. Paul League of Women Voters. It is: 1010 University Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104.

We are also enclosing a pamphlet published by them called "Your Elected Officials". This may contain some of the information you are looking for.

If you want more information about St. Paul, please write to them at the above address.

Sincerely,

Rose M. Krauser

Por M. Krauser

Secretary

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA 32611

DEPARTMENT OF REFERENCE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

President LWV of Minnesota 555 Wabasha, R. 212 St. Paul. MN 55102

Dear Madam:

One of our political science professors gives an assignment each term requiring that his students pick a community on his list and do a detailed study of it including governmental organization and voting requirements. A fact finding class in journalism is also required to pick any community in the United States and find as much information about it as possible.

When students pick Gainesville, I usually give them a copy of our local League's "Know Your Town" publication. Consequently, I am trying to obtain such studies from the Leagues in the cities on our Professor's list, but my student assistant has not been able to locate all the addresses in telephone directories. Could you give me the mailing address for the local Leagues in your state which are St. Paul officess.

Send St. Pauls radducts

Lev listed below so I could contact them?

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours truly,

Margaret Le Soul

Margaret LeSourd, Librarian Urban and Regional Planning Documents Collection



555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102 • TELEPHONE (612) 224-5445

December 10, 1982

Jane McWilliams 901 W. 1st Street Northfield, MN 55057

Dear Jane,

The LWVMN, as well as many other state Leagues, have done "Key Precinct" reporting for ABC for many years. This reporting is always done after the polls are closed, and thus would not have any effect on voter turnout in statewide elections. It might, however, have more impact on Presidential elections but not nearly as much as "exit polling", which we have never done. This project is a substantial fundraiser for the state League. This year we will be getting over \$2,000.

The LWVUS did advise state Leagues to use individual judgement in deciding whether to cooperate with ABC, (See LWV Prospectus, 1980-82, No. 3, page 32) in light of the fact that LWVUS has asked major networks to voluntarily refrain from broadcasting results while polls are still open.

Thus, I see no problem with ABC "Key Precint Reporting" during statewide elections, but we may wish to reconsider whether to continue to do such reporting for the Presidential election. Such a topic would be proper for consideration at the state convention in June. You may wish to write to LWVUS for their response to your concerns.

Sincerely,

Joan Newmark

Voter Service Chair

JN/rk

League of Women Voters of Northfield

November 21, 1982

NOV 2 3 1982

Jean Tews, President LWVMN 555 Wabasha St. Paul, MN 55057

Dear Jean:

At our November board meeting, the Northfield board discussed the role of election day surveys and their effect on elections. We also discussed the role of League members in these polls, and in particular the "Key Precinct" reporting service.

I haven't been able to track down in State Board Minutes or in other local files just how our involvement in these activities comes about. I do recall that it is part of a fund-raising effort on the state level, but, I am ashamed to say, don't know any more about it, if in fact that is true.

We would be interested in knowing how local leagues become involved in this. We have serious reservations about the impact of instant reporting of "returns" and wonder why the League, of all organizations, should be involved in a process which we think does not make for fullest participation at elections.

I told our board that I would communicate our concerns about this to you, and would ask where I can get more information so that we may register a formal opinion about it once we are sure of our facts.

Thanks for whatever help you can give us.

Jane McWilliams





555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102 • TELEPHONE (612) 224-5445

July 15, 1981

Ms. Andrea C. Ferster Voters Service Staff Specialist League of Women Voters of the United States 1730 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Ms. Ferster:

I finally received your letter dated June 23 last week. The only election procedures survey the LWVMN has done was in 1976 and 1978. It was a two-part survey: 1) election officials, and 2) election judges.

After some file searching, I located the background material sent to local Leagues and the Election Survey/Monitoring Guide. I have enclosed copies of each. Also enclosed is a copy of the final results. This booklet was distributed to all local Leagues, municipal election officials, county auditors, and to the Minnesota Secretary of State.

Some of the election law changes suggested by election officials and election judges have been implemented by the state Legislature since the survey was published in 1979. For example, judges now receive at least minimum wage; a new election judge training program has been instituted by the Secretary of State's office which recognizes the fact that some election judges need more training than others (experienced judges vs. inexperienced judges); shifts for election judges are allowed; the printed name as well as the signature of the voter is now required on absentee ballots.

While a lot has been accomplished, the LWVMN monitors proposed election law changes closely and takes action whenever necessary.

If you have any further questions regarding our survey or the process used, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Erica Buffington Government Co-chair

B:M Enclosures 3



CLERGY & LAITY CONCERNED MINNESOTA

Dear Harriette,

May 5, 1981

I am writing to you out of a deep concern over the appointment of Ernest Lefever for the position of Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Concerns. Lefever's nomination raises serious questions about the future role of human rights and covert operations in the formulation of U.S. foreign policy. Lefever has urged closer ties with the government of South Africa, he has questioned the value of efforts to control nuclear proliferation, and supports the CIA's use of clergy, academics, and press in covert activities.

A broad range of organizations and individuals from across the nation have opposed the nomination of Lefever. Locally we have begun obtaining support from religious, political, labor and civic leaders for the enclosed statement. We feel your support and/or your organization or group's support for this statement would also be important. The statement will be released at a press conference on May 18th.

We would appreciate a reply at your earliest convience. Please give me a call at 871-8033 if you have any questions. Thankyou for your thoughtful consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely, Mark Hahorson

Mark Halvorson

Co-Director, Minnesota Clergy

Laity Concerned

Statement on the Ernest Lefever Nomination

We write to vigorously oppose the proposed nomination of Ernest Lefever as Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs. Mr. Lefever has publicly opposed all human rights legislation enacted since 1974. On July 12, 1979 he argued before the House Foreign Subcommittee on International Organizations that the very sections of the Foreign Assistance Act over which this office is supposed to maintain "constant observation and review" should be "removed from the statute books." Although he has retracted his call for repeal of all human rights legislation, he says he still stands by it "in principle."

We have been pleased that our government began to move in recent years from a selective application of concern only for violations of human rights by the Soviet Union and communist countries to a concern for the rights of human beings in all countries and for increased observance of internationally recognized human rights. However, Mr. Lefever has already declared himself, both in writing and in interviews, to be committed to turning the United States of America back to a policy of overlooking the human rights violations by our friends and allies. Mr. Lefever would have the United States say nothing when an "authoritarian" but non-communist government tortures, murders and denies its citizens their basic human rights.

We believe the nomination of Ernest Lefever is incompatible with the purpose of the State Department human rights office which he has been nominated to head. We therefore urge Senator Percy to oppose Mr. Lefever's nomination in his committee's consideration of it, and call on President Reagan to withdraw it. Only through a more appropriate appointment can the Administration and Congress reaffirm respect for basic human rights on which our policies have a profound impact.

Sincerely,

Prepared by: Minnesota Clergy and Laity Concerned 122 W. Franklin Av. Mpls, 55404 ph. 871-8033

Copies will be sent to Senators Durenberger, Boschwitz, Percy and President Reagan.

Partial list of individuals and organizations that have opposed the nomination of Ernest Lefever for Assistant Secretary for Human Rights and Humanitarian Concerns Prepared by Minnesota Clergy & Laity Concerned 4/24/81

Organizations and Individuals from Minnesota

Bishop Robert M. Anderson, Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota
Mayor Don Fraser, Minneapolis
Mayor George Latimer, St. Paul
Earl Craig, Minneapolis Urban Coalition
Rabbi Max A. Shapiro
Dorothy Headley, President, Church Women United in Minnesota
Mark Kaplan, Alderman, 8th Ward Minneapolis
Jackie Slater, Alderman, 6th Ward Minneapolis

National Organizations and Individuals

Americans for Democratic Action

Rev. Bill Thompson, President, United Presbyterian Church
Rev. Bill Howard, President, National, Council of Churches
Chauncey Alexander, President, National Association of Social Workers
General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church, (made up of
157 directors)
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Ad Hoc Committee of the Human Rights Community, (includes 60 organizations
and individuals)

The New York Times

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 1981

The Case Against Mr. Lefever

What has prompted the Reagan Administration to nominate Ernest Lefever as director of the State Department's human rights office? There can be no quarrel with assigning the post to a certified conservative. But Mr. Lefever is a tetchy academic who has shown himself to be openly dubious about the very existence of the office he is being named to administer.

of foreign policy decision-makers. But Mr. Lefever's view, as he has frankly characterized it, is "radical."

In his own sweeping formulation, "It is arrogant for us to attempt to reform the domestic behavior of our allies and even of our adversaries." This doctrine puts him in curious accord with the Soviet Union, which rejects as inadmissible meddling any Western attempt



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555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102 • TELEPHONE (612) 224-5445

To: Voters Service Chair, LWVUS

From: Joan Newmark, Voters Service Chair, LWV-Minnesota

Re: Federal Election Commission Regional Workshop Conferences on Election

Administration

Date: August 20, 1979

On July 23 and 24, I attended the first in a series of regional conferences put on by the F.E.C. The invitations went to the state officials responsible for elections and thence to local officials. Since our Secretary of State is an active Leaguer, and her chief assistant for elections is a former state League president, our state League got a copy of the conference announcement. The conference was excellent, and I got a lot of useful information for Voters Service.

Especially useful were the workshops on Voter Outreach and Registration and The Media and Election Administrators. Other workshops that might be of interest to League were Absentee Voting and Training Election Workers. Besides the workshops there was the very valuable experience of informally talking with many election officials from all over Minnesota, as well as from neighboring states.

I suggest that you get the dates and places of the forthcoming regional workshops from the F.E.C. and send the information to state League Voters Service chairs so they can consider sending delegates. I have written a full report on the four workshops that I attended as well as an article on the conference for the Minnesota VOTER (September-October). As far as I could tell, I was the only League delegate at the Midwest Regional Conference. I hope other state Leagues will have an opportunity to attend future conferences in their areas.



555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102 • TELEPHONE (612) 224-5445

December 17, 1979

Mr. Mark H. Willes, President Federal Reserve Bank 250 Marquette Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55480

Dear Mr. Willes:

Thank you for including me as a representative of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota in the Conference on Strategies for Fighting Inflation held at Spring Hill Center November 15 and 16.

I compliment you on your selection of presentors. Their points of view were diverse, and the interchange of discussion which followed was most informative and thought-provoking. The Conference Center facilities were, as always, pleasant, comfortable, and conducive to continued discussion of the arguments presented.

The League of Women Voters has long been interested and concerned about government taxing and spending and the effect on our nation's economy. I am enclosing a recent publication prepared by the League of Women Voters of the United States, THE BALANCED BUDGET: A CLOSER LOOK, which is an effort to improve community dialogue on the complex question of balancing the federal budget. Also enclosed is a copy of THE SALT II TREATY, BACKGROUND AND DEBATE, a publication prepared by the League of Women Voters of Minnesota on another topic under public discussion.

I look forward to future opportunities when we can share our ideas and seek solutions to the difficult problems of today. Again, I thank you for inviting the League of Women Voters of Minnesota to participate in this conference.

Sincerely,

Harriette Burkhalter First Vice President

B:M Enclosures 2

555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

MEMO

TO: House Judiciary Committee and Staff

FROM: Erica Buffington, Government Co-Chair

SUBJECT: Publication, "The Balanced Bud-

get: A Closer Look"

DATE: January 7, 1980

Enclosed please find a copy of a recent publication from the League of Women Voters Education Fund.

The League hopes this publication will aid you in your deliberations regarding H.F. 43, the calling of a constitutional convention to deal with a balanced federal budget.



555 WABASHA • ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102 • TELEPHONE (612) 224-5445

November 1, 1976

Mr. James H. Eddy, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Political Science Winona State University Winona, MN 55987

Dear Dr. Eddy:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota does not have a position on initiative, referendum and recall. I am enclosing a copy of "Program for Action," which tells you what we do have positions on.

Issues for study and action are initiated by local League members. If enough members support the study of a particular issue, we then go through our process of study, discussion and consensus and adopt a position for action. If a sufficient number of members want to have a position on initiative, referendum and recall, then the League of Women Voters of the United States (including the League of Women Voters of Minnesota) would have a position. We are a grass roots member organization. Board members do not decide what our issue positions are.

Thank you for writing to me. You may want to contact Karen Siemers, President of the League of Women Voters of Winona, to discuss your concerns. Her address and number is: 1653 Edgewood Road, Winona, MN 55987, 454-3140.

Sincerely,

Jerry Jenkins, President League of Women Voters of Minnesota October 26, 1976

Ms Judith B. Heimann Director Government Department The League of Women Voters 1730 M Street Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Ms Heimann:

I was very surprised to learn that the League does not have a position on initiative, referendum, and recall. Do you forsee the League taking a position on these forms of direct democracy in the future?

With best wishes in furthering the growth of participation in American politics, I remain,

Sincerely,

James H. Eddy, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Political Science Winona State University

JHE:sg

Ms Betty Bayless Executive Director Common Cause in Minnesota 555 Wabasha Street, Room 307 St. Paul, MN 55102

Dear Betty:

Thank you so much for your fine letter of August 10th on initiative, referendum, and recall.

In accordance with your suggestion, I submit the following remarks for consideration by the Board of Governors at their September 11th meeting. My views center around answering the question: Why Common Cause should be interested in initiative, referendum, and recall, since they are viable means for affecting direct democracy? In the course of answering this question, I hope to underwrite the fact that this political system needs these forms of citizen's participation in order to move from being a republic to a democracy and there is sufficient evidence in several states to warrant the inclusion of these forms of direct democracy in the U.S. Constitution and Minnesota's constitution.

In the first place, <u>Common Cause</u> is a citizen's lobby. The primary reason for the existence of <u>Common Cause</u> is to provide a functioning organization through which citizen's can directly participate in policy making at the national and state levels of decision-making. At the present time, our activity of pressuring reforms at the national level and in most states must be channelled indirectly through the cumbersome system of committees in legislative chambers. Where the legislative process has been utilized to conduct protracted war against open and responsive government, Common Cause has had to confine recourse to "try again" via the same inhibiting legislative process and/or the courts of public opinion and/or law.

Why not provide citizens with another alternative; namely, initiative via a petition to have a particular proposal placed on the ballot? As we sae in the matter of Representative Sikes of Florida, the evidence of "Conflict of interest" caused his colleagues to slap his hands. As a very pro-Common Cause advocate in the House noted:

Weeks after the Hays-Ray scandal broke and evidence of expense account padding was uncovered, the House got around to making some changes, including stripping the House Administration Committee of power to dispense new Congressional allowances without approval of the entire House.

Representative Quie continued:

Repr. Albert H. Quie, "Congressman Al Quie Reports to Minnesota," A newsletter dated August, 1976.

Eliminating the "cash-out" practice where a member of Congress can convert unused allowances into cash for personal use; monthly certification of salaries and staff duties to prevent phantom employees; and creation of a commission to recommend further changes in House accounting procedures.

Quie noted there were other changes he did not agree to, including:

Expense accounts were raised; several accounts were consolidated and spending limits were removed, permitting the creation of a "slush fund" where funds previously earmarked only for stationery or office rental equipment can now be used for travel; and delaying the report from the newly-created commission for a year and a half (until the clamor dies down).2

Congressman Quie concluded:

All in all, the House's response to the public outcry was timid. The "reform" package does not mark a victory over dishonesty or unethical conduct. Efforts to push for a full honesty or all House accounts, so abuses could be scale audit of all House accounts, so abuses could be discovered immediately and corrected quickly, met with no success.

Source of the power abuse can be traced back to 1971 when 167 of us tried unsuccessfully to block a resolution giving Hays and his committee power to increase allowances without a public vote of the entire House. Later attempts to curb this power failed, too; it took public awareness of the arrogance and improprieties of Repr. Hays and others for the House to strip the committee of its self-perpetuating power.⁴

In light of the Sikes case and many others that have involved nepotism, laundered money, and "conflict of interest," such evident abuse of public money and stewardship are sufficient cause to provide citizens with an immediate direct means such as referendum and recall.

Secondly, Common Cause should be evidence to all what can be accomplished by active citizens directly affecting the political process. Today, these United States are blessed with an obvious literate and articulate public willing to States are blessed with an obvious literate and articulate public willing to States are blessed with an obvious literate and articulate public willing to States Constitution and their respective state constitutions. The United States Constitution and their respective state constitutions. The purposes that included such worthy ideals as establishing justice! The purposes that included such worthy ideals as establishing justice! The League of Women Voters and Common Cause have shared with other public interest League of Women Voters and Common Cause have shared with other public interest groups a grand page in American history with previous populist efforts of groups a grand page in American history with previous populist efforts of groups a grand page in American history with previous populist efforts of groups a grand page in American history with previous populist efforts of groups a grand page in American history with previous populist efforts of groups a grand page in American history with previous populist efforts of groups a grand page in American history with previous populist efforts of groups a grand page in American history with previous populist efforts of groups. The common Cause have shared with other public interest pressure groups?

They (citizens) can demand access to their instruments of self-government. They can demand that public officials be responsive and accountable. They can advocate the public interest with the same persuasiveness that others advocate special interests. They can monitor the actions of both legislative and executive branches with the same high professionalism that the special interests bring to that task. They can go far toward eliminating the corrupting influence of money and secrecy in our public life.

Third, Common Cuase should be for initiative, referendum, and recall, because they are the clearest expression of self-government via direct democracy. In each case, the "consent of the governed" is channelled directly to the inaction by the legislative branch, to the negation of legislation tied to a specail interest, and to the recall of a public official. To limit "consent" to the present system of choosing one's representatives has not assured stewardship. Common Cause is an effect of the inability to assure representative government simply via the act of choosing. California, Oregon, and Wisconsin have initiative, referendum, and recall. Representation in these states stands as models of good government, when compared to what has transpired in Washington, D.C. and in many of our other states.

Finally, studies of initiative, referendum and recall by Winston Crouch and others suggest that these forms of direct democracy have not upset the continuity of governmental policy and that the outcome of votes generally conforms to what appears to be the prevailing values of society. Alaska, California Georgia, Missouri, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin are states recognized for their innovative public policy and open government. The application of initiative and referendum by these states has produced an empirical basis for recommending to the Board of Governors that the membership in the State be polled as to their views on submitting a resolution to the State Legislature to adopt initiative, referendum, and recall as a constitutional amendment for consideration by the citizens of the State. Further, if the membership of Common Cause in Minnesota endorse such a resolution for state consideration, than the Board should oforward a similar resolution to the national Common Cause headquarters with the idea of polling the national membership on backing a resolution to the national constitution.

In conclusion, there is no evidence in the states possessing initiative, referendum, or recall that the legislative process has been stymied. Rather, their presence suggests lawmakers might find an additional reason for performing their task as stewards of the common good. As far as "bypassing" the legislature, Winston Crouch and others emphatically show that the outcomes from the application of these forms of direct democracy have generally

John W. Gardner In Common Cause (New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 1972), p. 18.

Adrian, Charles R. State and Local Governments (New York: McGraw-Hill Co., 1967), pp. 167-171; Bird, E. E. and Ryan, F. M., The Recall of Public Officers (New York: The MacMillan Co., 1930); Crouch, Winston W.; The Initiative and Referendum in California (Los Angles: The Haynes Foundation, 1950); The Book of States.

reflected the prevailing will of the state's citizens. Finally, what can be a more open form of public debate on a particular issue than that which takes place prior to an election? Your comments in the August 10th letter suggest there is hesitation on the part of the decision-makers in Common Cause to back forms of direct democracy, because they "know best" how to "handle" the legislative process and accomplish the public good. If one assumes we should always be a republic, than emphasis upon "indirectness" in representation is logical. But the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the historical direction of representation lead one to conclude that the hall-mark of this political system has been the march away from republicanism to more and more democracy. As I read and understand the contents of In Common Cause, John Gardner had the same vision.

Sincerely,

James H. Eddy

555 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

May 13, 1975

Asako Watanabe Japanese American Citizens League 5415 North Clark Street Chicago, Illinois 60640

Dear Mr. Watanabe:

Thank you for your letter of April 28, 1975, requesting a Legislative Directory for Minnesota, similar to the one published by the League of Women Voters of Illinois.

However, the League of Women Voters of Minnesota does not publish such a directory. Instead, we suggest that you contact the House Information Office and the Senate Information Office. The address is:

> State Capitol St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Sincerely,

Mary Ann McCoy State President

Copy to: Mary Ann McCoy, office (Org. St. Gov. file)



LEGIS⁵⁰

News Release

7503 Marin Drive Greenwood Plaza Englewood, Colorado 80110 (303) 773-1776 (800) 525-9330 The Center for Legislative Improvement

Date:

January 1, 1976

Contact:

Ron Henderson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITIZENS CONFERENCE ON STATE LEGISLATURES CHANGES NAME TO LEGIS 50/THE CENTER FOR LEGISLATIVE IMPROVEMENT

DENVER, COLO. -- The 10-year-old Citizens Conference on State

Legislatures today changed its name to Legis 50/The Center for

Legislative Improvement.

"As the Citizens Conference reassessed its original objectives and goals in light of achievements and changing circumstances, the Board of Trustees and the staff determined that Legis 50/The Center for Legis 50/The Center mission today," Larry Margolis, Executive Director, said.

The decision to change the name coincides with the relocation of the <u>Legis 50</u> national office from Kansas City to the Denver area and in part reflects a concern that the former name might be confused with other organizations working in the legislative field.

Margolis said the new organizational identity was created to provide more ready recognition by the public and to convey a more singular representation of the organization's purpose. He said that there were no immediate plans to change the programs, publications and personnel of the organization.

###

14 of Contract

555 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

December 18, 1975

Dear Patty:

I must apologise for the delay in responding to your interest in serving on the committee of the Legislative update. I have enclosed several materials that are pertinent to the LwVMN review. It is my hope that we can meet just after the first of the year to chart our course.

The charge as I see it is to update members on where we are in LWVMN position as it relates to Legislative procedures and where the Legislature is today as compared to 1968 when we reached our consensus. Since this issue received much attention at Convention, but failed to reach a new study level, it would be appropriate to raise questions for possible study to be considered at the next state convention.

Bibliography:

racts and Isaues: The Minnesota Legislature, LwVMN, april, 1968. Consensus and Press Release-Dec. 1968

Citizens League Report: Broaden Opportunities for Legislateve Service, May, 1975. This will be mailed directly to you from the Citizens League Office.

Citizens Donference on State Legislatures: How Citizens Can Improve the Minnesota Legislature. Dec. 1974.

C.C.S.L.-Research/16, PP1&2. Dec. 1972

C.C.SL. Research/18, September 1975. On order. Both pertain to salaries, and expenses in the 50 state Legislatures.

Numererous summaries of recent legislative hearings as summarized by Phillips Legislative Service.

References: The Sometime Governments: A Critical Study of the 50 American

Legislatures by the C.C.S.L. and The Book of States published by
the Council of State Governments. Check your local libraries for
these materials. LWVMN has a copy of the The sometime Governments
and it is easy to copy material on legislative trends from the
Book of States.

There will be additional materials that I will be assembling. In some cases we might have to do some interviewing to get the most updated information. In any case, none of the information is time consuming and I will enjoy working with you.

After our first meeting, we should have a good idea what is cut out for us.

Sincerely,

ann A. anutson. Organization of State Government



League Governmerit COPY Committees: Options and Opportunities

In 1976, the League's national convention took a fresh look at the Government program category, perceiving that it had a dual function "as the focal point for a group of related positions and as the tie that binds all League program." These words, from Impact on Issues 1976-1978 (#386, \$1.00), underscore the exciting opportunities that the Government program creates for League leaders and members. As a look at the list in Impact on Issues will tell you, Government comprises the largest number of separate positions in any League national program category. Not only that, the 1976-78 biennium marks the first period in eight years when League Government committees are not shepherding member study and agreement on topics of far-reaching importance. The LWV's Congress study, stretching over several years, was capped in 1972; the campaign finance study, a 1973 emergency item done on a crash basis, was completed within months; and the study and agreement on the role of the presidency, conducted amid the public outcry over the Watergate crisis, consumed 1974 and 1975.

Convention '76 considered the scope of the former Representative Government positions, rechristened them "Government" and included protection of individual liberties and the citizen's right to vote. (These two issues, which had been long-standing League principles, were naturals for absorption into program on the basis of clear member understanding and agreement.) This COMMITTEE GUIDE, addressed to local and state Government chairmen and their committees, proposes some ideas on how to make the most of this multifaceted program category:

- □ how to organize;
- what kinds of Government activities Leagues can undertake, both in action and in citizen education;
- ☐ how to relate Government program to state and local issues:
- □ what resources are needed.

This GUIDE is designed to assist chairmen and committee members as well as new League members. Included are concrete suggestions on setting up a committee, gearing up for action and working in the community.

Of course, not every League is expected to carry out all of the suggestions described. League leaders can end up spreading themselves too thin; League boards have to set priorities and find ways to share the fun and the responsibilities.

However, the Government program includes such an exciting and challenging array of possibilities for plans, actions and achievements that it resembles "an offer you can't refuse." With no member study/consensus process called for during this particular biennium, the accent is on action and community education opportunities.

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The Government category: what's in it?

National Program '76-'78:

"Government—Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive to all citizens and protects individual liberties established under the Constitution."

The specific positions within the Government category have a common heritage—the League's long-standing commitment to basic concepts of representative government

- ☐ Citizen rights—action to protect the individual liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and the right of every citizen to vote.
- ☐ Congress—action in support of responsive legislative processes characterized by accountability, representativeness, decision-making capability and effective performance.
- ☐ The presidency—action to support the exercise of presidential powers within the constitutional balance of power, 25th amendment succession procedures, two-term tenure limitation and direct election of the President
- ☐ Campaign finance—action to improve methods of financing political campaigns in order to make our government more accountable, more representative, more responsive to all of our citizens.
- ☐ Self-government and voting representation for D.C.—action for self-government and voting representation in Congress of citizens of the District of Columbia.
- ☐ Apportionment—action for apportionment substantially on population of congressional districts and of all elected state and local government bodies.

Impact on Issues (pp. 35-42) describes these Government positions in detail, traces historical factors leading to their adoption and cites important League actions under each position. Together with this COMMITTEE GUIDE, it constitutes the underpinnings for Leagues' current Government activities.

Organizing the Government committee

A first step is obviously to get a Government resource committee formed. Since Leagues vary in number of members, interest and composition, League Government committees range from the sizable and eager to the nonexistent. One northeastern urban League has an active and dedicated Government committee of 30 members who meet monthly for study and action—an impressive achievement. At the other end of the spectrum are Leagues in which the entire Government



League of Women Voters of the United States 1730 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 committee is composed of one hard-pressed person who is also holding down a second portfolio. Most Leagues fall somewhere between these two extremes. Therefore, look at the organizational hints in this GUIDE as a menu from which to select those suggestions that most satisfy your members' Government appetites.

The committee's outlook for work might include the following steps:

- build a file of resources:
- keep up to date on legislative events related to the portfolio (national, state and local) and be ready to act;
- maintain contacts with key officials and other organizations interested in Government issues;
- develop a repertory of topics for speeches and explanations to the public:
- above all, work with other League committees—program, action, organization, public relations—wherever interrelationships occur.

Attention: Chairmen

- ☐ Involve seasoned Government buffs in your committee, but be sure also to open the door to new members. Advertise for members in bulletins and through unit announcements. It's even possible to recruit people for League membership by offering citizens with a Government bent a specific role on your committee.
- ☐ It's important to build a resource file, both for your current committee and for those who will follow in your footsteps. See the resource list on page 4 for basic League sources. Supplement with materials from government agencies and other organizations. For the reference materials listed on page 32 of *You and Your National Government* (#273, \$1.00), or for other materials, check the nearest large public or university library. Also check bibliographies in standard works on government subjects.
- ☐ Keep in touch with your state League's Government chairman so that you can exchange information.
- ☐ Make sure each committee member is involved and has something important to do.
- ☐ Your local board is responsible for coordinating all program issues, so make your plans and get your requests—whether it's for unit time, *Voter* space, or money—to the board in plenty of time.

Attention: Committee members

- ☐ Review the Government program, read the resource materials listed and be familiar with the descriptions in *Impact on Issues*.
- ☐ Check related state and local materials.
- ☐ Follow the leads on Government in LWVUS's REPORT FROM THE HILL and ACTION ALERTs.
- ☐ Think strategy and make plans, both for action and for other work in your community.

Using the Government program: options and opportunities

A good place to begin any effort is within your own League since membership turnover means a continual need for review. Members need to be ready for action on a position whenever it comes up—there's no time for review in the crunch of a legislative deadline. When your committee is planning, don't be shy about deciding to raise League consciousness on an issue or to delve into what you

see as an important problem in your community that can be spoken to under a Government position.

Update League members

Plan unit or general meetings as refresher sessions for League members. Or try luncheons or panel discussions. This is also an excellent way to attract new recruits to your committee.

- Have several committee members involved, each with a different position to cover.
- Use flip sheets, charts and tables, where possible, to enliven the presentation.
- Stress the interrelatedness of League program issues—for example, how the League's commitment to open government is related to HR's monitoring of welfare regulations or public housing guidelines, or to EQ's observing of state environmental protection agency meetings. (See discussion below.)
- Hand out lively discussion questions at unit or general meetings following your oral presentation to focus discussion.
- If time does not allow coverage of the whole program category, pick positions that relate to events your League is involved with at the state or local level, e.g. campaign financing or voting rights.

If you cannot schedule an updating session, use bulletin articles for brief refreshers. Serialize them, if need be. Whatever you do, tie in national and state legislative events related to Government program. For example, at the national level, mention the progress of Senate Joint Resolution 1 (S J Res 1), the proposed constitutional amendment on direct election of the President. Or perhaps your state has a pending open meetings amendment or a committee reorganization proposal before the legislature.

Plan Government activities with other Leagues in your area. Share responsibilities and information with other League Government committees, in carrying out plans for a meeting, a publication or an article—whatever you decide. For a large meeting or workshop, invite expert speakers on a Government topic—sunshine laws, campaign financing, or the legislative budgeting process. Nearby professors, state legislators, or local government officials are some possibilities.

Action possibilities—up, down and sideways

As was stated at Convention '76, the Government program category is more than the sum of its parts. Its challenge and its almost infinite possibilities for application at the state and local level make it one of

Help from the State League

State Leagues can help local Leagues by conducting workshops for local League Government chairmen:

- ... to bring together ideas and concerns;
- . . to give a state legislative outlook;
- ...to review national Government positions and relate them to state and local issues and positions;
- ... to help set up guidelines for monitoring implementation of state laws on such topics as campaign financing, open meetings, and freedom of information;
- ... to instruct Leagues about litigation possibilities on Government issues (write LWVEF Litigation Department for guidance);
- .. to trouble-shoot and bolster local leaders' confidence;
- ... to distribute and discuss information the state League has compiled on Government issues and League actions at all levels of government, and on any relevant court decisions.

our most versatile program areas. It is also very suited to combination with other programs on subjects of mutual concern. Action on Government program can run in various directions:

- ☐ action on national Government program by local and state Leagues;
- ☐ action at state and local level on national Government positions when appropriate, i.e., vertical program;
- action at any level in interrelationship with other program areas when appropriate, i.e., a horizontal link-up.

Before acting, review the tips in *Action* (#161, a revised edition coming soon) and *Making an Issue of It* (#613, 75¢). Let's look at particulars about action possibilities.

National issues

The basic League responsibility for Government is to be prepared to act on the national positions. Any Government issue can "heat up" at any time if the political mix in Washington is right, and League Government committees should be ready to act. A committee that is well briefed and well organized will feel comfortable spearheading any local or state action on national items.

Follow the leads in REPORT FROM THE HILL, NATIONAL BOARD REPORT and ACTION ALERTs in watchdogging Government issues. Recently the LWVUS testified before a Senate committee on direct election of the President and on federal sunshine legislation (a bill was enacted in 1976); lobbied for extension of public campaign financing to congressional elections, for voter registration reform and lobby reform; and testified in favor of full voting representation in Congress for D.C. It's important for Leagues to back up this kind of LWVUS action by responding quickly to LWVUS ACTION ALERTs—use your internal League network to stimulate member response and send letters from your League to key legislators.

State and local issues

You may be surprised at how effectively you can apply the Government position to state and local problems. Have a joint meeting of the Government and Action committees well ahead of your state legislative session to brainstorm about pertinent bills that may come up—for example, freedom of information amendments and revisions of campaign finance laws. Perhaps you'll want to plan to use the Government position as a basis for testimony and lobbying for a local open meetings ordinance. Try relating aspects of the Congress and executive positions to state or local issues.

Your League can undertake action at the local, regional and/or state level under national positions without prior clearance from the national board, if your board determines that your members are knowledgeable and back the action to be taken. Action on the LWVUS Government positions at the state or regional level that affects governmental jurisdictions beyond your own requires clearance from the League board(s) at the appropriate jurisdictional level.

Which Government positions can be used at state and local levels?

Most of them. Let's look at examples.

✓ Citizen rights. The application is obvious when it comes to
action to protect the right to vote. Look carefully at state and local
laws and regulations that deal with voting; make sure that they
enhance rather than restrict the citizen's right to vote and the ease of
doing so. There are probably obvious tie-ins to your state League's
election laws position.

The LWVUS citizen rights position may offer you initial footing for opposing serious erosions of the individual citizen's basic constitu-

Effective action under Government positions means:

- Efficient and realistic planning by your Government committee with sound background information and resources. The key to good planning is to develop a master plan—goals and means of meeting them, materials needed, money, people.
- A detailed calendar.
- Close contact and coordination with your League's Action committee and other program committees.
- Knowledge of key community groups and officials to contact about Government issues. Keep lists with up-to-date addresses and phone numbers.

tional guarantees—for example, the rights of persons accused of crimes or the rights of freedom of speech and press. These caveats apply: be sure to study the facts thoroughly; make sure your members know the issues, know what aspects of the law you're speaking to, and back proposed action. This means some two-way communication—getting out information to your members and finding a way to assess their support.

✓ Congress and the Presidency. Although it may not seem so at
the outset, portions of the Congress position can be applied to action
on aspects of your state and local legislature or county council. Take
a look. Do the position and the specific criteria of accountability,
representativeness, decision-making capability and effective performance give you a basis for action at these levels? Watch for
specific peculiarities of the individual legislative body in question that
will necessitate further study by your committee and members.

One promising area is to relate the Congress position to your state or local legislative budget approval process. See the CURRENT FOCUS, Congress and the Budget: From Chaos to Control, (#368, 40¢) for an explanation of budget-making at the national level.

When it comes to the presidency position, many Leagues have wondered whether it is suitable for action beyond the national level. The answer is a cautious "yes." If you want to take a look at your state or local governmental executive structures (governor and executive agencies, county executives, mayors), certain parts of the presidency position can be adapted, especially the fiscal powers section and the concept of a dynamic balance between legislative and executive branches within a constitutional framework. These bare-bones statements must, of course, be fleshed out with solid information developed by your committee and presented to your membership for understanding and agreement.

Another example: Leagues may wish to emphasize unnecessary secrecy in state or local executive establishments and could even combine this with the people's right to know.

- ✓ Campaign finance. This is applicable to all levels of campaigning: federal, state, local; primaries as well as general elections. Most states now have campaign finance statutes. Many local government jurisdictions will doubtless consider adopting local campaign finance laws. Leagues should examine these laws as they are developed and adopted to make sure that they reflect League concerns as stated in our campaign finance position.
- ✓ Self-government and voting representation for D.C. This is the one action area in Government program that is exclusively national in focus.
- Apportionment. Apportionment on the basis of population of all state and local legislative bodies as well as of the U.S. Congress is the goal of this position. Obviously it can be applied at all levels. Many local Leagues use this position to evaluate the apportionment of county commissioner districts, school board districts, local county council districts or wards. If you think there is a problem of equitable apportionment in your community and you have questions, your

board may want to contact the national Government chairman for guidance or write the LWVEF's Litigation Department, which can also advise you. A major focus of League apportionment concerns is the ten-year reapportionment of congressional districts and the subsequent redistricting.

Interrelated program—a horizontal linkup

Action, monitoring, litigation, or even just amassing information may become cooperative ventures between Government and other program committees if your League is open to the possibilities.

- ☐ The emphasis in the Government category on open governmental systems that are representative, accountable and responsive can be combined with several other program efforts. Examples: you might team up with HR in working for accountable decision making at the local government level in community development programs; with EQ over concern about secrecy in the development of state environmental guidelines; with Land Use in seeking adequate public notice under state open meetings requirements for hearings on local zoning ordinance changes.
- ☐ The Government position on citizen rights as it relates to voting rights provides the opportunity to link up with work on state election laws.

☐ Government and local structure-of-government efforts can be

joined to assess the effectiveness of present county government budget-making procedures.

Check out the extent of citizen participation in your local govern-

ment. Government program and other League program areas can

☐ Look out for the "urban connection" in any action contemplated. Refer to Focusing on Cities/Urban Crisis (#344, 40¢), page 4 for suggestions on relating Government to this issue.

be combined here to urge greater public involvement.

As this overview points out, Leagues have a broad selection of possibilities under the LWVUS Government program. Leagues can speak effectively on many aspects of government at all levels. The opportunities are there—just remember that your members must be both knowledgeable about the issue and supportive of your action.

Litigation

Sometimes Government issues at the state and local level are ripe for litigation—a different but important arena for League activity. Many Leagues have successfully gone to court in the public interest under various parts of the Government program category. The California League, for example, went to court to defend the voting rights of ex-felons. Several Leagues have sued to have state open meetings laws enforced against various governmental bodies. Others have prevailed in court when arguing to uphold state campaign finance laws. See *Going to Court in the Public Interest* (#244, 25¢).

Citizen education

A major thrust of all Leagues' work is citizen education. At the core of League concern with open and accountable government is its insight that a knowledgeable citizenry is part of the bedrock on which our American government rests. The opportunities for citizen education under the Government program are wide-ranging and challenging, giving Leagues the chance to present information about a range of issues at all levels of government. Presenting facts—both pro and con—on an issue of community or national importance can give Leagues a rewarding sense of having contributed constructively to the complex relationships between government and citizen that

constitute our democratic system. Below is a "tip of the iceberg" look at citizen education opportunities in Government.

Know your government(s)

Leagues are famous for their publications on local and state governments. The 1977 edition of the LWVEF's You and Your National Government is the newest national version. A basic tool for League members and citizens alike, it sets forth the fundamentals about national government, including recent congressional procedural reforms. Used alone or in conjunction with state and local League publications on government, it is a natural for League-conducted workshops, seminars and short courses. Such courses can lay a groundwork of understanding about governmental processes that will both inform citizens and make League action on our Government positions more meaningful to communities. Supplement with other LWVEF materials, such as Congress and the Budget: From Chaos to Control and Letting the Sunshine In: Freedom of Information and Open Meetings (#223, 30¢). Such a League-taught course could be offered through the adult education program of your public schools or conducted independently by you. Promote publications (and classes) through junior colleges, senior high school government courses, and businesses in your community.

In your educational efforts, point up the need for greater citizen information about government. A 1977 study by the National Assessment for Educational Progress revealed widespread ignorance by high school students about how government operates at all levels. In 1977, Potomac Associates released a survey indicating increasing citizen disenchantment with government at all levels. Watch for similar news items that highlight the need for improved knowledge and trust.

What's in a budget process?

Information on governmental budgeting procedures will be useful to almost any citizen organization as well as to business, labor unions, church or temple social action groups, and other groups. Present a workshop for your community on budget-making by government. Supplement Congress and the Budget with any or all of these: The Citizen and the Budget Process (#482, 35¢), The Budget Process from the Bureaucrat's Side of the Desk (#483, 35¢), New Trends in State Finance (#198, 35¢), General Revenue Sharing and the States (#595, \$1.00), and lowa Case Study (#653, 50¢).

Community forums on the presidency

Use League Presidency study reference materials and update them with magazine and newspaper commentaries on the executive. Discuss problems and outlook.

A new look at an old subject

A sure indication that the U.S. Constitution is indeed a "living constitution" is the lively interest and debate sparked at the seminars conducted by the LWVEF's Federalist Papers Reexamined project. Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the project has sponsored a series of all-day seminars among League members and experts. Subject: Can American constitutional principles developed in the 1700s continue to function in a modern world? Separate seminars explored the Bill of Rights, Congress, the Presidency, the Judiciary and Federalism, preceded by a first one on stage-setting. The seminars were taped, edited and published in six pamphlets.

Individually or together, the pamphlets are great for stimulating citizen discussion of basic precepts about government. Obviously those on Congress, the Presidency and the Bill of Rights are well suited to use by the Government committee. But also consider using the material on the federal Judiciary. It can spark interest in the role of the federal courts, heretofore unexplored by the League. The

booklet on Federalism brings together important ideas about the interrelationship of national and state governments.

Use the Federalist Papers Reexamined materials for community dialog in living rooms, in town-meeting style sessions, over radio or TV, as seminars. The package of six pamphlets (#225, \$5) comes with a Community Guide with many hints for using the project in your community.

A sampling of League-tested ideas

Many innovative ideas have been tried by League Government committees, some involving action and some directed to citizen education.

- ☐ The Klamath County, Oregon League forced the redistricting of election zones for representation on the Klamath County school board. Though it was required by law, the rezoning had not been done until the League, concerned about unequal representation, stimulated the change. Starting with a petition to the local government and ending with a successful rezoning, the League's action was based on the apportionment position.
- ☐ Using the national Government program category and criteria for government policy, programs and performance, the Indianapolis, Indiana LWV successfully lobbied for adoption of a local ethics/conflict-of-interest ordinance for the city government. In recognition of its efforts, the League was requested to be present at the signing of the ordinance and was asked to suggest persons to be appointed to the new Ethics Board.
- ☐ The Galveston, Texas LWV, in an all-out effort to teach their community about electing the President, presented teaching units on the electoral college, qualifications and duties of the President, and the role of political parties. They taught the material to grades 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8 as well as to 150 night school students.
- ☐ The Memphis-Shelby County, Tennessee League, in combination with the Memphis Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women and the American Civil Liberties Union, sponsored a two-day program on the right to privacy. Funded by the Tennessee Bicentennial Commission, the program, which sparked much media attention, involved debates and presentations by experts on privacy.
- ☐ At the suggestion of the Gloversville, New York mayor, the Fulton County LWV's Government committee is conducting a lengthy study of the advisability of adopting a public safety organization plan for the city (combined fire/police department). The League committee carefully compiled information from other communities and presented preliminary findings on the controversial proposal, as its study continues.
- ☐ The Ohio state League, in anticipation of the 1980 census and subsequent reapportionment of House seats, has reviewed the national apportionment position (including a look at state legislative reapportionment). All units were sent material by the state League, and updating sessions were held. Response was very positive.
- ☐ Many Leagues and other citizen organizations have been working for open meetings laws. Public reaction against governmental secrecy following Watergate seems to have been nationwide. By 1977, all fifty states had enacted open meetings statutes. Leagues have used various ways to examine the extent of compliance with state open meetings laws. Examples:
- ☐ The Ohio LWV, as another example of League watchfulness, has asked its local members to monitor the 1975 Ohio law and has drawn up practical guidelines for monitors to use, including an analysis of the statute by the state attorney general's office.
- -In 1976, the Massachusetts LWV began a 12-18 month open

meetings monitoring project, using existing League Observer Corps members. The state attorney general cooperated by receiving reports (on forms previously approved for League use by his office) from local League observers when they suspected a violation of provisions of the law.

- —In 1976 the New Jersey League requested its local members to conduct a year-long observation of how local public bodies complied with provisions of the New Jersey open meetings law. At the end of a year's study, the League report showed general compliance and effectiveness, but noted some problems:
- Ignorance by many officials of the requirement that they maintain a mailing list of persons to whom notices must be sent resulted in some people being uninformed.
- Costs to the subscriber for receiving notices of meetings varied from nothing to over \$100, with the most common charge being \$10.
- The required 48-hour notice about nonregular meetings caused confusion when weekly newspapers had to receive copy on meetings, and precluded the calling of short-notice meetings except in emergencies (which newspapers need not carry notice of).
- Concern was expressed over how the public could learn the topics covered during any closed meetings.
- School boards, which meet frequently, had the most trouble with the law. Some zoning boards also displayed difficulty in complying.
- Some monitors reported inadequate, limited discussion before action by public bodies, suggesting that decisions had been arrived at previously and secretly.

The New Jersey League reported that public attendance at meetings generally has not increased.

—The University of Minnesota School of Public Affairs, with the cooperation of the state League of Women Voters, surveyed the effects of Minnesota's strong open meetings law, reporting its results in December 1976. The survey found that public meetings were generally open and noted an increase in openness of discussions involving (a) labor negotiations strategy, (b) land acquisition strategy, (c) personnel and (d) pending litigation. Some survey respondents reported an increased length of time for meetings and longer agendas. Like New Jersey, Minnesota reported little increase in the number of open meetings.

Resources

General

Impact on Issues 1976-78: A Leader's Guide to National Program, 1977 (#386, \$1).

In League: Guidelines for League Boards, 1975 (#275, \$2).

Membership Management: Getting a Handle on the Job, 1976 (#495, \$1.50).

Meaningful Meetings, 1976 (#319, 40¢).

Making an Issue of It: The Campaign Handbook, 1976 (#613, 75¢)

Going to Court in the Public Interest: A Guide for Community Groups, 1973, LWVEF (#244, 25¢).

Action, 1977 (#161, forthcoming).

League Action Service (see catalog for ordering instructions). *Tell It To Washington*, 1977, LWVEF (#349, 35¢).

League Government publications

You and Your National Government, 1977, LWVEF (#273, \$1). The Right of Privacy, 1972, LWVEF (#102, 35¢).

Congress and the Budget: From Chaos to Control, (CF) 1976, LWVEF (#368, 40¢).

Presidential Accountability, 1975 (#578, 60¢).

Perspective on the Presidency: An Historical View, (F & I) 1975,

LWVEF (#579, 35¢).

Perspective on the Presidency: A Look Ahead, (F & I) 1975, (#594, 35¢).

Who Should Elect the President? 1969, (#345, 50¢). Choosing the President, 1976, LWVEF (#606, \$2).

UPDATE ON GOVERNMENT Letting the Sunshine In: Freedom of Information and Open Meetings, 1977, LWVEF (#223, 30¢).

On state government

Unfinished Business: State Legislators on Monitoring the Executive Branch, 1974, LWVEF (#520, 60¢).

New Trends in State Finance, 1973, LWVEF (#198, 35¢). General Revenue Sharing and the States, 1975, LWVEF (#595, \$1).

The Citizen and the Budget Process, 1974, LWVEF (#482, 35¢). The Budget Process from the Bureaucrat's Side of the Desk, 1974, LWVEF (#483, 35¢).

Federalist Papers Reexamined

- Past as Prologue: Present Perspectives, 1976, LWVEF (#622, \$1).
- 2. The Bill of Rights Then and Now: Perspectives on Individual Liberty, 1977, LWVEF (#377, \$1).
- Perspectives on Congress: Performance and Prospects, 1977 LWVEF (#213, \$1).
- 4. Achieving "Due Responsibility"; Perspectives on the American Presidency, 1977, LWVEF (#331, \$1).
- 5. The Growth of Judicial Power: Perspectives on "The Least Dangerous Branch," 1977, LWVEF (#332, \$1).
- 6. Our "Compound Republic": Perspectives on American Federalism, 1977, LWVEF (#333, \$1).

A kit containing all six pamphlets and Back to First Principles: A Community Guide, 1977, LWVEF (#225, \$5).

Order from

League of Women Voters of the United States, 1730 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 Pub. No. 313, 30¢



March 23, 1973

Betty Bohren (William) 306 - 22nd Street Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

Dear Betty:

Thank you for your inquiry regarding our Organization of State Government positions. Our positions relating to the state legislature do not directly promote greater economics, although in the long run strengthening the legislature could lead to better, more efficient use of state funds. Even with the increased staff and almost doubled legislative salaries, the cost of running the legislature may not be out of line. The increased compensation may meet our concern for adequate legislative salaries, but this must be determined by League members through their delegates to State Convention. The economics the League goals may result in can not be readily measured - such as better planning to meet problems before they reach crisis proportions. It is difficult to measure the quality of any legislation enacted but certainly a major goal of League is attracting highly qualified candidates for the legislature in order to enhance the deliberation process.

The League does not have a position favoring the unicameral system. As you have noted this would have to be adopted at the May Convention. If your League feels strongly about a study of this issue, it would be appropriate to campaign for it by contacting other local Leagues with your concerns.

Our position favoring a reduction in the size of the legislature simply means that we believe one chamber or both could be reduced. We do not specify a particular size but in testimony before legislative committees we have urged that any reduction be more than token. We have enclosed a copy of the testimony presented to Senate and House subcommittees this session.

The assistance of League members in Cloquet and throughout the state would be a great value. It is our belief that a bill reducing the legislature after the next reapportionment is more politically possible now than it would be in future session. Since it is difficult to schedule Times for Action geared to specific legislative action or specific bills a better approach than waiting for notice from the state League

Betty Bohren March 23, 1973 page 2

on this issue would be to urge members to write their representatives personal letters expressing their views at this time.

We have followed some of the legislative discussion regarding unicameralism and are aware of the growing interest among government officials and the public. At this time, there hasn't been a full discussion of this issue, but the arguments given for a reduced legislature are not the same as for a unicameral body. For example, the proponents of unicameralism desire greater representation. Some proponents have recommended an even larger single House - larger than the 134 member House of Representatives. This they feel would enhance representativeness, enable a closer relationship between legislators and their constituency. Please refer to the enclosed material (August 1971) prepared by the League on this perhaps illusory goal.

The fact that unicameralism would result in one body as large as 134 or even larger seems to work havoc with League's satted goals pertaining to a smaller legislature. We state that large bodies are unwieldy - that large committees are less deliberative - that smaller districts are less visible and may attract less qualified candidates. With the passage of the flexible session amendment, the difficulties in attracting qualified candidates may become a crucial issue. Therefore raising the stature of legislative position is even more essential. Legislators in Minnesota must find it difficult and perhaps less rewarding to be members of such a large unmanageable pack. League lobbyists and observers who have observed committee meeting and full sessions of both chambers have frequently noted the marked difference in the quality of deliberation between the larger and smaller body. The Senate receives higher marks. Of course, size is not the only factor causing the difference. Senators' terms are 4 years (usually) and Representatives' 2 years - this certainly influences a legislator's attitude on tax matters. Senators are freer to make decisions of concern to a statewide constituency, often less encumbered by reelection concerns. Also a Senate district being larger very likely has a more varied constituency and can represent a broader view. The usual argument for unicameralism is that now we have one-man-one-vote, two bodies is redundant - there are no longer any differences. They claim there is back-passing, etc. But the size of districts and length of terms do make the bodies different. And constituents have the opportunity to elect 2 people to represent them on

Betty Bohren March 23, 1973 page 3

state matters - very possibly with widely different views. It is then possible for a minority citizen (political and otherwise) to have one opportunity out of two to elect someone with views to their liking.

I have attempted to give you some of the pro and con arguments relating to unicameralism - to show that they differ from those presented for reduction of size of legislature.

We hope this provides the information requested concerning our State Government consensus.

Sincerely,

Barbara Steinkamp, Chairman Organization of State Government

M. A. Mc Coy, Tath Phes.

BS:jm enc.

cc: Barbara Steinkamp
Mary Ann McCoy
Peggy Thompson, Cloquet Consultant
Office

March 13, 1973

Eileen Vagle, Chairman Constitutional Revision Committee League of Women Voters of South Dakota 2508 East 8th Street Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57103

Dear Eileen:

Thank you for your letter of December 28th, 1972, inquiring about the status of citizen/legislative study of unicameral legislature in Minnesota. We are pleased to inform you that a citizens group has been formed and you may contact:

Harry Newby, Chairman Committee for Unicameral Legislature Cloquet Broadcasting Company, Inc. Cloquet, Minnesota 55720

for more information.

We are in no position to estimate the possibility of acceptance by Minnesota voters of a unicameral legislature; the LWV of Minnesota study several years ago of the legislative branch did not result in consensus on the question of unicameralism. It does not appear on our current study agenda.

Good luck in your studies and inquiries in this issue.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann McCoy State President

MM: jm

cc: Mary Ann McCoy Barbara Steinkamp, Organization of State Govt. Comm. M TO: Bobbi Helcomb
13009 Lakeview Drive, Burnsville LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA
(copies toMarlene Roth, Rosemary Rockenbach, State Office)

FROM:
Mary Ann McCoy

PHONE: 224-5445

SUBJECT Your typing the enclosed lettersto editors - two sets!

DATE 2-18-72

Mærlene reports that you have agreed to send these two different letters to the following editors: Winona Baily News

Total: 17 papers

Mesabi News - Virginia, Mn. Worthington Globe Republican Eagle - Red Wing, Mn.

Please send letter on size of legislature right away; send the other one in about 2 weeks--March 1 or 2nd or so.

Minneapolis Star
Pioneer Press
St. Paul Dispatch
Duluth Herald
Austin Herald
Fairmont Sentinel
Fergus Falls Journal
Mankato Free Press

Minneap to lis Tribune

Please keep account of your typing time and bill state office Rochester Post St. Cloud Times Willmar Tribune

Fargo Forum (Fargo, N. D.) - coversMoorhead metro area

(expense voucher enclosed) at usual rate- \$2.50 per hour; also bill state office for the totalpostage, so you can sail them yourself . .and sign them, too, please, for me! Thank you so much for taking on this assignment. Please send only 2 carbons

of each letter (i. e., a copy of the size letter to say Wiscas and Worthington) and a copy of the constitution study cosmission letter to say Viscas and Porthington along with your expense woucher to the office - 1 copy for the Organization of State Government file and one copy for the Public Seletions Ale. No sees to make corbons of the others, and that will save timet.

Carbon copies to Marlene Roth, Rosemary Rockenbach, State Office (please date when you type--Winona Daily News probably February 20, 1972, or so) Winona, Minnenota To the Editor: In a pnevious letter to your paper the League of Women Fotors of Minnesota expressed its enthusiastic and long-standing support for reduction of in size of the state legislature. That enthusiasm remains undiminished and is nourished by the decision of the three judge panel to reduce the House to 105, the Senate to 35. 7. have read the reports of appeals to higher courts by legislators who raise the question of constitutionality. They cite constitutional responsibility of the legislature, not the courts, to fix by statute the size of the law-making body. Theleague of momen loters, interested in promoting political resonability, would be the last to encourage legislators or the courts to be casual about the Minnesota constitution. Se recegnize efforts by legislators to legislate within the framework of the constitution in order to avoid possible enfringement of rights. It is because we, too, regard the constitution seriously that we think it is inappropriate to cry "constitutionality" only sometimes but not consistently. We raise this question because the legislature has ignored at least two provisions of the constitution and legislators' pries of "constitutionality" have not been heard. Article IV, section 24, of the Minnesots constitution provides for electing state senators by staggered term. In other words, accoring to the constitution, beginning in 1878, half the state Senate should be elected every two years. This has not been followed. The other feature of section 24 (especially relevant to the 1971 reapportionment) reads ". . . there shall be an entire new election of representatives next succeeding each new apportionment provided for in this article." The Lefterate & legislative reapportionment bill passed by the1971 legislature (vetoed by the governor) provided for senators to serve out their current four-year terms actil 1974 regardless of the constitutional provisions cited above. It is certainly not the league's intention to be picayunish in regard to the legislature vis a vis the state's constitution. However we think the public # is left with some unanswered questions. Is constitutionality a consideration only for the courts? Only for the legislature? Or for both? And, when? Is the present cry of "constituti mality" designed to serve the interests of the legislators or the people of the state? Mary Ann McCcy State President Legue of Women Voters of Minnesota

send About March 3, 1972 Winonabaily News Winona, Minnesota To the Editor: Late this past fall your newspaper probably carried an account of the newly-appointed Minnesot Constitutional Study Commission chaired by Slaer L. anderson, former governor of Minnesota. Your readers may be aware that the 1971 Minnesote Legislature authorized appointment of a 21-member commission to study the constitution. Its recommendations are due befere the governor and the legislature by November 15, 1972. The League of Women Voters of Minsesots is interested in the activities of that commission from two standpoints. First, we are interested in promoting certain concepts (based upon study and agreement among our members) s.g., an easier amending process, joint election of governor and lieutenant pwernor, *#144/66/14/14/14/66/67 reduction in size of legislature, which could be realized by a revised constituion. Secondly, the League of Women Voters, interested in promoting political responsibility, enthusiastically encourages all Minnesota citizens to communicate their views on the on the state's constitution. It is after all the document which provides the Tramework within which we legislate and make judgements about tesislation already passed. We understand that the constitution is not easy to real. Perhaps it in not exciting to contemplate. But certainly the 21 people on the constituoionel commission would welcome diversie opinions on whether the state's constitution is a constitution for the b tter belf of the twentiets contary in Minne ota. You may write to the Minn a lota Constituti nal Study Commission, 208 aministration bilding, St. Paul, Minnesota W/ 88188 55101. Mary Ann McCoy State President League of women Voters of Minnem ta (my underlining slipped -- the correct word to underline is "their" -- and plea e omit underlining under "Wiews" !!)

This letter sent also to: The Honorable Edward Devitt The Honorable Earl Larson December 15, 1971 The Honorable Gerald Heaney Judge, U.S. District Court United States Court House Duluth, Minnesota My dear Judge Heaney: Members of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota, a nonpartisan group interested in promoting political responsibility, salute with enthusiasm your decision to reduce the size of the legislature. League member lobbyists have tried over the years to promote the idea of a smaller legislature among those very people who could not bring themselves to reduce, namely the legislators. At the beginning of the reconvened special session we pointed out to lawmakers that chances for passage of the flexible session amendment with attached salary increases would be enhanced by reduction in the total numbers of legislators. We suggested that the logistics of managing a 202-member body in flexible session would be more complex, that efficiency in conducting state basiness is diminished by the present size, and that the number of special interest groups to be represented in Minnesota is not infinite.

It has become apparent to many state government watchers that the legislature declines to do for itself what your three-judge panel has succeeded in doing. We understand that the legislature's failure to reduce its own size may be a human response to a threatening situation: the possibility of dissolving incumbents' districts. At the same time, however, we feel that a legislative body does not require a 202 total membership to ensure fair, adequate representation and reasonable, appropriate legislation for the people of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann McCoy State President

October 8, 1971

Winona Daily News Winona, Minnesota

To the Editor:

Perhaps on more than one occasion your newspaper has taken a stand for reduction of size of the Minnesota Legislature. Not since 1860, a total of 111 years ago, has the phenomenon known as reduction occurred. Since then the totals have soured and today Minnesota claims the largest Senate (67) in the nation and the 12th largest House (135). The League of Women Voters of Minnesota vigorously supports reducing legislative size now.

Characteristically, talk of a smaller legislature flourishes prior to reapportionment efforts. Legislative reapportionment and reduction of size a are logical companions, and we urge readers to remind their legislators of this.

We think there are some convincing arguments for a smaller legislature, among them the following: The larger the membership, the less time there is for genuine, thoughtful debate by a maximal number of members. A large legislature tends to diminish the importance and status of each individual legislator and creates less visibility to constituents, The number of major interest groups to be represented are not infinite in number in Minnesota. A smaller number of people than 135 and 67 can ably represent them. We think efficiency is lost and conduct of state business is more difficult given the present size. Some readers may find some thruth in what was said in The Federalist over 150 years. "In all legislative assemblies the greater the number composing them may be, the fewer will be the men who will in fact direct their proceedings. In the next place, the larger the number, the greater will be the proportion of members of limited information and of weak capacities . . . "

while the League is not prone to romanticizing the past, we cannot help but admire the judgement of the Minnesota Legislature of 1869 which reduced itself to a Senate of 21 and a House of 42. We hope that the 1971 Legislature will, in its wisdom, weigh the factors and reduce.

Mary Ann McCoy State President, League of Women Voters of Minnesota

Worthington & Jobe
Mesabe Darly Stews
They Eagle
Trobune - Star
Proncer Fress
5+ Faul Dispatch

Dulith Kerald

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Fairmont skutinel

F. F. Journal

Mankato Free Press

Rochester Footy Termes

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STANLEY W. HOLMQUIST COMMITTEE MEMBERS JUN 8 1971 CHAIRMAN E. J. ANDERSON COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ALF BERGERUD ADMINISTRATION JEROME V. BLATZ State of Minnesota W. B. DOSLAND MEL HANSEN SENATE KEITH HUGHES J. A. JOSEFSON HAROLD G. KRIEGER L. W. LARSON GLENN D. McCARTY June 7, 1971 HARMON T. OGDAHL JOHN L. OLSON WAYNE G. POPHAM DONALD SINCLAIR CLIFFORD UKKELBERG Mrs. Charles McCoy, State President League of Women Voters of Minnesota 555 Wabasha St. Paul, Minnesota 55102 Dear Mrs. McCoy: The annual flexible session bill was recommended for passage in the Minnesota State Senate last week. There were only eight votes opposing the measure. I am sure that the House will quickly adopt the same posture and this question will be on the ballot in 1972 seeking the voter's approval. We will be very pleased to have your great organization be a part of the public relations program in behalf of flexible sessions. I sometimes like to think of this as the Holmquist amendment because I worked on it for several years. It is nice to hear from you. Sincerely yours, Stanley W. Holmquist, Chairman Committee on Rules & Administration SWH/as 4 14 a

May 25, 1971

The Honorable Stanley Holmquist Minnesota State Legislature St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Senator Holmquist:

I understand the annual/flexible session bill did not emerge from its conference committee on Saturday, May 22. Throughout the session we have assumed the legislature was committed to a constitutional amendment for annual sessions. Certainly an overwhelming number of legislators have spoken positively on this issue.

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is vigorously behind such an amendment. We are aware of the difference between the House and Senate bills regarding the legislature's ability to call itself into special session. Our members think this provision should be a part of the change.

It is the position of the League that the legislature should meet annually and should have the power to determine the time of meeting, the length of session, and the power to recess if desirable. This session's experience is another example of 120 consecutive days being too brief to conduct the voluminous and complex business of the state.

We encourage pursuit of passage of an amendment for annual sessions and we are prepared to take the case for this amendment to the people of the state prior to the 1972 election.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Charles McCoy, State President

Also to Aubrey Dirlam

April 5, 1971

The Honorable Thomas Newcome, Chairman House Governmental Operations Committee Minnesota House of Representatives State Capitol Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Mr. Newcome:

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota supports what is commonly called the "short ballot" concept. We are aware that Representative Jack Fena has introduced H.F. 685 providing for election of secretary of state, auditor, and treasurer. The League is interested in appearing on behalf of this bill when you schedule a hearing for it.

We request that you schedule that hearing at the committee's earliest convenience, and we would appreciate notification.

FOLIANGETAR

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Perry Roth League of Women Voters of Minnesota

cc: Representative Jack Fena

copies of Mene Janahi

1418 W. 5th Street Winona, Minnesota 55987 March 10, 1971

The Honorable M.J. McCauley House Chambers St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Mr. McCauley:

The Winona League of Women Voters wish to express their support for Resolution H.F. 6h rescinding the 1965 resolution memorializing Congress to call a constitutional convention to allow an area factor in the apportionment of one house of a state legislature.

Our national position which was developed during the mid-sixties, parallels the current constitutional doctrine as expressed by the Supreme Court and supports apportionment of both houses of state legislatures substantially on the basis of population. Throughout our study our organization could not find factors which in fairness to all would justify apportionment on any basis other than population.

We therefore welcome the present efforts to remove our state from the ranks of those states requesting an amendment to the federal constitution in order to do away with the one man-one vote principle inherent in apportionment by population.

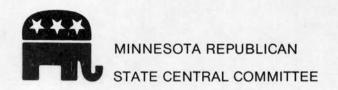
We hope that you will agree with us.

Sincerely yours,

Jeanette Steiner (Mrs. Walter)

(Mational Action Chairman

Winona LWV



March 2, 1971

TO: MRS. JANSKI

y serge hum FROM: GEORGE THISS

RE: H. F. No. 64

We did bring up this bill over the weekend at the meeting of our Executive Committee and Advisory Council. There is some strong feeling in favor of it, but we decided we should not take any action on it since it is not in our platform. Those present at the meeting are going to take it back to their committees for discussion. It is possible that later in the session they may be interested in taking some action.

I do appreciate your calling this to my attention and wish that I could say that we had backed the proposal at this time.

cc Herb Johnson Lu Stocker



RICHARD MOE. CHAIRMAN MRS. KORYNE HORBAL, CHAIRWOMAN CONGRESSMAN JOHN BLATNIK, **NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN** MRS. GERI JOSEPH. NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMAN

730 East 38th Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407 (612) 827-5421

FEB 24 1971

February 23, 1971

Mrs. O. J. Janski State President League of Women Voters of Minnesota 555 Wabasha St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Dear Mrs. Janski:

Thank you for your letter of February 22. As I indicated to Mrs. Bodine, we are very sympathetic with the effort to rescind the 1965 resolution memorializing Congress for a constitutional convention. I have offered to be of whatever help I can in this matter and I would be happy to raise the question at our Executive Committee meeting this Saturday in order to place the party firmly on record. I will then see that copies of the resoltuion are distributed to all DFL legislators.

Thank you.

Very best wishes.

Sincerely,

Richard Moe State Chairman

RM:mam opeiu:#12

MIKE SULLIVAN

⁴⁻MRS. BEVERLY TALLMAN

⁵⁻LOU DEMARS 5-MRS. JANET SHAPIRO

^{7—}HENRY TWETEN 7-MRS. KAY PETERSON

February 22, 1971 Mr. Richard Moe, Chairman DFL State Central Committee 730 East 38th Street Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407 Dear Mr. Moe: As Virginia Bodine indicated in a phone conversation with you, we are interested in DFL Party support of our efforts to rescind a 1965 resolution of the Minnesota State Legislature. That resolution memorialized Congress to call a constitutional convention to amend the U.S. Constitution to allow one house of a state legislature to be apportioned on a basis other than population. Thirty-three states out of a required thirty-four have so memorialized Congress during the past ten years. One of these, Kansas, has rescinded its petition. We hope Minnesota will be the second progressive state. I'm sure you are aware of the League's support of the one man, one vote concept. We are of course interested in continued proportional representation in state legislatures as a way of preserving the "equal protection under the law" guarantee of the fourteenth amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Mrs. Bodine has made you aware of Representative Brandt's resolution to rescind. We are attempting to have a like resolution introduced in the Senate. Executive committee endorsement of our efforts could be effective through communication with DFL aligned House members. Thank you. Sincerely, Mrs. O.J. Janski State President

February 22, 1971 Mr. George Thiss, Chairman Minnesota Republican Party 4940 Viking Drive Edina, Minnesota 55435 Dear Mr. Thiss: As Virginia Bodine indicated in a phone conversation with you, we are interested in Republican Party support of our efforts to rescind a 1965 resolution of the Minnesota State Legislature. That resolution memorialized Congress to call a constitutional convention to amend the U.S. Constitution to allow one house of a state legislature to be apportioned on a basis other than population. Thirty-three states out of a required thirtyfour have so memorialized Congress during the past ten years. One of these, Kansas, has rescinded its petition. We hope Minnesota will be the second progressive state. I'm sure you are aware of the League's support of the one man, one vote concept. We are of course interested in continued proportional representation in state legislatures as a way of preserving the "equal protection under the law" guarantee of the fourteenth amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Mrs. Bodine has made you aware of Representative Brandt's resolution to rescind. We are attempting to have a like resolution introduced in the Senate. Executive committee endorsement of our efforts could be effective through communication with Republican aligned House members. Thank you. Sincerely, Mrs. O.J. Janski State President

DOUGLAS H. SILLERS EB 2 2 1571
CLAY COUNTY
ROUTE 2
MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA 56560



COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

STATE DEPARTMENTS DIVISION, CHAIRMAN
CITY GOVERNMENT
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
HIGHER EDUCATION
METROPOLITAN AND URBAN AFFAIRS

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AUBREY W. DIRLAM, Speaker

February 19, 1971

League of Women Voters of Minnesota 555 Wabasha St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Attention: Mrs. Roth

Dear Members of the League:

Thank you for the information you prepared for a student in my area. I am sure the information will be of great assistance to him as he studies constitutional revision.

It is indeed reassuring to know that your group is so very efficient and helpful. Thank you for this service.

Sincerely,

D. H. Sillers

DHS/fgo



November 20, 1969 Mr. James H. Bowhay Director, Midwestern Office The Council of State Governments 1313 E. 60hh St. EBisano, Illinois 60637 Dear Mr. Bowhay, Mr. Lindquist, of the Lagislative Reference Library here, suggested you could help me with a small dilemma. Our League is preparing a publication for members on the executive branch of state government. It is on the subject of executiveinitiated reorganization that we are having some trouble. As one extracts information on this feature from the literature, one finds disagreement in precisely how many states provide this power for the governor. We have seen everything from 6 to 11. Undoubtedly the problem stems from the differences in the provision one can abserve from state to state. What we need to know is: 1. How many states say they have the executive-initiated provision as of this date? 2. Within this number, what are the varieties expressed? 3. What does the Council know about the success or failure of this feature? 4. If you are familiar with the recently passed 1969 state reorganization act in Minnesota, how does the executiveinitiated feature seem to compare with the group? Because of a publication deadline it would be most helpful to hear from you speedily. Sincerely, C.C. Irene Janski Lois Mizuns Mrs. Perry Roth Chairman, Organization of State Government Study Item. 5 Ridge Road Burnsville, Minnesota 55378

November 3, 1969 Mr. Douglas Young, Executive Secretary Minnesota Environmental Control Citizens Association 254 Macalester Street St. Paul, Minnesota 55105 Dear Mr. Young: The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is currently engaged in a study of the organization of the executive branch of our state government. We are preparing discussion material for members prior to their reaching agreement on positions with respect to reorganization criteria and guidelines. One of the approaches to the topic will be to explore, as an example, how the state government performs a given "function" and how it might perform that function should wholesale reorganization be accomplished. It seems to us that the function of protecting our physical environment - or, more broadly, environmental planning - is ideal for this purpose. As your organization is deeply concerned with maintaining and protecting the quality of our environment, your experience with state agencies concerned with this issue would be most helpful to us. We are interested in your opinion as to whether the present organization of the executive branch is efficient in carrying out a given policy in environmental planning and control, and whether responsibility for implementing that policy is sufficiently pinpointed. Specifically, we would like to know which state departments, divisions, agencies, boards, or whatever, you need to contact to obtain information, to present your views, etc. If there are more than one, which of them seems to have the greatest authority, and do they all speak with "one voice" or do you find conflicting policies? Do you feel that authority in this field is fragmented to the extent that it seriously affects the state's ability to act decisively? Or do you feel that spreading authority is desirable? We would also like to hear your views on a suggestion that all phases of environmental planning and protection be treated as integral parts of one function and as such gathered together under one department. In your opinion, would this increase or decrease efficiency and responsibility, and would the public interest be better or worse served?

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Lois E. Mizuno Organization of State Government Committee

2093 Birch Street White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110 November 4, 1969

Mr. John P. Badalich, Executive Director Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 717 Delaware Street, S E Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440

Dear Mr. Badalich:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter the League of Women Voters of Minnesota has sent to organizations concerned with air and water pollution in the Sate of Minnesota. It's purpose, we hope, is self-explanatory.

Our goal is emphatically not to indict the present structure, organization, policies, or officials in the field of environmental protection and planning. Far from it. Rather, we are seeking insight into how the present operation really functions. It is, after all, rather futile to discuss reorganization without a solid foundation concerning present organization.

We would be most grateful if you would care to comment on any of the questions raised in the letter. Please be assured that we understand your position might be considered sensitive, and therefore would respect your wishes if you would not care to be quoted.

I would very much appreciate any help you could give us, and respectfully request an early reply.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours.

Lois E. Mizuno Organization of State Government Committee

2093 Birch Street White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110

The League of Women Voters of Minnesota is currently engaged in a study of the organization of the executive branch of our state government. We are preparing discussion material for members prior to their reaching agreement on positions with respect to reorganization criteria and guidelines. One of the approaches to the topic will be to explore, as an example, how the state government performs a given "function" and how it might perform that function should wholesale reorganization be accomplished. It seems to us that the function of protecting our physical environment - or, more broadly, environmental planning - is ideal for this purpose. As your organization is deeply concerned with maintaining and protecting the quality of our environment, your experience with state agencies concerned with this issue would be most helpful to us. We are interested in your opinion as to whether the present organization of the executive branch is efficient in carrying out a given policy in environmental planning and control, and whether responsibility for implementing that policy is sufficiently pinpointed. Specifically, we would like to know which state departments, divisions, agencies, boards, or whatever, you need to contact to obtain information, to present your views, etc. If there are more than one, which of them seems to have the greatest authority, and do they all speak with "one voice" or do you find conflicting policies? Do you feel that authority in this field is fragmented to the extent that it seriously affects the state's ability to act decisively? Or do you feel that spreading authority is desirable? We would also like to hear your views on a suggestion that all phases of environmental planning and protection be treated as integral parts of one function and as such gathered together under one department. In your opinion, would this increase or decrease efficiency and responsibility, and would the public interest be better or worse served? Finally, do you have any opinion as to whether the present structure affects the state's relative authority or ability to act in this broad field, as compared with the federal government's? Is the present organization geared to mesh state policies easily and comfortably with federal policies? If you have any other insights which would aid us in developing this theme, please feel free to add them. We are most grateful for any help you can give. I would appreciate a reply as soon as possible without inconvenience to you. Thank you very much. Sincerely yours, Lois E. Mizuno Organization of State Government Committee 2093 Birch Street White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110

Same to . Senator Henry Harren Glbany , Mr. July 23, 1969 The Honorable Gordon Rosenmeier 72 Broadway Little Falls, Minnesota Dear Mr. Rosenmeier: In preparation for an every-member publication of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota on executive reorganization in the '69 session, I would appreciate some information and opinions from you. My specific task is to address myself to the implications of Article 9, the one giving the Commissioner of Administration power to transfer functions, monies, and people from one department to another. What is the precise intent of the conference committee in this article? Representative Newcome, to whom I spoke on the phone, indicated that this article did not come up for much discussion. Gentlemen in the Governor's office and the Commissioner of Administration's office do not appear to be prepared to make statements on the scope of power contained in the article. In chatting with Representative Newcome, I posed the possibility of transfer of functions and money to the point of leaving a department a shell of its former self so as to encourage termination of its existence. Do you see this as possible under Article 9 and ensuing articles? Do you envision any possibilities under the article not really intended by the legislature? Do you feel the article is in any sense the legislature's response to the Governor's request for power to initiate reorganization on his own. Or do you think it is a negative response to that request? From conversations I have had with a few people in state government, I have tentatively concluded that while Article 9 may encourage economies and efficiences to be effected, these would be at a level not readily visible to the citizens of the state. In light of that correct or incorrect conclusion, would you say Article 9 will in any way allow for future reorganization that will make state government any more relevant, meaningful, and understandable for the public? I would be interested in your general thoughts on Article 9 in relation to the apparent tendency of state legislatures to guard carefully separation and balance of power between the legislature and the executive. I am looking forward to a thoughtfully prepared reply. It would be helpful if I could hear from you within two weeks. Sincerely, Mrs. Perry Roth, Chairman Organization of State Government Item 5 Ridge Road, Burnsville, Minnesota 55378

July 18, 1969 Mrs. Keichi Misuno 2093 Birch White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110 Dear Lois, Because you are returning from vacation the day I leave for mine, I'm writing to give you your Organization of State Government Committee assignment. The committee met early in July and decided on the content of the Sept. -Oct. VOTER. We agreed it should tell the story of both legislative reform and executive reorganization in the '69 session. We parceled out assignments and set a deadline for material to the state office by July 22. The office will reproduce each piece and send all sections to each committee member with one exception. My section on Article 9 of the Reorganization bill cannot be prepared fully until after September 1 when the Governor expects an interpretation from a gentleman at the University. I feel I must have access to this piece. Incidentally, Article 9 is the one providing for some future reorganization by the Commissioner of Administration. What do I hope for from you? On the basis of your reputation as an assembler and writer, it would be helpful if you could begin pulling together the sections into a literate whole so that by our next meeting on August 4, a Monday, at 9:30 a.m., we could have a rough draft. If you see it as possible to get your rough draft into the office for duplication and mailing to committee members, fine! So advise the office. If not, we can wait a little. The theoretical deadline for the printer is September 1, but as you know, we'll need inside and outside readers. If on reading this you feel you cannot address yourself to the task, would you advise me. Between July 19 and August 2, I'll be at Rocky Run Resort, Washburn, Wisconsin. Maturally I'm hoping you will be interested. Liz Ebbott will be calling you and is receiving a carbon of this letter. I was somewhat hesitant about proposing this by mail so I have arranged with her to be the blow softener. The form we decided on would include the following sections:

Executive Reorganization

- 1. Digest of Bill
- 2. Regional planning districts for the state
- 3. Process of passing the bill
 - a. What Governor asked
 - b. What House did
 - c. What Senate did
 - d. What happened in conference committee
- 4. Brief history of LWV interest in reorganization
- 5. Article 9

Legislative Reform

- 1. LWV new & old positions
- 2. What happened to them in this session and why

SEXPLOADED ENDER

Sincerely,

Mrs. Perry Roth, Cheirman Organization of State Government

co: Liz Ebbott

H. Y. TORREY SECRETARY OF THE SENATE State of Minnesota SENATE March 7, 1968 Mrs. Earl Colborn, Chairman Organization of State Government League of Women Voters of Minnesota 555 Wabasha St. Paul, Minnesota 55101 Dear Mrs. Colborn: I am returning the proposed draft of the study on the Minnesota Legislature prepared by the Minnesota League of Women Voters which you sent to me for suggestions or corrections. I have noted suggested changes on Pages 4, 7, 13, 17, 25 and 26. Thank you for sending this report to/me. Very truly yours, Secretary of the Senate enc.

ROBERT G. RENNER
DISTRICT 58A
CASS-ITASCA COUNTIES
WALKER, MINNESOTA 56484



COMMITTEES:
CIVIL ADMINISTRATION, CHAIRMAN
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
FORESTRY AND PUBLIC DOMAIN
GAME AND FISH
JUDICIARY
RULES
TAYES

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

L. L. DUXBURY, Speaker

March 7, 1968

Mrs. Earl Colborn Chairman, Organization of State Government League of Women Voters 555 Wabasha St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Mrs. Colborn:

I have your letter of March 4 together with the enclosed draft concerning the organization matters affecting the Minnesota legislature.

I have perused the same and have some general comments I will make in accordance with your suggestions. I shall give these comments in sequence according to the matters as they appear in the draft. Some will be of a specific nature and some will be overall generalizations.

I frankly was disappointed in Frank Tripett's book. I felt that it was more a study in history than a true critique of legislatures today. At least, this is true of the Minnesota legislature. In his book, for instance, he referred on a number of occasions to actions of the Minnesota legislature, but he was referring to those actions which occurred quite some years ago. I feel that reapportionment, while I opposed it because of its effect on my district, nevertheless, increased the quality of our legislature tremendously in 1963 when first accomplished.

Tripett talks about the "true constituency". In your draft you make mention of special interests, such as billboard control, Sunday closing, and the periodic double bottom controversy. I think it is to oversimplify merely to allege a special interest effect when you discuss these matters. In every instance, you can show special interests on both sides of the fence and, all too often, legislators will merely vote to maintain the existing situation in an effort to do no harm. I say this because the legislator is cognizant of the situation at the time and is somewhat reluctant to change anything at the



Mrs. Earl Colborn Page 2 March 7, 1968

behest of a special interest group, even though it means favoring another special interest group.

I refer to the "double bottom matter" where you have railroads on one side and truckers on the other. I refer also to billboard control, where you have labor unions and billboard interests on one side and newspapers, radio stations, etc., on the other. I refer to the "pill bill" where you have the grocers on one side and the druggists on the other side. I refer to paramutual betting, for instance, where you have horse racing enthusia, resorters, tourism, related industries on the one side, and you have the professional sports organizations on the other.

These are perhaps poor illustrations, but a t the same time they do tend to demonstrate the problem. This problem Mr. Tripett so blithely ignores.

With regard to the size of the legislature, I have always felt that those who argue for more efficiency by cutting the size of the legislature are, in effect, arguing for a less democratic approach. They would favor, in essence, an oligarchic type legislature as opposed to the public-forum type, or the historic town-meeting approach. Obviously we cannot run a legislature based on historic concepts of town-meetings. We do, however, give greater expression to more of the public by a larger sized legislature.

While our legislature is some few larger than it was a hundred years ago, it is not that much larger, and, of course, the number of people each individual legislator represents has increased tremendously. I also call to your attention that there are some of us who already represent a large district, and to force us to represent even larger districts, while no particular sacrifice as far as we are concerned, certainly does disenfranchise a goodly number of people in our district. I now represent, for instance, a district one-third of the state in length. It is also one-fifth of the state in width. You can see by forcing me to double the size of my district (which would be accomplished by some of the bills introduced), it probably wouldn't make it too much more difficult for me to be re-elected. It would, however, make it much more difficult for my constituency to be in contact with me.

I tend to agree with Senator Rosenmeier and do feel that annual sessions of

Mrs. Earl Colborn Page 3 March 7, 1968

the legislature would preclude this state from the services of a great number of legislators with superior capabilities. It would be the first and ultimate step in making our legislature a professional occupation on a full-time basis. I do not believe that we are ready for it, nor is it necessary yet. I am not in agreement with the Wisconsin approach as so heavily recommended by Senator Knowles. I can appreciate Senator Knowles' position because it, in effect, increases, enhances, and greatly strengthens the hand and powers of the legislature. When the legislature can call itself into session and when it can continue at its own discretion throughout the biennium, it constantly is a check on the executive. I see three main disadvantages, apart from what I have already discussed. They are as follows:

There tends to be great political byplay. You find (1) Democrats vs. Republicans to a greater extent than in Minnesota; (2) House vs. Senate, when of different political affiliation; and (3) the Legislature vs. Executive. All potential conflicts are exacerbated.

Again with regard to the size of the legislature. I have never been impressed by the statistics that the Minnesota Senate is the largest in the nation. It is the largest by only a very few senators. There are a number very close to Minnesota in size, and, in any event, it only has 67 members. I do not feel that this is uncontrollable.

As to the fewer members permitting more individual participation, as argued by the CED Report, I would agree. I would point out, however, that the fewer members you have, the more individual control of specific situations you give to each, and, in effect, the more power you vest in special interest groups who are omnipresent, watching out for their welfare. It is much more difficult to influence illicitly a larger body than a smaller body.

Fortunately, this interim will produce part of the answer to legislative reorganization. In the past, we were hamstrung by lack of space. We all recognized the need for added staff and services, but there was no space to put them. When there is insufficient space for your members, you cannot add to the problem by increasing the numbers for the available room.

It is true that in time Minnesda may need a new legislative building. It would appear, however, that that time is not yet at hand. I would tend to

Mrs. Earl Colborn Page 4 March 7, 1968

agree that ultimately the Supreme Court offices should be moved elsewhere, leaving only the courtroom itself in the capital. This should provide added space. Also I believe the law library should be removed.

I find a minor error at the bottom of page 14, where you refer to the periodic control by the DFL of the House. The control was actually in the period between 1955 and 1963, not 1961.

I do agree that the minority should have the right to name its committee representation on a proportionate basis. Ineffect, this is being done to a great extent already, although not to the extent the public realizes. The minority does suggest committee assignments to the speaker, and each member of the body has the right to request certain committees, which requests are honored if at all possible by the speaker.

I also agree that it would be wise for the legislature to reduce the number of its committees and to reorganize them along functional lines. I think it is easy to criticize in this instance, however, without completely understanding some of the reasons for the increase in the number of committees over the past session. Reapportionment again has occasioned problems in this regard. The metropolitan areas, having a tremendous influx of new representatives without seniority, were entitled to greater number of committee chairmanships. The only way it could be accomplished, since most of the seniority came from without the metropolitan area, was to increase the number of committees. This was a valid reason, as given by the speaker, and under the circumstances appeared to be the only alternative, this in the face of the crying need to limit the number of committees rather than to expand the same.

I believe your report tends to ignore one major difficulty, which becomes obvious when you attempt to hire a staff with the expertise and capabilities that are needed. If you are to secure the best, you have to be in a position to pay for the best. You have to also be in a position to offer certain job security and tenure. Obviously the legislature, hiring on a non-civil-service basis and for an extremely curtailed and limited period of time, is not in a position to do this. Speaking from my personal experience, I found it extremely difficult to locate adequate professional staff and felt myself very fortunate

Mrs. Earl Colborn Page 5 March 7, 1968

ultimately to be able to hire a person that would meet my qualifications. I know that a number of committee chairmen fail to exercise their prerogatives in this regard, not because they wished not to hire, but because they felt there was no one available at the price and under the conditions who would work in the capacity desired.

I question whether or not there will ever be an overall plan for co-ordinating completely the activities of committee research on the part of the two bodies of the legislature. I furthermore question the desirability of such a plan. If those two bodies can be so co-ordinated, it would appear that perhaps an argument would be strenuously made for the unicameral concept. The advantage to the bicameral approach, of course, is that it gives one more check on the legislative branch of government and forces added time and study from perhaps a different approach by the two equal but dissimilar bodies.

I agree that bills should be printed each time amendments are offered. I further agree that fiscal notes and bill summaries should be a necessity, and that committee reports, at least in summary form, should be attached to the bills in order to give a proper understanding thereof to all the members.

I do not see quite the imperative need to print the conference committee reports the same as we print bills. They are, after all, printed in the Journal in toto, and, except for the last several days, there is adequate opportunity for anyone who desires to read the same.

In conclusion I agree that the Minnesda legislature does need modernization. I think that this session will produce not only legislative reorganization and modernization, but also will continue the steps taken in the last session of the legislature as far as executive reorganization is concerned.

I like the tone of the draft and, while I disagree with some of the conclusions, I do believe that overall it is a valuable contribution to good government and, in particular, to the restructuring of the legislative branch of government.

Yours very truly,
Robert G. Renner

RGR:gp

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK 214 State Capitol Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101



EDWARD A. BURDICK Chief Clerk

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES =

March 6, 1968

Mrs. Earl Colborn, Chairman Organization of State Government League of Women Voters of Minnesota 555 Wabasha St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Mrs. Colborn:

Thank you for mailing us the draft of your report on the Minnesota Legislature. We are offering the following suggestions:

Page 4, line 16. The words "and legal holidays" should be stricken. Pursuant to Chapter 52, Laws of 1959, holidays are no longer excluded. We are enclosing a copy of the Senate Journal for January 9, 1967, containing the latest attorney general's opinion.

Page 4, line 20. It is true that there is no limit on the length or subject matter of extra sessions, but the leadership is able to limit the scope of extra sessions by sponsoring a rule such as the one adopted by the House in the 1967 session. All bills except revenue raising measures were referred to the committee on Rules; revenue raising measures were referred to the committee on Taxes. This procedure prohibits a "wide open session" and only urgency matters are considered.

Page 7, line 24. The figure "180%" must be an error.

Page 15, line 20. I believe the Speaker of the House writes all House members and asks them to designate their preferences for committee assignments. Before the convening of the last session, the Speaker personally met with all freshmen House members and interviewed them regarding committee preference. You might want to consult the Speaker regarding this policy.

Page 23, line 24. In my opinion, the Legislative Building Commission has the best performance record of all permanent commissions and should be mentioned in this paragraph. The help given legislators and legislative standing committees by this



commission is unmeasurable.

Page 25, line 20. In the House, the Speaker conducts an orientation for all new members and discusses House rules and legislative procedures. The Revisor of Statutes conducts a session on bill drafting, writing amendments, etc. The orientation program conducted by the Department of Education consists of more than tours of the departments. This paragraph does not do justice to the House orientation program.

Page 25, line 29. Copies of all introductions are available to House members. These copies are either purchased by the House from the private source or are produced on the House copy machines. This paragraph implies that legislators can not obtain copies of bills.

Page 26, line 2. Only 500 copies of bills are printed.

Page 26, line 10. A subcommittee of the House Rules committee has also made an extensive study of printing and other legislative processes and will be making many constructive recommendations.

In addition to the above suggestions we have noticed the following minor clerical errors which you might want us to call to your attention:

Page 7, line 14. "As was once done" might imply that this happened only once in Minnesota history.

Page 9, line 8. Perhaps you want to insert a comma after the word "deliberation".

Page 11, line 18. The word "proved" should be "provide".

Page 12, line 17. The word "given" should be "giving".

Page 18, line 15. Quotation marks should follow the word "bodies".

Page 19, lines 10 and 11. Is a word omitted from this sentence?

Page 21, line 12. The word "grouping" should be plural.

Page 21, line 28. The word "respones" should be changed

Page three March 6, 1968 Mrs. Earl Colborn to "who responded". Page 22, line 16. The word "analyists" is misspelled. Page 24, line 15. The word "every" should be "ever". Your report is excellent and I wish to commend you. I do not necessarily agree with your criticisms of the Minnesota system. It is my observation that the Minnesota system is far superior to that of most other states. Also, I want to emphasize that both bodies are studying legislative procedures, space and staffing, and that some changes will very likely be recommended for the coming session. Yours very truly, Chief Clerk House of Representatives EAB:mw Enclosures (1)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MINNESOTA

555 WABASHA, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55101

March 4, 1968

The Honorable William Frenzel 233 Janalyb Circle Golden Valley, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Frenzel:

The Minnesota Legue of Women Voters is preparing the enclosed study on the Minnesota Legislature for distribution among our members. We would appreciate your reading the enclosed draft and sending us your corrections and suggestions. We would appreciate your returning the draft about March 12th - thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Earl Colborn, Chairman

Organization of State Government

March 4, 1968

Mr. Edward A. Burdick, Chief Clerk House of Representatives Room 214 State Capitol Saint Paul, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Burdick:

The Minnesota League of Women Voters is preparing the enclosed study on the Minnesota Legislature for distribution among our members. We would appreciate your reading the enclosed draft and sending us your corrections and suggestions. We would appreciate your returning the draft about March 12th - thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Earl Colborn, Chairman Organization of State Government

copies to:

Professor Charles H. Backstrom
Paul A. Gilje
H. Y. Torrey, Secretary of the Senate
The Honorable William Frenzel
The Honorable Robert G. Renner
The Honorable Way G. Popham
The Honorable Stanley W. Holmquist
The Honorable Nicholas D. Coleman

December 12, 1967

Mr. Arthur Gillen 201 N. Concord South St. Paul. Minnesota

Dear Mr. Gillen:

Mrs. Terhaar, president of the League of Women Voters of South St. Paul, told me of her conversation with you regarding the new Program item of the League of Women Voters of Minnesota. As adopted by the members at the 1967 State Convention it is stated: "Organization of State Government: An evaluation of the structure and procedures of the legislative and executive branches of Minnesota State Government."

We certainly appreciate your interest in this state Program item and your offer of assistance. The League of Women Voters of Minnesota will help the Governor's blue ribbon commission in any way it can. Naturally, we would like to be kept informed on the progress of the commission. We, in turn, can help in the dissemination of information.

I am enclosing the latest issue of the Minnesota VOTER which goes to all our members throughout the state. As you will note, "It is intended as a springboard to discussion." We have just finished our new publication, You are the Government, a basic reference on state government. In the spring of 1968 we plan one, and possibly two, publications for member study.

Again, thank you for your interest and support. My best wishes to you and your family for a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Mrs. O. J. Janski President

FILE COPY

OCT 31 1973

memorandum

The League of Women Voters of the United States

October 24, 1973

This is going on pupilcate Presidents Mailing

TO: Local, State and ILO Presidents FROM: Lucy Wilson Benson, President

In the past few days, we have received many phone calls and letters from League leaders and members concerning the developments in the Watergate case. They all have a common theme: "What can we do?"

As you know, the League does not have a position on the specific issues involved: whether there are grounds for impeachment or the extent of executive privilege, for example. However, we do have a commitment to the orderly processes of government and to the legal and moral principles upon which this government is founded. As our principles state: "The League of Women Voters believes in: Representative government and in individual liberties established in the U.S. Constitution." Each of you is a citizen as well as a member of the League and I know that each of you is as concerned as I am about the nature and seriousness of the crisis that confronts this country.

The League purpose and principles also call for encouraging active citizen participation in government, and if ever there was a time when citizen participation and concern are needed it is now.

As League leaders you are also leaders in your community -- individuals whose opinions may and are being sought on the stunning sequence of events now being played out in Washington. While none of us may speak in the name of the League, we can express our thoughts on what is happening.

There's no denying the fact that partisan politics are involved in some recent developments. However, the basic issues transcend parties and individuals and involve the form, structure, and processes of our government. The decision to comply with the Court of Appeals order to release the tapes to Judge Sirica has, it appears, put a brake on the rush of events. It has not, however, ended the controversy or resolved some of the fundamental questions involved.

I'm sure I don't have to remind you of the gravity of these questions and their impact on the future of this country. This is obviously not an occasion for flamboyant statements or instant reaction -- it is a time for thoughtful and constructive views on matters such as the dangers of excessive secrecy in government, the role of the courts and law in the conduct of our affairs, and the Constitutionally established system of checks and balances which determines the role of the three branches of government.

All this is not to say that you have to speak out. It is rather to say that you, as an individual and as a citizen, have a right and perhaps a responsibility to be able to express your concerns and thoughts.

I hope that all of you will discuss these issues at your next board meeting. I hope, too, that you will consider creative and constructive ways in which your League can contribute to the public dialogue on the principles involved. The over-

night pendulum swings in public opinion brought about by new headlines and television reports are not the way that the problems we face today will be solved. We need understanding, respect and tolerance for the varying points of view being expressed.

Beyond that, there comes a point when each of us as individuals must contribute to the public debate. It is vital that the citizens of this country have their say as to whether we shall have a government of laws or a government of men. As Elliot Richardson said: "It is up to the American people."

League can contribute to the public digloque on the principles Involved. The news-