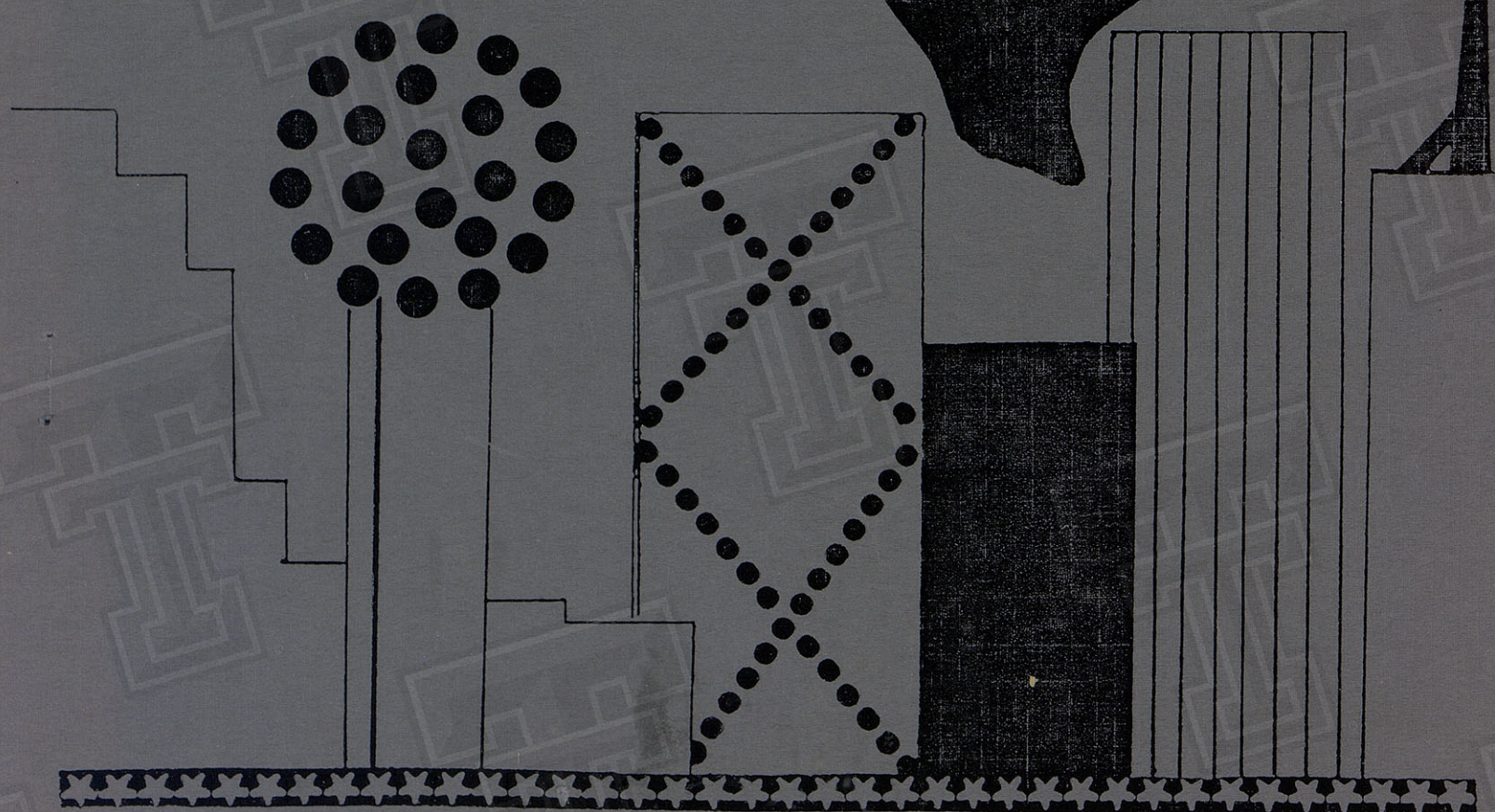
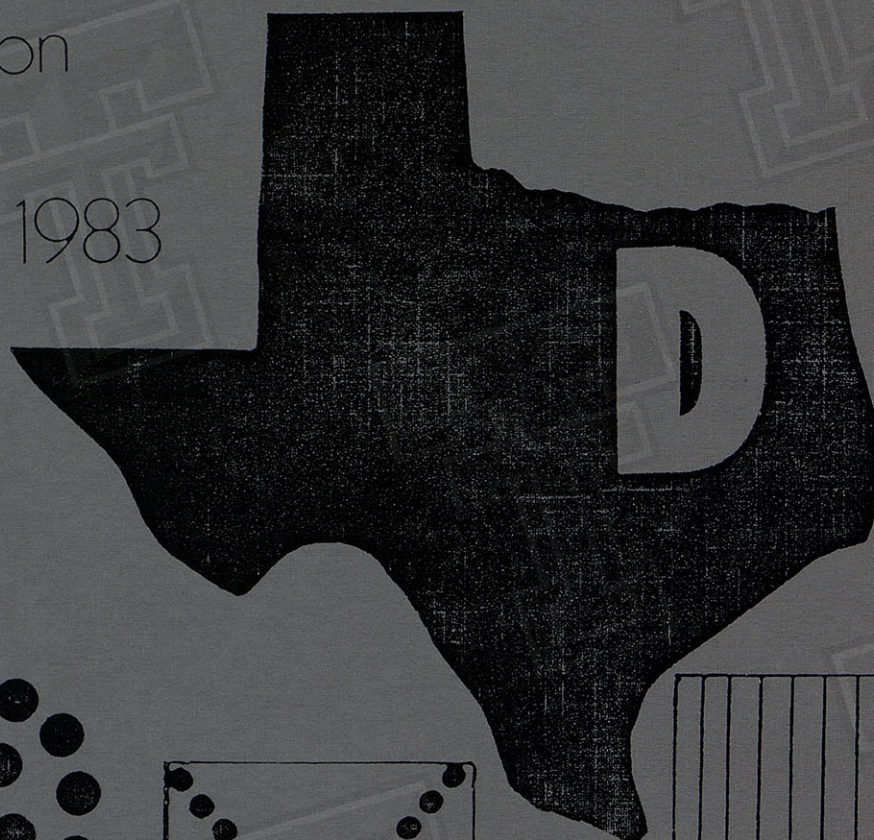


LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS of TEXAS

State Convention

April 15-17 1983



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
1212 Guadalupe, #109
Austin, Texas 78701

CONVENTION 1983 WORKBOOK

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Dallas Convention Chairman

Pat Sabin

State Board Convention Liaison

Eleanor Sutherland

WORKBOOK
Nineteenth Convention
April 1983

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

9:00 - 1:00 P.M.
9:00 - 11:30 A.M.

10:00 - 12:00
1:00 P.M.
5:45 - 6:45

6:45 - 8:30
8:30 - 10:00 P.M.

Registration
Optional Tour of Dallas
City Hall/Library
Parliamentarian Available
FIRST PLENARY SESSION
State Board Reception
Cash Bar
Dinner on your own
Workshops:

Grand Ballroom Lobby

Bowie
Grand Ballroom
Poolside or Texican if
raining

.Cable TV
.Local Program From A to Z
.LL Presidents and
Dot Ridings
Caucuses*
Texican A & B
Austin
Reagan-Bowie

10:00 - 11:00

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

7:45 - 8:50 A.M.
9:00

10:00 - 12:15
12:30 - 2:15

2:30 - 5:00
6:00

Late Registration
SECOND PLENARY SESSION
Keynote Address: D t Ridings,
President, LWV-United Staees
Plenary Session Continues
Luncheon - Molly Ivins, Speaker
Political Commentator,
Dallas Times Herald
SECOND PLENARY SESSION (cont.)
Buses Leave for Mini-tour, Dinner,
and Entertainment (dress optional)

Grand Ballroom Lobby
Grand Ballroom

International Ballroom

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

7:45 - 9:30 A.M.

Either: Breakfast on your own, finishing in time
for 8:15 workshops or
Continental Breakfast
(pre-register) which may be
eaten during workshops:

8:15 A. Counterpart Interface
8:15 B. Treasurers & Budget Wkshp.
THIRD PLENARY SESSION
3rd Floor Lobby
Texican A & B
Reagan-Bowie
Grand Ballroom

9:45 - 12:30

* Caucus Rooms: Austin, Reagan-Bowie, Texican A & B
Publications Room: Travis

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PROPOSED ORDER OF BUSINESS

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

1:00 - 5:00 P.M.	FIRST PLENARY SESSION	Grand Ballroom
1:00	Call to Order	Diana Clark
	Welcome: Barbara Materka, President, LWV-Dallas; Jack Evans, Mayor of Dallas	
1:30	Organization of Convention	Diana Clark
	Appointment of Parliamentarian	
	Appointment of Committees: Timekeeper, Tellers, Credentials, Elections, Courtesy Resolutions	
1:35	First Credentials Report	
	Explanation of Rules & Procedures	
	Adoption of Order of Business	
	Adoption of Convention Rules	
	Introductions: Local Convention Chairman, Pat Sabin; State Board, Associate Directors, Field Service Representatives, Staff, Special Guests	
2:00	Special League Recognitions	Beth Brown
	Montgomery County	
	Greater Kerrville	
	Roll Call of Local Leagues	Margie Morrill
	Secretary's Report	Margie Morrill
	Treasurer's Report	Jeanette Vanderwater
	Nominating Committee Report	Lucy Polter
	Nominations from the Floor	
2:30	Presentation of the Budget	Donna Green
2:45	Break	
3:00	President's Report	Diana Clark
3:10	Explanation of Program Adoption	Lois Carpenter
	Presentation of Proposed Program	
	Notice of INTENT to Present Not- recommended Program Items	
3:45	Explanation of Bylaws Amendment Process	Lynne Johnson
	State Bylaws Committee Report	Lynne Johnson
	Debate, Vote	
4:30	Development Report	Nancy Price
	Explanation of Action Motions	Diana Clark
	Appointment of Action Motions Comm.	
4:55	Announcements	Margie Morrill
5:00	Recess	

Proposed Order of Business (cont.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

9:00 A.M.	SECOND PLENARY SESSION Call to Order Credentials Report Keynote Address: Dot Ridings, President, League of Women Voters of the United States	Diana Clark
10:00	Presentation and Vote for Consideration of Not-Recommended Items	Lois Carpenter
10:30	Program Debate	
11:15	Break	
11:30	Budget Debate	Donna Green
	Vote on PMP	
12:10	Announcements	Margie Morrill
12:15	Recess for Luncheon	
12:30-2:15 P.M.	Luncheon - Speaker: Molly Ivins, Political Commentator, Dallas Times Herald	
2:30	SECOND PLENARY SESSION (cont.) Call to Order Credentials Report Program Debate	Diana Clark
4:30	Legislative Report	Lois Carpenter Evelyn Bonavita
4:55	Announcements	Margie Morrill
5:00	Recess	

SUNDAY, APRIL 17

9:45 A.M.	THIRD PLENARY SESSION Call to Order	Diana Clark
9:50	Vote on Program	Lois Carpenter
10:40	Budget Debate and Adoption	Donna Green
11:05	Report of Action Motions Committee Vote on Action Motions	Lois Carpenter
11:15	Directions to National Council	
11:25	"I Wish the League Would"--Directions to the State Board	
11:55	Courtesy Resolutions Report Invitations to Council '84 and Convention '85	
12:05	Election of Officers	Lucy Polter
12:10	Introduction of New President Remarks by New President Introduction of New State Board	Diana Clark
12:25	Announcements	Margie Morrill
12:30	Adjourn	

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Nineteenth Convention
April 1983

PREPARING FOR CONVENTION

Whether this is your first or fifteenth convention, you are in for an exhilarating though exhausting time. The better prepared you are for what is to come, the more you can give and the more you will get from your convention experience.

HOMEWORK There is a lot you can do before packing your bags for Dallas.

- . Study thoroughly this convention workbook which contains background material and proposals for discussion and vote.

- . Read up on the proposed state program and find out what your League thinks about it. Remember, delegates go to the convention informed but not instructed. All the discussion and debate that goes on at convention should figure into your vote. Begin early to prepare your case, line up your troops and plan your strategy. (See "How to Lobby" at the end of this section.)

- . Convention decisions on League financial matters are not made lightly. Delegates adopt the LWV-T budget; then the state board, as trustees of LWV-TEF, adopts the LWV-TEF budget after being guided by convention recommendations. If you want more or different services, how should the income side of the budget be changed? If you want to cut the state budget, what services or activities are you willing to give up?

- . Read carefully the full list of bylaws proposals to see if you and your League want to support or oppose them.

KNOW THE PARLIAMENTARY ROPES Review "Tips on Parliamentary Procedure" in this workbook and check with the parliamentarian for additional information. Convention business is conducted according to "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised," except in situations covered by the bylaws or convention rules. All motions must be written with a ballpoint pen by the maker on forms provided by ushers, and copies are shown on large screens visible to all.

CONVENTION RULES Study the proposed convention rules in this workbook. They set convention procedures not covered by the bylaws. They are adopted by majority vote at the beginning of the convention and may be amended, rescinded, or suspended at any time by a two-thirds vote. (For example, "I move to suspend the rules to allow delegates to speak for more than two minutes on this motion.")

PROGRAM PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION The proposed program will be presented Friday afternoon by a state board member who will explain it briefly and move its adoption. All debate and further action on program will be postponed until the time specified in the Order of Business. Immediately after the Proposed Program is presented, it will be in order for delegates to state their intention to present one or more of the new program issues not selected by the board because of insufficient support, or the single program item specifically not recommended by the board, by stating "I intend to move for consideration the following issue. . . ." A brief statement about the issue (no longer than one minute) may be made at this time.

- more -

Preparing for Convention (cont.)

On Saturday morning at the appropriate time in the Order of Business, a delegate who gave "notice of intent" the previous day may then say: "I move for consideration the following (give exact wording)." The mover may speak in its behalf for no more than five minutes. The vote for consideration is taken immediately. There is no debate or questions for clarification. If an issue is voted consideration by a majority vote, the issue is before the convention, to be considered on the same basis as the proposed program.

DEBATE Use the microphones. During consideration of all the program before the convention, both discussion and debate are in order. In the early stages a time will be set for discussion, i.e., to give proponents an opportunity to explain the motion under consideration and the reasons it is being proposed, and to respond to questions. When it appears that the convention can move along to the debate stage, microphones are usually designated as PRO and CON so that delegates can hear each point of view presented alternately.

VOTING Most votes are voice votes. If in doubt, the chairman will call for a standing vote (a division of the house). If the chairman is still in doubt, tellers will count the votes. No one may enter or leave the room while a standing counted vote is being taken. Any voting delegate may request a counted vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS If there are no nominations from the floor on Friday following the presentation of the Report of the Nominating Committee, voting for officers, members of the board, and the nominating committee will be by voice vote on Sunday morning. If additional nominations are made, voting by ballot will take place in the convention foyer or other designatee place on Saturday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.

BUDGET, PMP, AND BYLAWS The proposed Order of Business provides for discussion of the proposed budget and PMP on Friday. The proposed PMP, which must be voted on first, is adopted by a 3/5 vote. The action on the budget, which requires a majority vote, will take place on Friday morning.

On Friday, the chairman of the state Bylaws Committee will present the board's recommendations on amendments to the bylaws. Amendments proposed by Leagues and sent to the state office by the deadline but not recommended by the state board may also be offered at this time. All amendments must be adopted by a 2/3 vote.

HOW TO LOBBY FOR STATE PROGRAM ISSUES If you wish to get a not-recommended issue on the program, plan your strategy early. Work with other Leagues that share your interest. (A list of these issues and the Leagues recommending them was sent (beige paper) in the January mailing to local Leagues.) Be sure to have ready a notice of intent on Friday afternoon. As you plan your strategy, assess the amount of support you have and consider whether it is sufficient to justify your efforts.

If you want to schedule a caucus on Friday or Saturday evening, ask the convention office for an available room and ask the secretary to mention it during the scheduled announcement time at the end of each plenary session. When your caucus meets, get your arguments organized, plan strategy, and select advocates to present arguments on the convention floor.

State board members will not attend caucuses unless invited.

#

Tips on Parliamentary Procedure

Some basic rules of parliamentary procedure which will be useful at Convention are discussed below but it is not possible to cover them all. Consult the Parliamentarian if you have special questions or problems.

Main Motions and Their Appendages

All business at the Convention is accomplished by making, debating and acting upon motions. Once a topic has been introduced by a main motion, seconded and stated by the Chair, it must normally be disposed of before the Convention can proceed to other business. Exceptions to this general rule occur when the Order of Business provides for introduction of particular motions at one meeting while action is postponed to a later time. This is the case with League program and budget. However, once a main motion is properly before the Convention for action, no other business can be brought up.

While a main motion is on the floor, several subsidiary and incidental motions can be made in connection with it. Some of these are discussed below in their order of precedence. This means that each succeeding motion can be made while the prior ones are pending.

To Amend: Debatable Majority Vote Required

I move to amend the motion by striking out the words "evaluation of."

You can amend a motion by inserting, deleting or changing words if they are germane, that is related to the subject of the motion. You cannot insert a negative to accomplish what could be done by voting against the motion. A motion can be amended several times but each amendment is considered individually and disposed of before proceeding to the next. An amendment can itself be amended but there cannot be an amendment to an amendment of an amendment. Substantial changes in the wording of a motion should be done through amendment by substitution. Consult the Parliamentarian on this. Once all amendments have been acted upon, a vote on the motion itself, as amended, is taken.

To Refer: Debatable Majority Vote Required

I move to refer this matter to a committee of three appointed by the Chair with instructions to report back to the Convention tomorrow morning.

This motion, not often used at League Conventions because of time pressures, is appropriate if you want more information about a main motion or think it needs more extensive rewording than can be done by amendment on the floor of Convention.

To Postpone Definitely: Debatable Majority Vote Required

I move to postpone consideration of this motion until Thursday morning.

This motion can be used to delay consideration of a matter until other decisions have been made or new information is available. The time to which postponement is sought must be specified.

To Limit or Extend Debate: Not Debatable Two-thirds Vote Required

I move that debate on this question be limited to one minute per speaker.

Use this motion when debate on a topic threatens to go on too long or many people wish to be heard.

I move that the limits of this debate be extended by 15 minutes.

When the time allotted for debate on a particular motion is up and you feel that the matter has not been fully explored, this motion is available.

To Close Debate: Not Debatable Two-thirds Vote Required

I move the previous question.

When debate does not seem to be shedding additional light, you may move to end it by calling the question. You must be recognized by the Chair before making this motion, which means you must be

standing in your turn at a microphone. As soon as this motion is made and seconded, debate ceases and a vote on closing debate is taken. If the motion carries, a vote is immediately taken on the question under consideration.

To Lay on the Table: Not Debatable Majority Vote Required

I move that we table this motion on candidates' meetings.

This motion postpones consideration of a matter indefinitely until the convention is ready to take it up again. You can make it any time up to the moment the final vote is taken. When a main motion is tabled it carries with it all pending amendments and other connected motions. Although it is not debatable, you may give a brief explanation of your reasons before making the motion.

I move that we take from the table the motion on candidates' meetings.

If adopted, this brings the motion previously tabled before the Convention again.

Miscellaneous Motions

These motions (or questions) are not necessarily related to the Main Motion and do not fall within the order of precedence. They may be made as appropriate or necessary. They are "red card" motions which may interrupt other business. Consult the parliamentary aides at the microphones.

Questions of Privilege: *Question of Privilege, please! It is too noisy. I request that the delegates be asked to stop talking among themselves.*

Parliamentary Inquiry: *Parliamentary Inquiry, please! Is it in order at this time to move for reconsideration of the motion to amend the budget?*

Point of Information: *Point of Information, please! How many recognized local Leagues are there at present?*

Point of Order: *Point of order, please! The motion to consider this not-recommended item is out of order because notice of intent was not given on Saturday.*

These questions are raised as the occasion demands. There is no debate or vote and the Chair rules immediately on the request or provides the information sought.

Appeals: *I appeal the decision of the Chair.*

Any ruling of the Chair can be submitted to the Convention for final determination by this motion which requires a second. The appeal must be taken immediately after the contested decision and is usually debatable. It requires a majority vote; a tie vote sustains the Chair's ruling.

Voting: *I call for a division.*

A single delegate can require a standing vote if unsatisfied with a voice vote or a show of hands.

I move that the vote on this question be counted.

This motion, if seconded, is put to the Convention. If a majority agrees, the vote in question must be taken by means of the mechanical tabulations cards.

Reconsideration: *I move that we reconsider the vote on the motion to adopt the not-recommended item on agricultural subsidies.*

This motion can be made only by one who voted with the prevailing side (the side that won) although it can be seconded by any delegate. It must be made on the same day or the next day after the original motion was carried or defeated. A motion to reconsider can be made at any time during the permitted days but a vote on the motion may be postponed to an appropriate time in keeping with the Order of Business. The motion is debatable if the original motion was debatable and requires only a majority to pass even though the original motion needed a larger vote. If the motion to reconsider passes, the original motion is again before the Convention for action. A vote can be reconsidered only once.

From: LWVUS Convention Workbook '80

PROPOSED RULES AND PROCEDURES

A motion to adopt these rules will be made shortly after the convention opens. Amendments may be offered at that time and require a majority vote. The rules as a whole (either amended or as listed below) require a two-thirds vote for adoption.

1. Admission to the convention shall be limited to persons displaying official badges which must be worn at all meetings of the convention.
2. Voting members, observers, and visitors shall sit in areas so designated. Although they may enter the convention hall after the convention has started, they shall not be seated during an address.
3. Only delegates (Art. VIII, Sec. 2, Bylaws) may vote. Delegates must pay the total registration fee; however, such registrations are transferable within the local League provided there is one person present to cast each ballot. One-half of the host League badges will be assigned on a permanent basis, and one-half may be assigned on a rotating basis.
4. Only delegates, observers, and those authorized by the chairman or the convention may address the assembly. During debate on a motion, no person may speak more than once on that question until all others who wish to speak have done so. After the original presentation, debate shall be limited to two minutes for each speaker.
5. A speaker shall use a microphone to announce name and League when addressing the assembly.
6. Main motions, or amendments of substantial length, must be written in ballpoint pen on forms provided for that purpose. Two copies shall be sent to the projector operators, three copies to the president, secretary, and parliamentarian on the podium, and one copy retained.
7. No announcements shall be made which do not relate to the business of the convention or the welfare of the members. All announcements shall be made by the secretary.
8. There shall be no resolutions, except those of a courtesy nature, presented to or adopted by the convention.
9. ACTION MOTIONS. Ideas for legislative or governmental administrative action by the convention on League program may be made during designated times on the agenda. These ideas will be referred to the Action Motions Committee and presented as part of its report on Sunday morning. The action Motions Committee shall be appointed by the presiding officer at the first meeting on Friday and shall consider and report on all action proposals submitted to it by members of the convention prior to 5:00 P.M. on Saturday. If the Action Motions Committee reports unfavorably on any motion, it shall be in order for the Committee to explain its reason for disapproving the motion.

Proposed Rules & Procedures (cont.)

10. The procedure for program adoption shall be:
 - a) The proposed program shall be presented and moved for adoption by a state board member at the first meeting on Friday. No questions for clarification will be entertained and no debate will be allowed at this time. Further action will be postponed until the meeting set in the Order of Business.
 - b) A notice of intent to move for consideration of any item listed in the advance notice of program recommendations shall be given at the first meeting on Friday afternoon. One minute is allowed for each notice of intent. No questions for clarification and no debate are allowed.
 - c) Any item listed in the advance notice of program recommendations, but not specifically recommended by the board, may be moved for consideration at the Saturday morning meeting provided that notice of intent shall have been given at the first meeting on Friday afternoon. Presentation of such motions for consideration shall be limited to five minutes and a vote shall be taken immediately thereafter. No questions for clarification will be entertained and there shall be no debate at this time. A majority vote will place a not-recommended item before the convention without a further motion. A delegate may request the state board to give its reasons for not recommending an item. Such a statement shall not exceed three minutes.
 - d) Items voted consideration (in the order in which they were presented) and proposed program will be taken up one at a time for debate and possible amendment during the regular order of business on Saturday.
 - e) Voting on all program will take place on Sunday morning. The result of each vote will be announced before the next vote is taken. Adoption of a not-recommended item requires a two-thirds vote.

11. When a vote is in process, the doors to the convention hall shall be closed and no one may enter or leave the hall.

(Convention rules are adopted by majority vote on Friday, but may be altered at any time in the convention by a two-thirds vote. Robert's Rules of Order: Newly Revised will control general conduct of the meetings.)

WORKBOOK

Nineteenth Convention
April 1983

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES
1982-83

Diana Clark: President; Chairman - TEF
3504 Harvard Ave., Dallas 75205 (214) 528-1096

Lois Carpenter: Program Vice President; Admin. of Justice
2603 Racquet Club Dr., Midland 79701 (915) 685-3289

Beth Brown: Organization Vice President
14031 Cashel Forest Dr., Houston 77069 (713) 440-1861

Jeanette Davis: Public Relations Vice President
3701 High Meadows, Abilene 79605 (915) 692-3205

Nancy Price: Vice Chairman - TEF; Development
225 Windcrest Dr., San Antonio 78239 (512) 656-2715

Margie Morrill: Secretary, LWV-Texas & LWV-TEF
435 Williamson, Corpus Christi 78411 (512) 852-4419

Jeanette Vanderwater: Treasurer, LWV-Texas & LWV-TEF
7914 Burning Hills, Houston 77071 (713) 772-2526

DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES

Lavora Arizaga: Women Under Texas Law; Women's Issues;
8911 Sandstone, Houston 77036 Govt.: Exec., Leg., Jud. (713) 774-1472

Evelyn Bonavita: Legislative
8601 Candelaria Dr., Austin 78737 (512) 288-2303

Lynne Johnson: Government; Bylaws
710 Marchmont, Houston 77024 (713) 465-8529

Georgia Kidwell: Voters Service/Citizen Information
308 Brookview, Hurst 76053 (817) 282-0712

Joan Lava: VOTER, Debate '82
7705 Shady Rock, Austin 78731 (512) 345-3684

Barbara McCormick: Human Resources
12119 Boheme, Houston 77024 (713) 464-8802

Isabel Miller: Publications; Energy-Solar & Renewable
711 West Sycamore, Denton 76201 (817) 387-1659

DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES (cont.)

Catherine Perrine: Water
7616 Royal Place, Dallas 75230

(214) 368-7889

Ethel Sturgis: Field Service
3613 Wooten Dr., Fort Worth 76113

(817) 292-4495

Eleanor Sutherland: Membership; State Units
7614 Midbury Dr., Dallas 75230

(214) 368-8215

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Betty Anderson, Chairman
5017 15th, Lubbock 79416

(806) 795-4077

Lucy Polter
5414 Ursula, Dallas 75229

(214) 368-0348

Rowena Rodgers
2128 La Manda, San Antonio 78201

(512) 344-1657

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Donna Green, Chairman
8801 Point West, Austin 78759

(512) 345-0767

STATE OFFICE STAFF

Joann Lovelace, Exec. Secretary
9003 Collinfield, Austin 78758

(512) 837-0176 (h)

Cheryl Hazeltine, Secretary (MTWTh)

Marjorie Loehlin, Secretary (F)

NATIONAL OFFICE

League of Women Voters of the United States
1730 M St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

(202) 429-1965

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April 1983

OFFBOARD ASSIGNMENTS

PROGRAM AND BUDGET

Air Associate Director: Meg Titus (Plano)
Budget Committee Chairman: Donna Green (Austin)
Energy (Conservation, Coal,
Oil, Gas, Nuclear) Assoc. Dir.: Laura Keever (Houston)
Hazardous Waste Assoc. Director: Barbara Bain (Houston)
Property Tax Reform; Financing
State Govt.; Public School
Finance Associate Director: Jan Albers (Austin)
Solid Waste Assoc. Director: Dolores Hayter (Paris)

FIELD SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

Beth Brown (Houston)
Polly Cave (Tarrant County)
Pauline Clarke (Corpus Christi)
Rachel Gooch (Tarrant County)
Myrtle McMahan (Tarrant County)
Rowena Rodgers (San Antonio)
Ethel Sturgis (Tarrant County)

CAPITOL OBSERVER CORPS

Mary Blackstock
Barbara Dody
Joan Hawbaker
Karen Miller
Margaret Stearns

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April 1983

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS, DIRECTORS,
AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE
1983-1985

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Lois Carpenter	Midland
VICE PRESIDENT (Program)	Jan Albers	Austin
VICE PRESIDENT (Public Relations)	Jeanette Davis	Abilene
VICE PRESIDENT (Organization)	Ethel Sturgis	Ft. Worth (Tarrant Co.)
SECRETARY	Margie Morrill	Corpus Christi
TREASURER	Jeanette Vanderwater	Houston

DIRECTORS

Lavora Arizaga	Houston
Evelyn Bonavita	Austin
Sondra Ferstl	Denton
Myrtle McMahan	Fort Worth (Tarrant Co.)
Diane Sheridan	Seabrook (Bay Area)
Franci Smith	Amarillo
Eleanor Sutherland	Dallas

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jan Wilbur, Chairman	Houston
Beth Brown	Houston
Polly Cave	Hurst (Tarrant Co.)

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Anderson, Chairman, Lubbock
Lavora Arizaga, Houston
Georgia Kidwell, Ft. Worth (Tarr. Co.)
Lucy Polter, Dallas
Rowena Rodgers, San Antonio

WORKBOOK
NINETEENTH CONVENTION
April 1983

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS EDUCATION FUND
BUDGETS FOR 1983 - 1984

In developing the following budgets the interdependent relationship of the local leagues and the state League was taken into consideration. Maintaining a healthy LWV budget in these inflationary times has been difficult. The board has given a great deal of attention to cutting expenses every place possible. It is because of this diligence in this matter the PMP has remained at \$8.25.

Significant changes in the LWV-Texas Budget are as follows:

Although PMP will remain at \$8.25, the minimum for smaller Leagues will increase from \$250 to \$300 and there will be no "forgiveness" for over 10% growth.

More emphasis will be placed on marketing our publications. Therefore, an increase in income is anticipated.

In an effort to be realistic state fund raising has been reduced by \$3,000. The concerted effort to solicit contributions from our own members will be continued.

\$1,800 will be transferred from reserves for 2/3 of the cost of a much needed new mimeograph for the state office.

Many of the increases in expenses are for rent, postage, supplies, and other administrative areas. This is due to ever-present inflation. As we acquire increasingly efficient office machines, the maintenance agreement costs will rise accordingly.

Modest pay raises have been included for our office executive as well as for our part-time employees.

The president's expenses have more than doubled. Diana Clark's expenses were kept low since she was able to conduct League business when she was in Austin on other business. This will not be the case next year. The distances to be traveled will also be greater.

Expenses and the demand for expanded services will continue to grow so, in order to have an effective state League it will be necessary to increase the PMP to \$8.75 for the second year of the biennium. This increase will have to be approved by the delegates at this Convention since PMP changes cannot be made at Council.

Although the LWV-T and the LWV-TEF budgets are interrelated, only the LWV-T budget is adopted by Convention delegates. The LWV-TEF budget will be adopted by the Board of Trustees at its May meeting. If you have questions, please feel free to contact:

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Donna Green, Chairman; Diana Clark, Jill Hays, Lynne Johnson, Eleanor Sutherland, Jeanette Vanderwater.

LOCAL LEAGUE SUPPORT FOR 1983-84 BUDGET

<u>League</u>	<u>Membership 1/1/82</u>	<u>Membership 1/1/83 Household Total</u>	<u>Per-Member Payment</u>
Abilene	36	0 31	\$ 300.00*
Amarillo	35	2 37	301.12
Arlington	68	4 76	618.74
Austin	242	6 285	2,322.36
Bay Area	80	6 110	895.11
Baytown	56	4 62	503.24
Beaumont	124	6 145	1,183.86
Brazos County	79	4 110	899.24
Corpus Christi	123	6 124	1,010.61
Dallas	355	14 372	2,998.84
Denton	84	6 87	705.36
Edinburg/McAllen	30	2 38	309.37
El Paso	53	0 51	420.75
Gainesville	45	8 40	313.48
Galveston	119	22 123	969.32
Houston Area	600	0 601	4,950.00
Irving	59	2 57	466.12
Lubbock	114	14 130	1,043.59
Marshall/Harrison Co.	28	12 45	346.47
Midland	48	0 38	313.50
Odessa	17	2 17	300.00*
Orange Area	34	8 38	300.00*
Pearland	24	4 25	300.00*
Plano	42	10 56	441.35
Richardson	50	2 53	433.12
Rockwall Co.	41	10 33	300.00*
San Antonio Area	199	2 189	1,555.12
San Marcos	33	2 26	300.00*
Sherman	79	2 80	655.87
Tarrant Co.	163	20 193	1,550.95
Tyler	45	10 60	474.35
Victoria	40	10 56	441.35
Waco Area	71	18 79	606.33
Wichita Falls	36	0 37	305.25
	<u>3252</u>	<u>218 3504</u>	<u>\$28,834.77</u>
Provisional Leagues:			
Greater Kerrville	50		\$250.00 Prov. fee
Montgomery County	40		\$300.00 Prov. fee
State Units:			
Alvin	21		
Burleson	16		
Cleburne	10		
Pasadena	46		
Members-at-large not in state units:	35		
TOTAL LWV-TEXAS MEMBERSHIP 1/1/83	<u>3722</u>		
* Minimum applies. Amount subject to approval at convention.			

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
RECOMMENDED BUDGET: JUNE 1, 1983 - MAY 31, 1984

INCOME		ACTUAL 81-82	BUDGET 82-83	PROPOSED 83-84	EXPLANATION
A.	Support				
1.	Local League Support	\$27,615.24	\$26,685	\$28,835	Based on \$8.25 PMP for 3504 members, with a league minimum of \$300. (No forgiveness for over 10% growth).
2.	Members joining through LWV-US			33	Based on 4 members at \$8.25.
3.	Dues M-A-L's & State Units	3,552.50	4,375	3,375	Based on 135 members at \$25.00.
4.	Provisional League	250.00	250	550	Based on one existing (\$300) & one new (\$250).
	Sub-Total A	<u>\$31,417.74</u>	<u>\$31,310</u>	<u>\$32,793</u>	
B.	Interest	\$ 2,386.98	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,000	Interest on investments and savings.
C.	Sale of Publications				
1.	DPM's	\$ 1,960.00	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900	Duplicate President's Mailing, 95 @ \$20.
2.	Standing Orders	756.00	1,260	1,008	84 @ \$12.
3.	Publications on Hand	702.28	700	1,500	Sale of publications from previous years.
4.	Legislative Newsletter	56.00	2,500	100	For possible special session.
5.	Advocacy Papers	0	100	0	Publications in support of issues.
6.	Action Brief	0	300	0	To promote ballot issue--for membership.
7.	"We Support"	535.31	0	814	New publication.
8.	Program Perspectives	583.09	0	100	New publication.
9.	Texas Pins	803.70	0	0	No anticipated income.
	Sub-Total C	<u>\$ 5,396.38</u>	<u>\$ 6,760</u>	<u>\$ 5,422</u>	
D.	Contributions				
1.	Member Cash	\$ 1,078.97	\$ 660	\$ 3,000	Contributions by League Members.
2.	State Fund Raising	4,051.00	11,150	8,000	Non-member contributions before sharing with LL.
3.	National Fund Raising	0	100	0	None anticipated.
4.	Unreimbursed Expenses	1,657.74	0	2,000	Board Member expenses.
	Sub-Total D	<u>\$ 6,787.71</u>	<u>\$11,910</u>	<u>\$13,000</u>	
E.	Contractual	\$ 0	\$ 4,200	\$ 0	None anticipated.
F.	State Convention/Council				
1.	Convention 1983	\$ 0	\$12,000	\$ 0	Not held this year.
2.	Council 1984	3,369.10	0	4,750	Receipts of Council (registration fee, etc.).
	Sub-Total F	<u>\$ 3,369.10</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>	<u>\$ 4,750</u>	

EXPLANATION

	ACTUAL 81-82	BUDGET 82-83	PROPOSED 83-84	
INCOME (continued)				
G. In-Kind Assistance				Public relations firm and auditor. Now listed under D-4.
1. Outside Professional	\$ 826.61	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,500	
2. Board Members	0	2,000	0	
Sub-Total G	\$ 826.61	\$ 3,600	\$ 1,500	
H. Money Raiser at Convention	\$ 0	260	0	No Convention.
I. From Reserves	\$ 0	\$ 5,533	\$ 1,800	2/3 cost of mimeograph.
TOTAL INCOME	\$50,484.52	\$78,173	\$61,265	

EXPENSES

N. State Office	\$ 933.28	\$ 850	\$ 1,600	Maintenance of mimeo, four typewriters, postage meter and scale, mail machine, & copier.
1. Equipment Maintenance				Supplies not charged to a specific budget item.
2. General Supplies	1,023.72	800	1,000	Postage not charged to a specific budget item.
3. Postage	710.09	700	1,000	Phone calls not charged to a specific budget item.
4. Telephone	1,709.49	1,600	1,200	Premium on fire, liability, bonding, burglary, workers' compensation.
5. Insurance	327.56	300	450	Rental for office and parking.
6. Rent	5,535.91	6,060	6,700	\$1,050 for Ex. Sec., \$650 for part-time clerk.
7. Salaries	16,180.20	18,480	20,400	Social Security & unemployment taxes (St. & Fed.)
8. Payroll Taxes	1,168.52	1,340	1,480	To prepare reports.
9. Audit & Tax Reports	500.00	500	500	Office overhead costs charged elsewhere.
10. Office Overhead	(3,699.23)	(3,040)	(4,500)	2/3 cost of mimeograph.
11. Equipment Purchases	1,383.68	3,000	1,800	40% of items N1 through N10.
12. TEF Reimbursement	(9,350.58)	(10,196)	(11,930)	
Sub-Total	\$16,422.64	\$20,394	\$19,700	
O. Board and Administration				
1. President				Trips to state office and other trips for league business.
a. Travel/per diem & representation	\$ 637.00	\$ 500	\$ 1,200	League phone in president's house.
b. Telephone	906.02	900	900	
c. Postage & Supplies	113.26	125	100	

EXPENSES

	ACTUAL 81-82	BUDGET 83-83	PROPOSED 83-84	EXPLANATION
2. Secretary & Treasurer				
3. Board of Directors				
a. Tools	\$ 473.31	\$ 550	\$ 550	Long distance calls, supplies & postage.
b. Board Meetings	413.98	500	400	National DPM's, etc. for board members.
	8,342.02	7,500	7,500	4 board meetings and / mini-board meeting-18 on board.
c. Mailings to Board	1,690.21	2,000	1,700	Weekly mailings from state office.
(Unreimbursed Expenses)	201.62	0	400	
4. Administrative Committees				
a. Budget	255.18	300	300	Expenses for six members, one meeting.
b. Development	671.90	1,200	1,400	Expenses to raise funds.
c. Interim Committees	222.75	400	250	VP & Pres. meeting, Ad hoc meetings & expenses.
d. Nominating	100.00	425	50	Expenses of members.
5. TEF Reimbursement	(5,564.12)	(4,800)	(5,450)	38% of items 0-1 to 0-4.
(Unreimbursed Expenses)	429.21	0	400	
Sub-Total 0	\$ 8,892.34	\$ 9,600	\$ 9,700	
P. Convention / Council				
1. National Council 83	\$ 0	\$ 1,500	\$ 0	No National Council this year.
2. National Convention 84	1,215.00	0	1,500	Expenses of 2 delegates (no suite).
3. State Convention 83	0	12,000	0	No State Convention this year.
4. State Council 84	3,416.58	0	4,750	All council costs, including: travel, food, lodging for budget chair and others invited by State Board. No expenses of State Board.
(Unreimbursed Expenses)	43.00	0	0	
Sub-Total P	\$ 4,674.58	\$13,500	\$ 6,250	
Q. National Services--PMP	\$ 1,430.00	\$ 1,944	\$ 1,620	135 members-at-large at \$12 PMP.
R. Public Relations				
1. VP's Expenses	\$ 239.45	\$ 375	\$ 375	Travel, phone & supplies.
2. VOTER	4,644.17	3,800	4,200	Four issues, using National's mailing list.
3. TEF Reimbursement	(1,990.27)	(1,520)	(2,135)	44% of R-1,2, 4a, and 4b.
4. Publications				
a. Chair's Expenses	8.22	50	50	Phone and supplies.
b. Marketing Expenses	0	0	200	Cost of marketing publications.
c. DPM's	1,922.15	1,800	1,800	Matched by income, see item C-1.
d. Standing Orders	894.10	1,200	1,000	Matched by income, see item C-2.

EXPENSES

	ACTUAL 81-82	BUDGET 82-83	PROPOSED 83-84	EXPLANATION
e. Publications on Hand	\$ 1,003.01	\$ 800	\$ 800	National and others not charged elsewhere.
f. "We Support"	732.69	0	800	Other than those sent on DPM.
g. Program Perspectives	77.99	0	100	Other than those sent on DPM.
h. Texas Pins	285.16	0	0	No plans to sell.
i. Advocacy Papers	0	400	0	None anticipated.
j. Action Brief	0	300	0	None anticipated.
(Unreimbursed Expenses)	65	0	400	
Sub-Total R	\$ 7,886.90	\$ 7,205	\$ 7,590	
S. Organization				
1. VP's Expenses	\$ 151.49	\$ 250	\$ 250	Travel, phone and supplies.
2. Field Service	2,435.02	2,100	2,150	Representatives, director & special consultants.
3. Workshops	319.38	760	400	Regional workshops.
4. New League & New Units	121.14	100	200	Start up costs.
5. Membership	216.76	250	250	Chair's exp. that aren't charged elsewhere.
6. Provisional Leagues	51.74	100	250	One Provisional League.
7. State Unit Support	657.98	400	270	Advisory expenses.
8. Mailings to Chairs of State Units	1,032.76	240	170	Monthly mailings to 4 state units
9. Mail to all M-A-L's (including State Unit members)	433.90	1,520	1,450	Mailings and new member packets.
10. Mail to LL Presidents	1,349.30	2,000	1,600	Ten monthly mailings.
11. TEF Reimbursements	(688.04)	(1,640)	(905)	25% of S-3, 8, 9, 10.
(Unreimbursed Expenses)	180.38	0	400	
Sub-Total S	\$ 6,261.81	\$ 6,080	\$ 6,485	
T. Program				
1. VP's Expenses	\$ 200.00	\$ 750	\$ 250	Travel, phone and supplies.
2. Program Action	880.50	2,400	1,200	Expenses of program & legislative chairs.
3. Coalitions, etc.	60.00	100	100	Dues to other organizations.
4. Voter insert for amendment	305.00	0	0	None anticipated.
(Unreimbursed Expenses)	738.53	0	400	
Sub-Total T	\$ 2,184.03	\$ 3,250	\$ 1,950	

EXPENSES

	ACTUAL 81-82	BUDGET 82-83	PROPOSED 83-84	EXPLANATION
U. Legislative Office				
1. Lobbying	\$ 0	\$ 2,700	\$ 0	No regular session.
2. Legislative Secretary	0	3,000	0	No regular session.
3. Office Expenses	219.92	1,300	0	No regular session.
4. Legislative Newsletter	148.14	2,300	0	No regular session.
5. Accrual for Next Session	4,836.00	0	4,320	
6. Special Legislative Session	813.90	0	650	Contingency for special session.
Sub-Total U	\$ 6,017.96	\$ 9,300	\$ 4,970	
V. In-Kind Assistance	\$ 826.61	\$ 3,600	\$ 1,500	Outside professionals.
W. LL Share of State Fund Raising	\$ 805.00	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,500	Percentage of state fund raising.
X. Contractual Services	0	1,300	0	No anticipated election reporting.
Y. Support for TEF	\$ 1,227.02	\$ 0	\$ 0	None anticipated.
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$56,628.89	\$78,173	\$61,265	

EXPENSES

	ACTUAL 81-82	BUDGET 82-83	PROPOSED 83-84	EXPLANATION
N. Shared Services and Administration				
1. Shared Services				
a. Office Overhead	\$ 9,350.58	\$10,196	\$11,930	40% of Item N(LMV-T budget) based on time spent.
b. Trustees Meeting & Exp.	5,564.12	4,800	5,450	38% of Item O (LMV-T budget).
c. VOTER	1,990.27	1,520	2,135	44% of VOTER costs, etc. (LMV-T budget).
d. Mailings & Workshops	688.04	1,640	905	25% of Item S-3,8,9,10 (LMV-T budget).
2. Administration	5.26	50	100	General supervision of local league accounts.
3. Capital Expenditures	0	0	900	1/3 cost of mimeograph.
Sub-Total N	\$17,598.27	\$18,206	\$21,420	
O. Public Relations, Unrestricted				
1. Voters Service & Citizen Info				
a. VS/CI Chair	\$ 101.82	\$ 100	\$ 175	Travel, phone and supplies.
b. VOTERS GUIDES	3,869.23	4,000	6,250	For 1984 Primary Election and possible amendments.
c. Public Subscpt. Svc	874.04	975	1,300	Costs of service for the public (offset by D-2).
d. VS Publications	0	500	500	New or reprint to be determined by the Board.
e. VS Projects	317.95	0	300	To be decided.
2. Unreimbursed Expenses	0	0	250	
Sub-Total O	\$ 5,163.04	\$ 5,575	\$ 8,775	
P. Program Unrestricted				
1. Information & Education	\$ 206.61	\$ 250	\$ 1,200	Program items & ongoing information.
2. Publications				
a. Facts & Issues	2,919.46	800	900	Production & printing of one issue.
b. Focus	0	800	800	Production & printing of four.
c. Leaders' Guide	312.50	0	300	One program item.
3. Program Resources	101.64	25	150	Includes Texas Register & other resources.
4. Unreimbursed Expenses	674.93	0	250	
Sub-Total P	\$ 4,215.14	\$ 1,875	\$ 3,600	
Q. Publications & Projects, Restricted Grants	\$ 4,325.87	\$50,000	\$50,000	To be determined by Board.
R. Local League Restricted Funds				
1. Projects	\$ 7,274.87	\$ 8,550	\$ 8,550	Projects approved by State Board minus 5%.
2. Purchases	1,839.55	3,000	3,000	Authorized expenditures not subject to adm. fees, such as purchase of publications, etc.
3. Reg. Fees, Elec. Laws Conf.	97.50	0	0	
4. PMP to National	255.75	0	0	
Sub-Total R	\$ 9,467.67	\$11,550	\$11,550	

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS EDUCATION FUND
RECOMMENDED BUDGET: JUNE 1, 1983 - MAY 31, 1984

INCOME		ACTUAL 81-82	BUDGET 82-83	PROPOSED 83-84	EXPLANATION
A.	Contributions				
1.	Fund Raising Unrestricted.	\$ 4,645.00	\$ 8,360	\$ 8,000	Total after sharing has been posted to A-5.
2.	Member Contributions	2,597.89	1,000	2,500	
3.	Tributes, Memorials, Bequests	0	150	200	
4.	Restricted Grants	4,435.00	50,000	50,000	Total gift less administrative fee & sharing.
5.	Local League Restricted	13,948.61	11,100	11,100	Total gift less administrative fee.
6.	Unreimbursed Expenses	674.93	0	500	
	Sub-Total A	\$26,301.43	\$70,610	\$72,300	
B.	Interest and Dividends	\$ 5,790.90	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,500	Interest & dividends from investments & savings.
C.	Administrative Fees				
1.	Local League Accounts	\$ 347.76	\$ 450	\$ 450	5% on local league projects subject to administrative fee.
2.	Grants/restricted	500.00	500	2,500	Administrative fee on grants.
	Sub-Total C	\$ 847.76	\$ 950	\$ 2,950	
D.	Sale of Publications				
1.	VOTERS GUIDES	\$ 4,380.70	\$ 4,250	\$ 6,250	Direct cost & office overhead for Primary Election.
2.	Public Subscription Svc.	1,140.00	1,300	1,625	65 subscriptions at \$25 each.
3.	Current issue publications				
a.	Facts & Issues	3,979.50	1,200	1,200	One Facts & Issues to be published.
b.	Focus	0	1,275	1,275	
c.	Leaders Guides	181.25	125	200	
d.	VS Publication	0	600	600	One Voters Service publication to be published.
4.	Publications on Hand	100.02	450	450	Ed Fund publications from previous years.
	Sub-Total D	\$ 9,781.47	\$ 9,200	\$11,600	
E.	In-Kind Assistance				
1.	Outside Professionals	\$ 407.00	\$ 2,480	\$ 2,480	
2.	Board Members	0	500	0	
	Sub-Total E	\$ 407.00	\$ 2,980	\$ 2,480	
F.	Transfer from Reserves	\$ 1,227.02	\$ 1,196	\$ 2,995	
	TOTAL INCOME	\$44,355.58	\$90,186	\$97,825	

EXPLANATION

ACTUAL
81-82

BUDGET
82-83

PROPOSED
83-84

EXPENSES (continued)

S. In-Kind Assistance			
1. Outside Professionals	\$ 407.00	\$ 2,480	\$ 2,480
2. Board Members	0	500	0
Sub-Total S	\$ 407.00	\$ 2,980	\$ 2,480
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$41,176.99	\$90,186	\$97,825

WORKBOOK
Nineteenth Convention
April 1983

DEVELOPMENT

The following contributions were received during the period 2/1/82 - 1/31/83.

<u>CONTRIBUTOR</u>	<u>T/TEF</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>AMOUNT TO LOCAL LWV</u>	<u>AMOUNT TO STATE</u>
TRACOR, Inc.*	T	\$250.00	\$ 70	\$ 180
Texas AFL-CIO	T	500.00	140	360
Morrill & Patton	T	25.00	0	25
Texas Refinery	T	100.00	60	40
National Gypsum Co.	T	750.00	150	600
Tx. Electric Service Co.	T	600.00	80	520
Texas Utilities	T	1200.00	240	960
Conoco, Inc.	T restr.	100.00	0	100
Dallas Power & Light	T	600.00	120	480
Tx. Trial Lawyers Assn.	T restr.	500.00	0	500
Hardin Wolff Bradley & Co.	T	150.00	30	120
TRACOR, Inc.*	T	250.00	70	180
Robin Lee	T	200.00	0	200
Gulf States Utilities	TEF	1000.00	180	820
Kempner Fund	TEF	500.00	100	400
Tandy Corp.	TEF	1500.00	420	1080
Lola Wright Foundation	TEF restr.	975.00	0	975
Texas Eastern	TEF	1000.00	280	720
Jo Hardin Originals	TEF	200.00	0	200
Janet Harte	TEF	100.00	0	100
Lomas & Nettleton	TEF	1000.00	200	800
Allstate Foundation	TEF	400.00	80	320
Cooper Industries Found.	TEF	500.00	100	400
Genette Burrus Estate	TEF	8124.58	1624.92	6499.66
American Petrofina Found.	TEF	200.00	40	160
Texas Monthly	TEF restr.	9724.00	0	9724
Anonymous	TEF	2500.00	500	2000
Perini Enterprises	TEF restr.	100.00	0	100
Member contributions	TEF	480.00		
	T	993.75		
Memorials	TEF	75.00		
	T	---		
National Sharing	TEF	150.00		
Miscellaneous	T	10.00		
TOTAL		\$34,757.33		

This report will be updated at Convention '83.

* Includes two contributions made during this period.

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM

Twenty-five local Leagues and one state unit participated in state program planning. Due to the continued interest in Women Under Texas Law expressed in both last summer's consensus reports and in program recommendation forms, the state board recommends the continued study of Women Under Texas Law with emphasis on domestic violence, child support enforcement, and intestacy laws.

There was considerable interest in a variety of new issues. Textbook selection was suggested the most often, by nine local Leagues: Abilene, Beaumont, Dallas, Denton, El Paso, Houston, Lubbock, Richardson, and Wichita Falls. The major concern with textbook selection appeared to be the lack of adequate provision for citizen participation in the selection process. Because the board knew that we could already act under our principles in favor of greater citizen participation and that the public participation question might already be resolved administratively and/or legislatively by the time of convention, this topic is not recommended as a new item.

None of the other new topics received support from more than five Leagues, but because of the interest shown in new issues, the state board recommends that convention delegates adopt one other program item from the list of those suggested by local Leagues.

Please remember that because the state board is specifically recommending Women Under Texas Law, it can be adopted by a majority vote of convention delegates. The adoption of any other new issue will require a two-thirds vote of the delegates.

Other items proposed by local Leagues:

Railroad Commission: Arlington, Brazos Co., Dallas, Denton, Orange Area
Public Library Funding: Baytown, Brazos Co., San Antonio, Tyler, Victoria
Redistricting: Arlington, Austin, Baytown
Public Utility Commission: Abilene, Denton
DWI Laws: Brazos Co., Dallas
Health Care for the Indigent: Lubbock, Wichita Falls
Utility Regulatory Agencies (PUC & RRC): Houston
Texas Constitutional Revision: Abilene
Juvenile Justice (Juvenile Probation Commission, Dept. of Human Resources,
and Texas Youth Council--their responsibilities, gaps, and overlaps):
San Antonio
Grand Juries: Beaumont
Transportation (state highway funds): Orange
Education (retention program for math and science teachers): Victoria

WORKBOOK

Nineteenth Convention

April 1983

PROPOSED STATE PROGRAM
1983-1985

I. WOMEN UNDER TEXAS LAW

Action to achieve fair treatment for women under the divorce and sex offense laws.
Continued study with emphasis on domestic violence, child support enforcement, and intestacy laws.

II. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Action to achieve an equitable system of criminal justice in Texas.
Action to achieve creation of a single state juvenile justice agency.
Action to achieve a state juvenile agency budget flexible enough to allocate available financial resources to either community or institutional programs and facilities as the need arises.

III. HUMAN RESOURCES

Action to achieve a school finance system which provides an equitable distribution of funds and provides equity to the taxpayer.
Action to achieve equal rights for all, combat discrimination and poverty, and to provide equal access to housing, employment, and quality education in Texas.

IV. NATURAL RESOURCES

Action to achieve measures for the protection, conservation, and development of the state's ground water resources as an integral part of the comprehensive state water plan.
Action to achieve conservation and judicious development of land and water resources, the improvement of water and air quality, conservation of energy, and development of public transportation in a manner which assures adequate protection of the environment, improvement of the quality of life, and wise use of our natural resources.
Support of water planning and development being the responsibility of the state government.
Support of state governmental action for control of air pollution in Texas.
Support of a comprehensive state land use policy which would provide for the orderly development of the state.

V. GOVERNMENT

Action to achieve an efficient, effective, and responsive state governmental system through constitutional revision and legislative action.
Action to achieve flexibility within a coordinated finance structure, equitable taxation, and increased accountability.
Action to protect every citizen's right to vote.
Action to achieve more flexible structures and adequate powers at the local level.
Support of comprehensive regional state planning, including regional planning councils.
Action to achieve revision of the Texas Constitution.
Action to achieve constitutional and statutory initiative and statutory referendum while assuring statewide citizen participation, education, funding disclosure, and legal review.

Proposed State Program (cont.)

THE STATE BOARD ALSO RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC CHANGES: (please refer to "Details of Positions" pp. 1 through 9 in this workbook)

1. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports an equitable system of criminal justice in Texas. Specifically, the League supports:

Improvements in pretrial justice including:

- . a state-supported public defender system, adequately funded
- . a uniform statewide system of pretrial release
- . pretrial diversion programs, with local implementation guidelines available statewide for certain classes of offenders
- . expansion of citation-in-lieu-of-arrest statutes to include additional misdemeanor offenses
- . availability of night and weekend magistrates
- . revision of the bail bond system to permit counties to serve as bonding agencies and to provide regulation of all commercial bail bond agencies and guidelines for more uniform bail amounts

Measures to improve law enforcement including:

- . statewide minimum standards for law enforcement personnel at all levels
- . higher basic training standards and requirements for regular inservice training, incentives for additional education, and specific training for management and supervisory positions
- . mandatory reporting by every law enforcement agency of all criminal statistics, criminal history information, and final disposition of cases to the Dept. of Public Safety
- . increased statewide coordination and cooperation among local law enforcement agencies
- . a state commission, adequately funded, to set and enforce minimum standards for city and county jails

Provisions for more equitable sentences including:

- . jury sentencing only in capital cases
- . appellate review of a sentence
- . revision of the penal code to reduce disparity of sentences, provide more specific definitions of crimes and aggravating or mitigating circumstances, and narrow the range between minimum and maximum sentences

State assistance, including restitution by the offender when feasible, to victims of certain violent criminal acts

The passage of state laws to prohibit electronic surveillance or wiretapping

A state correctional system which would:

- . assign highest priority to provision of a broad range of community-based programs and facilities in lieu of additional prison construction
- . expand state standards, technical assistance, and funding for locally administered community-based programs
- . maintain a state probation authority that provides financial assistance to local probation departments
- . establish a specific mandatory supervision time for all dischargees from the Texas Department of Corrections

Proposed State Program (cont.)

Improvements in the parole process in order to:

- . reorganize the structure of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the parole commissioners to increase functional coordination and efficiency in the decision-making process
- . eliminate the veto power of the governor over parole decisions
- . establish qualifications for parole decision makers
- . expand the use of automated data processing for the Board of Pardons and Paroles and develop more efficient methods for transmission of inmate files

A prison system which would provide humane care and treatment for all its inmates in a secure environment and would also provide:

- . expanded educational opportunities for both sexes with strong emphasis on a wider variety of vocational training for marketable skills
- . improved health care delivery including greater access to professional health care services and adequate facilities which meet minimum standards of the American Hospital Association
- . compensation to inmates for their labor, the funds to come from the sale of prison-made goods and surpluses
- . expansion of programs to assist all inmates in making the transition from prison to the free world
- . improvements in the correctional officer system including increased state funds to enable lowering the ratio of inmates to correctional officers, establishment of higher standards for officer selection and a pay scale sufficient to attract and retain officers who meet those standards, expansion of preservice training, and opportunities for inservice training for correctional officers

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports creation of a single state juvenile justice agency which, in partnership with local governments, would:

- . develop and coordinate juvenile probation services, programs, and community-based corrections
- . set minimum standards and qualifications for all personnel and agencies which deal with juveniles in the justice system
- . finance dispositional alternatives, probation departments, and correctional institutions
- . expand community-based juvenile correction facilities and programs to supplement traditional institutions

Additionally, for improved juvenile justice we support:

- . mandatory reporting of juvenile offense statistics by law enforcement agencies and courts to a central state agency
- . improved training for law enforcement personnel who deal with juveniles to include mandatory annual inservice training and more comprehensive basic training on topics such as the Texas Family Code, available community resources, crisis intervention, family counseling, ethnic differences, and adolescent psychology
- . automatic court review of a juvenile's record two years after the last official action or final discharge of the case to determine whether the record should be sealed
- . special provisions for status offenders including adequate state and local programs and facilities for their supervision, treatment, and protection; court jurisdiction over status offenders only until other supervision is available; and programs and institutions for them which are separate from those for juveniles adjudicated delinquent

Proposed State Program (cont.)

EXPLANATION: These changes are more an attempt at reorganization than anything else. However, there are some real changes:

--The position calling for "statutory measures to reduce the time between arrest and trial" has been dropped because the speedy trial law has now been in effect for six years and no longer seems threatened.

--The adult probation position has been changed from "state financial assistance to establish and maintain local probation departments" to "maintain a state probation authority that provides financial assistance to local probation departments" in order to bring it up to date and clarify our desires.

--Our two community corrections positions have been combined into one since the prison units planned or under construction in 1979 have been completed. The examples of types of community correction programs can be put in the Explanation section in Program Perspectives.

--The position calling for mandatory reporting of all "juvenile contacts" with law enforcement, etc. has been changed to "juvenile offense statistics" to try to clarify that we are interested in good statistical record keeping, not personal records on individual juveniles.

2. HUMAN RESOURCES -- the third position:

Provision by the state of supportive services ~~for welfare-recipients~~, including health care, child care, family planning, and legal aid for income assistance (welfare) recipients.

EXPLANATION: Texas League members indicated in 1970 that if these services were not provided under federal or federal/state programs, they would like to see them provided by the state. This wording would clarify the position on that point and also demonstrate that use of the words "income assistance" means "welfare."

3. GOVERNMENT, EXECUTIVE -- third point under initial statement:

- . cabinet-type executive department, with only the governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general elected
- . the governor having the power, with safeguards prescribed by law, to remove appointive officers of the executive department and citizen appointees to boards and commissions

EXPLANATION: In 1981 after that year's state convention, Helen Hunter, former state board member who was then Associate Director for Modernizing State Govt., State-Local Relations, and Texas Constitutional Revision, chaired a committee which carefully examined positions in all those areas. They referred back to the original studies and made recommendations for changed wording on several of these positions. The changes are for the purpose of clarification.

4. GOVERNMENT, LEGISLATURE -- the first four points under the initial statement:

- . annual sessions of sufficient length and scope to permit the efficient handling of legislative business
- . limitation of conference committees to adjusting the difference in bills and resolutions passed by the two houses
- . adequate compensation for legislators and elimination of salary amounts from the constitution

Proposed State Program (cont.)

EXPLANATION: This is another suggestion from Helen Hunter's committee for clarification and better organization. The current third and fourth points have been combined into one brief statement and the current final point about "increased power of legislators. . ." remains unchanged.

5. GOVERNMENT, JUDICIAL -- second, third, and fourth points under initial statement:

DROP: . assignment of judges according to special training and docket needs
 . all judges of courts of law qualified to practice law in Texas
 . Justice of the Peace courts being courts of record

EXPLANATION: This is another suggestion from Helen Hunter's committee. There has been court administration legislation passed in recent years, and now judges are being assigned according to special training and docket needs or at least efforts are made to do that. The other two changes are for clarification.

6. GOVERNMENT, JUDICIAL -- last point under initial statement:

 . selection of district and appellate judges by a combination of nomination by nonpartisan commission, initial executive appointment, and nonpartisan, noncompetitive elections

DROP: compulsory retirement

 . effective removal procedures

EXPLANATION: This is our suggestion for best incorporating our new judge selection position into our detailed positions listing. This makes the selection position stand alone, and we think effective removal procedures should also stand alone and should take care of our concern for the removal of incompetent or venal judges. The position for compulsory retirement should be dropped because it discriminates on the basis of age.

7. GOVERNMENT, STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS -- all points under initial statement:

 . state financial and technical assistance to regional councils
 . flexible government structures for counties and municipalities, together with legislative and financial powers adequate to provide local services
 . authorization for cities and counties to combine efforts on regional problems enabling performance of services without overlapping costs and taxation, in preference to single-purpose special districts
 . provisions for greater accountability to and regulation by the state of single-purpose districts

EXPLANATION: Another suggestion that came from Helen Hunter's committee. You will note the position on flexible government structures remains unchanged. The other three positions are condensed from the other five current positions. We think these are clearer and make better sense.

8. GOVERNMENT, TX. CONSTIT'L. REVISION -- last point under initial statement:

DROP: . direct constitutional initiative and referendum with signatures of 10-15% of the citizens who voted in the last gubernatorial election required to call for a constitutional amendment."

EXPLANATION: This statement has been superseded by our 1981 positions on initiative and referendum on p. 9, Details of Positions. We failed to drop it at the last convention.

ADOPTED STATE PROGRAM
1981-1983

I. WOMEN UNDER TEXAS LAW

Study of the impact on women of existing state laws and proposed legislation.

II. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Action to achieve an equitable system of criminal justice in Texas.

Action to achieve creation of a single state juvenile justice agency.

Action to achieve a state juvenile agency budget flexible enough to allocate available financial resources to either community or institutional programs and facilities as the need arises.

III. HUMAN RESOURCES

Action to achieve a school finance system which provides an equitable distribution of funds and provides equity to the taxpayer.

Action to achieve equal rights for all, combat discrimination and poverty and to provide equal access to housing, employment, and quality education in Texas.

IV. NATURAL RESOURCES

Action to achieve measures for the protection, conservation, and development of the state's ground water resources as an integral part of the comprehensive state water plan.

Action to achieve conservation and judicious development of land and water resources, the improvement of water and air quality, conservation of energy, and development of public transportation in a manner which assures adequate protection of the environment, improvement of the quality of life, and wise use of our natural resources.

Support of water planning and development being the responsibility of the state government.

Support of state governmental action for control of air pollution in Texas.

Support of a comprehensive state land use policy which would provide for the orderly development of the state.

V. GOVERNMENT

Action to achieve an efficient, effective, and responsive state governmental system through constitutional revision and legislative action.

Action to achieve flexibility within a coordinated finance structure, equitable taxation, and increased accountability.

Action to protect every citizen's right to vote.

Action to achieve more flexible structures and adequate powers at the local level.

Support of comprehensive regional state planning, including regional planning councils.

Action to achieve revision of the Texas Constitution.

Action to achieve constitutional and statutory initiative and statutory referendum while assuring statewide citizen participation, education, funding disclosure, and legal review.

DETAILS OF POSITIONS
1981-1983

(Positions adopted during the 1981-83 biennium are in italics.)

I. WOMEN UNDER TEXAS LAW

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports action to achieve fair treatment for women under the divorce and sex offense laws. Specifically, we support:

- . a change in Texas laws to enable a court to award post-divorce payment(s) to a spouse when appropriate*
- . a change in Texas laws to provide that sexual intercourse or deviate sexual intercourse with one's spouse without the consent of that spouse shall be a criminal offense punishable on the same basis as rape or sexual abuse of any other person*

II. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS SUPPORTS ACTION TO ACHIEVE AN EQUITABLE SYSTEM OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN TEXAS AND CREATION OF A SINGLE STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE AGENCY.

Specifically, the League supports:

- . a uniform statewide system of pretrial release
- . a state-supported public defender system, adequately funded
- . expansion of "citation-in-lieu-of-arrest" statutes to include additional misdemeanor offenses
- . statewide allowance for pretrial diversion programs for certain classes of offenders, with specific guidelines for local implementation
- . revision of the present bail bond system to permit counties to serve as bonding agencies
- . statewide guidelines for more uniform bail amounts
- . regulation of all commercial bail bond agencies
- . availability of night and weekend magistrates
- . establishment of uniform statewide minimum selection criteria for prospective law enforcement personnel at all levels
- . upgrading of basic training standards for such personnel
- . requirements for regular inservice training, incentives for additional education, and specific training for management and supervisory positions of law enforcement personnel
- . mandatory reporting by every law enforcement agency of all criminal statistics, criminal history information, and final disposition of cases to the Department of Public Safety
- . methods to increase statewide coordination and cooperation between individual local law enforcement agencies
- . state assistance, including restitution by the offender when feasible, to victims of certain violent criminal acts
- . statutory measures to reduce the time between arrest and trial
- . the abolishment of jury sentencing except in capital murder cases

Details of Positions (cont.)

- . revision of the Texas Penal Code to reduce disparity of sentences for similar crimes under similar circumstances by providing more specific degrees of crimes and more precise definitions of aggravating or mitigating circumstances and to provide a narrower range between minimum and maximum sentences
- . appellate review of a sentence
- . state financial assistance to establish and maintain local probation departments
- . a state commission, adequately funded, to set and enforce minimum standards for city and county jails
- . state laws prohibiting electronic surveillance or wiretapping

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports a state correctional system which would:

- . provide for a broad range of community-based correction programs including expanded use of probation and parole services, half-way houses, work release programs, court residential treatment centers, alcohol and drug treatment centers and other programs
- . expanded state standards, technical assistance and funding for locally administered community-based correction programs
- . reorganize the structure of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the parole commissioners to increase functional coordination and efficiency in the decision-making process
- . establish qualifications for parole decision makers
- . expand the use of automated data processing for the Board of Pardons and Paroles and develop more efficient methods for transmission of inmate files
- . eliminate the veto power of the governor over parole decisions
- . establish a specific mandatory supervision time for all discharges from the Texas Department of Corrections

The League of Women Voters further supports a prison system which would provide humane care and treatment for all its inmates in a secure environment. Specifically we support:

- . expanded educational opportunities for both sexes with strong emphasis on a wider variety of vocational training for marketable skills
- . improved health care delivery including greater access to professional health care services and adequate facilities which meet minimum standards of the American Hospital Association
- . compensation to inmates for their labor, the funds to come from the sale of prison-made goods and surpluses
- . expansion of programs to assist all inmates in making the transition from prison to the free world
- . an increase in state funding to enable lowering of the ratio of inmates to correctional officers
- . establishment of higher standards for selection of correctional officers and a pay scale sufficient to attract and retain officers who meet such standards
- . expansion of preservice training and opportunities for inservice training for correctional officers
- . completion of prison units now planned or under construction in order to reduce present overcrowding, but highest priority consideration for future needs given to community-based correction programs and facilities in lieu of additional prison construction

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports creation of a single state juvenile justice agency which, in partnership with local governments, would:

Details of Position (cont.)

- . develop and coordinate juvenile probation services, programs, and community-based corrections
- . set minimum standards and qualifications for all personnel and agencies which deal with juveniles in the justice system
- . finance dispositional alternatives, probation departments, and correctional institutions
- . expand community-based juvenile correction facilities and programs to supplement traditional institutions

Additionally, the League of Women Voters supports:

- . mandatory reporting to a central state agency of all juvenile contacts with law enforcement agencies and courts
- . more comprehensive basic training and mandatory annual inservice training for all law enforcement personnel who deal with juveniles
- . training should include such things as: Texas Family Code, available community resources, crisis intervention, family counseling, ethnic differences, and adolescent psychology
- . automatic court review of a juvenile's record two years after the last official action or final discharge of the case to determine whether the record should be sealed
- . adequate state and local programs and facilities for the supervision, treatment, and protection of status offenders
- . continuing court jurisdiction over status offenders only until such time as other supervision is available
- . programs and institutions for status offenders which are separate from those for juveniles found to have engaged in delinquent conduct

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports a state juvenile agency budget flexible enough to allocate available financial resources to either community or institutional programs and facilities as the need arises.

III. HUMAN RESOURCES

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS SUPPORTS ACTION TO ACHIEVE EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL, COMBAT DISCRIMINATION AND POVERTY, AND TO PROVIDE EQUAL ACCESS TO HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT, AND QUALITY EDUCATION IN TEXAS.

ACTION TO ACHIEVE A SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM WHICH PROVIDES AN EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS AND PROVIDES EQUITY TO THE TAXPAYER.

Specifically, the League supports:

- . access for all persons to free public education which provides equal opportunity for all
- . removal of the ceiling on welfare spending from the state constitution
- . provision of supportive services for welfare recipients, including health care, child care, family planning, and legal aid
- . an effective human relations commission for Texas that includes the following features:
 - permanent independent status
 - investigative and legal enforcement powers
 - an adequate budget funded independently of the governor's office
 - equitable representation of racial and ethnic groups
 - an adequately-sized staff trained in human relations work

Details of Positions (cont.)

Public School Finance

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS SUPPORTS ACTION TO ACHIEVE A SCHOOL FINANCE SYSTEM WHICH PROVIDES AN EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS AND PROVIDES EQUITY TO THE TAXPAYER.

Specifically the League supports:

- . An increase in the level of state support to Texas public schools, to ensure that all Texas school children receive a high quality education
- . Joint state-local financing of public schools--the foundation school approach
- . Incorporation of a guaranteed tax base yield approach for part of the local enrichment, to mitigate spending disparities resulting from differences in wealth among school districts in Texas
- . Some form of state assistance, such as outright allocations, loan guarantees or low-interest loans to districts facing overwhelming capital outlays for essential construction or rebuilding
- . Maintaining the statewide local fund assignment at or above the 15% level as the Foundation School Program level increases to provide greater taxpayer equity
- . An increase in equalization aid to provide greater taxpayer equity; equalization aid should be allotted in direct proportion to local tax effort to reward those poor districts willing to tax themselves more heavily
- . Strengthening the Foundation School Program
 - by substantial increases in teachers' salaries and in the number of classroom-contact personnel, and
 - by modest increases (above the inflation level) in operations funding and in funding of programs for special categories of students, specifically vocational education, compensatory education, special education, and kindergarten
- . A program for the gifted and talented student jointly funded by state and local monies under the Foundation School Program
- . A weighted approach to distribution of state school finance money to meet individual student needs; the weighted-program approach is preferred, although the weighted-pupil and the weighted-personnel approaches are acceptable

The League of Women Voters of Texas opposes:

- . Reduction of the statewide local fund assignment
- . A limit on local enrichment
- . The voucher system approach
- . Any state requirement that local districts use state school finance monies to provide local tax relief

IV. NATURAL RESOURCES

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS SUPPORTS ACTION TO ACHIEVE MEASURES FOR THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE'S GROUND WATER RESOURCES AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE COMPREHENSIVE STATE WATER PLAN

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS SUPPORTS ACTION TO ACHIEVE CONSERVATION AND JUDICIOUS DEVELOPMENT OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES, THE IMPROVEMENT OF WATER AND AIR QUALITY, CONSERVATION OF ENERGY, AND DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IN A MANNER WHICH ASSURES ADEQUATE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE, AND WISE USE OF OUR NATURAL RESOURCES.

Water Planning

Specifically the League supports water planning and development being the responsibility of the state government

- . All such planning to take into consideration its social, environmental, economic, and land use implications
- . Development of adequate water supplies to be achieved by ecologically and financially sound means and as a result of a long-range water plan for Texas; and to be accomplished through such measures as conservation, reuse, and increased research into the wise and efficient use of the state's land and water resources
- . Use of present water supplies to afford protection for the land and fragile ecosystems

Ground Water Management

Specifically the League supports measures for the protection, conservation, and development of the state's ground water resources as an integral part of the comprehensive state water plan. Ground water management should achieve the following objectives:

- . Maintain ground water quality by preventing harmful contamination of aquifers
- . Assure the long-term productivity of the state's ground water resources and availability of ground water supplies
- . Minimize adverse effects of ground water withdrawals, including land subsidence and reduction of spring flows

Continuing water resources planning should include:

- . Detailed information concerning the hydraulic characteristics and recharge of the state's aquifers; quantities, locations, and trends of ground water withdrawals; measures that could conserve and extend existing supplies; current and projected costs of ground water and alternative surface water supplies; potential conjunctive use of ground water and surface water
- . Management options developed specifically for each area of the state where ground water is a significant resource
- . Full public consideration of ground water management options
- . Recommendations of measures to be taken by the state, by political subdivisions of the state, and by the private sector to assure wise management of the state's ground water resources
- . Coordination of state plans for ground water management with relevant policies and programs of the federal government and of other states

Adequate funds should be appropriated for planning and for management of the state's ground water resources

Air

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports state government action for control of air pollution in Texas, including:

- . Power to set and enforce standards stricter than those required by the federal government
- . Adequate funding to carry out research, planning, and enforcement

Details of Positions (cont.)

- . Legislation allowing local and regional governments to set and enforce standards stricter than those of the state
- . Encouragement of citizen involvement in the rule-making and enforcement process

Land

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports a comprehensive state land use policy which provides for the orderly development of the state, including:

- . Land being used according to its carrying capacity based on a thorough inventory of our land and natural resources
- . Growth and development of an area being compatible with the degree of availability of essential natural resources in that area
- . The traditional rights of ownership and property being protected, but in conflicts between private interest and public welfare, the public interest being given precedence
- . Preservation of agricultural lands and desirable open space, with preferential tax treatment for each
- . Preferential tax treatment for maintenance of the built environment
- . Establishment of a state land use management agency
- . Identification and protection of areas of particular significance (historical, archaeological, aesthetic, recreational) and rare or fragile ecosystems
- . The main thrust of land use planning being carried out at the local level and equitably enforced

V. GOVERNMENT

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS SUPPORTS ACTION TO ACHIEVE AN EFFICIENT, EFFECTIVE, AND RESPONSIVE STATE GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM THROUGH CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION AND LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Financing State Government

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports constitutional and statutory provisions for flexibility within a coordinated finance structure; equitable taxation; and increased accountability, including:

- . Removal of provisions relating to dedicated funds, ad valorem tax exemptions, dollar amount of debt limitations, and other such specific wording from the constitution and making them statutory
- . Reorganization of fiscal responsibilities and offices to eliminate duplication and to strengthen and clarify lines of accountability
- . budget execution to be a joint responsibility of the executive and legislative branches of state government
- . Change to a program or performance budget format
- . Application of appropriate fiscal management and business practices to conduct state business
- . An equitable system of taxation which assures an adequate revenue, is easily administered, and is consistent with economic and social goals

Details of Positions (cont.)

- . Establishment of a state department of taxation to collect state taxes
- . Appraisal of taxable property at full market value; state supervision to ensure equitable and uniform appraisal and taxing procedures; and mandatory professional training for tax appraisers

Voting Rights

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports every citizen's right to vote.

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports improved procedures for registration of voters in Texas which include:

- . Adequate safeguards against fraud (voter's personal signature on the registration application, as well as the registration card; signature identification at the polls; and accurate and current registration lists periodically revised)
- . No declaration of party affiliation when registering

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports uniformly-enforced election procedures, clearly-stated election laws, and the right to a secret ballot, including:

- . Revision of election laws to ensure enforcement
- . Recodification of the election laws to eliminate obsolete matter and clarify ambiguous provisions
- . Supervision of all local elections (held by all governmental units) by a single county election authority responsible to a central state authority
- . Mandatory uniform training for all election personnel
- . Automatic restoration of voting rights to felons upon completion of their sentence and/or probationary period
- . Provision for jointly conducted primaries

Executive

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports measures to increase the effectiveness of the executive department of the state government, including:

- . Governor limited to two terms, which may or may not be successive
- . Constitutional provision for the succession to the office of governor if the governor is unable to perform the duties of the office
- . Cabinet-type executive department, with only the governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general elected, the governor having the power to appoint and remove non-elected officials within reasonable safeguards prescribed by law
- . Reorganization of state boards and commissions along functional lines by grouping them in areas of responsibility

Legislature

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports measures to increase the efficiency and responsiveness of the legislature, including:

- . Annual sessions
- . Limitation of conference committees to adjustments
- . Adequate compensation for legislators

Details of Positions (cont.)

- . Elimination of salary amounts from the constitution
- . Increased power of the legislators in relation to the power of their presiding officers to include (a) greater voice for the legislators in determining committee membership and (b) bills and resolutions referred to committees of appropriate jurisdiction

Judicial

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports an effective judicial structure for Texas which would include:

- . A single system of centrally-administered statewide courts with a uniform fiscal policy
- . Assignment of judges according to special training and docket needs
- . A full-time judiciary whose members qualify to practice law in Texas
- . Integration of Justice of the Peace court functions into courts of record
- . *Selection of district and appellate judges by a combination of nomination by nonpartisan commission, initial executive appointment, and nonpartisan, noncompetitive elections; compulsory retirement; and effective removal procedures*

State-Local Relations

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports more flexible structures and adequate powers at the local level; comprehensive regional state planning, including regional planning councils, and

- . Adequate and realistic powers for cities and counties, enabling performance of services without overlapping costs and taxation
- . Greater accountability to and regulation by the state of single-purpose districts
- . Flexible governmental structure for counties and municipalities, together with legislative and financial powers adequate to provide local services
- . Provision for forming special districts, but the formation of new ones to be discouraged and those existing to be made accountable to some level of government
- . State financial and technical assistance to regional councils, and encouragement of coordination between the state government and the regional councils
- . Authorization in the constitution for local governments to combine their efforts to meet regional problems and to create regional authorities

Texas Constitutional Revision

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports revision of the Texas Constitution. Principles for a good constitution include:

- . A bill of rights
- . A framework of basic law
- . Clear separation of powers with responsibility definitely assigned
- . Qualifications for voter eligibility and guarantees of fair elections
- . Provisions for justice with a minimum of delay
- . A coordinated finance structure capable of flexibility

Details of Positions (cont.)

- . Maximum home rule for municipal and county government with coordination of overlapping functions
- . Provisions for support of public education
- . Provisions for support of public health and welfare services
- . Provisions for amendment and revision
- . Basic policies regarding state employee selection, retention, and promotion
- . Direct constitutional initiative and referendum with signatures of 10-15% of the citizens who voted in the last gubernatorial election required to call for a constitutional amendment

Initiative and Referendum

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports action to achieve constitutional and statutory initiative and statutory referendum by petition with petition signatures representing statewide distribution equal to 10-15% of those voting in the last gubernatorial election and the following provisions:

- . Legal review of a proposal before signatures are gathered
- . Signatures gathered by volunteers
- . Full disclosure of funding sources and amounts
- . Adequate voter education, including public notices

In implementing the above position, the following should be considered:

- . The attorney general and secretary of state were most frequently mentioned to review a proposal before signatures are gathered
- . While direct initiative and referendum is preferable, indirect initiative is acceptable
- . Types of public information suggested included public hearings, public service announcements, information mailed to every voter, and debates

PROGRAM REPORTS

WOMEN UNDER TEXAS LAW

Women Under Texas Law, a handbook describing the existing law regarding property rights, marriage, divorce, parent-child relationship, domestic violence, was published in February, 1982. It and a Leader's Guide were used as a basis for the study by the local Leagues which resulted in consensus in two areas:

- Support of a change in Texas laws to enable a court to award post-divorce payments to a spouse when appropriate;
- Support of a change in Texas laws to provide that sexual intercourse or deviate sexual intercourse with one's spouse without the consent of that spouse shall be a criminal offense punishable on the same basis as rape or sexual abuse of any person.

Twenty-eight local Leagues participated in the consensus process. Twenty agreed on the need for post-divorce payments in appropriate cases and twenty-four agreed on the criminality of raping a wife.

Other areas of concern that evolved from the study are: more effective laws for the prevention of domestic violence and for the protection of victims of domestic violence; better methods of child support enforcement; and the disposition of property, particularly community property, on the death of a person without a will. The state board is recommending that further study in these areas be adopted at convention.

In August, 1982, every League received a copy of the complete text of Title 5, Chapters 21 and 22, and Title 6, Chapter 25 of the Texas Penal Code. These are the sections of the Penal Code that deal with sexual and assaultive offenses and offenses against the family.

An advocacy paper, Alimony in Texas, was published in January, 1983 and distributed to all state legislators. We expect action on one or more bills to provide some kind of court-ordered post-divorce payments to former spouses in this legislative session.

Lavora Arizaga

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

The most dramatic happening on the justice scene during the last year has been evidence of more favorable attitudes toward community corrections. Since May, 1982 when the Texas Department of Corrections (TDC) locked its doors to keep out new prisoners because of overcrowding, there has been a statewide task force (The Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission for the Comprehensive Review of the Criminal Justice Corrections System) examining solutions to overcrowding; and there have been increasing numbers of state officials, agency heads, and legislators making positive comments about community corrections. Especially encouraging is the amount and variety of legislation that has been introduced to expand and improve probation and parole as well as to limit the TDC population. Efforts also continue to bring the prison system into compliance with the rulings of Judge Justice on the Ruiz vs. Estelle case.

During the last summer and fall we followed the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission, testifying in support of further development, funding, and use of a broad variety of community-based correction programs and in opposition to construction of still more prisons. The Commission's preliminary report to the governor was released in January, and the League agrees with much of it. While the new governor and his staff are considering its recommendations, bills to implement many of them have been introduced in the legislature.

Our continuing support for existence of the Jail Standards Commission was evidenced in testimony last September before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Security and Sanctions. One of the interim charges to the Committee had again been to consider abolishing the Commission.

One concern in the juvenile justice area is the new Juvenile Probation Commission (JPC). Because it was just created at the end of the last legislative session with no fiscal appropriation of its own--only minimal funds transferred from the Texas Youth Council--the JPC has been preparing and making its first budget request. We are supporting them in their pursuit of \$42.6 million for the biennium, an amount which we agree they need in order to do the job they were created to do.

Another issue involving juveniles is funding for demonstration projects for runaways which would be administered through the Department of Human Resources. The League supports the amount of \$4.4 million for the biennium which was recommended by the Legislative Budget Board.

Our priorities in this session are expanded programs for community-based alternatives to prison, and adequate funding for the Juvenile Probation Commission and the Commission on Jail Standards. In the proposed state program for 1983-85, the many LWV-Texas positions on justice have been reorganized and a few changes made. Convention delegates should carefully read and compare the proposed program with the current adopted program to determine if they want to support the proposal as it stands or possibly amend it.

Lois Carpenter

HUMAN RESOURCES

This has been the biennium of constitutional amendments for the HR portfolio, and we have a rather fine track record of winning two out of two. The LWV-T board supported Property Tax Abatement and Tax Increment Bond Issues in Reinvestment Zones on the November 1981 ballot. After its approval, several cities moved to adopt reinvestment zones. League action was taken around the state advocating support, but at the same time reminding cities that only blighted areas should be considered for redevelopment and that the impact on other taxing districts, especially school districts, would be significant.

Planning for the November 1982 amendment to raise the ceiling on state expenditures for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) to a new ceiling of 1% of the annual state budget began early--the 1982 Council Workshop on Program Action. Local Leagues discussed strategies for informing and involving their members and communities in the AFDC campaign.

We responded to local League requests for updated materials to educate themselves as well as the public. An LWV-Texas Focus, Aid to Families with Dependent Children, was published in August 1982; and the revised slide show, "Poverty: A Test For Texans" from the Texas Department of Human Resources (TDHR) was sent to each League. To help tie AFDC information with news media efforts, a public relations kit was produced to guide publicity and speakers bureau plans.

Local Leagues took action in the usual energetic and competent manner by producing programs, VOTER articles and mailings, and also by participating in local campaign coalitions. Statewide, the League joined the Citizens Concerned About Children coalition steering committee. In a dramatic victory, the voters in a state traditionally reluctant to favor any welfare issues approved the AFDC amendment by an overwhelming 66%. League members played a significant role in that victory.

The New Federalism policies in the Federal Reconciliation Omnibus Budget Act of 1981 began to have an impact on Texas as block grants of federal money passed to the governor and the state agencies. LWV-T testified on the block grant Intended Use Reports, stating they lacked detailed information, uniform targeting criteria, and adequate public participation in planning and grievance procedures. We advocated use of state funds to continue the level of human services reduced in the fed. budget.

From one budget to another was our course as state agency budgets were scrutinized for human service budget requests to the legislature for 1984-85. Based on monitoring federal cuts to social services in Texas and on our action in the area of block grants, it was apparent that Human Resources legislative priorities were to be: appropriations of state funds for supportive services for persons in need to compensate for reduced federal funding; and well-defined channels for citizen participation on the state block grant planning and review process. Of course, the LWV-T will build on the passage of the AFDC amendment and will work to raise AFDC benefits this session. Act Now: Increase State Appropriations for Human Services, an LWV-Texas Advocacy Paper, was published in January 1983 as a lobbying tool for League members.

Human Resources (cont.)

The Human Resources focus this spring is action on education and employment incentives. We supported opening the citizen participation process in state textbook selection to both positive and negative comments, and we are monitoring the TDHR employment programs for AFDC applicants and recipients. Based on our employment positions calling for job training to be the link between income assistance and jobs, we have opposed mandatory work programs (Workfare) being proposed by legislation.

Barbara McCormick

PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE

During the 1981 legislative session the process for considering school finance proposals was substantially changed from the way the issue had been handled in previous sessions. The Legislative Budget Board (LBB) recommendations for public schools went to the Senate Finance Committee and House Appropriations Committee without being considered by either chamber's education committee.

Previously, school finance bills had been extensively debated in both education committees, usually in a conference committee, then on the floor of both houses. No real debate occurred in the Senate last session as there is a Senate tradition of accepting without amendments the Finance Committee's recommendations for appropriations. Without the possibility of amendments, there is no reason to debate.

Fortunately, the LBB's recommendations last session for funding levels were as high as one might expect the education committees to approve, and the finance and appropriations committees made few adjustments. Public schools suffered more from the erosion to their tax base, i.e., exemptions and benefits being granted to special classifications of property, than they did from legislative appropriations.

It appears that the process used in 1981 will be used again this session. This makes it difficult for the League to have much input. The finance & appropriations committees must review the budgets of all state agencies. Their members work long hours and are concerned about so many areas that it is difficult to focus their attention on the details of a single and complex issue.

Therefore the LWV-T is selecting only a few school finance issues to work on this session:

- Increases in the Equalization Aid and Maintenance & Operations components of the Foundation School Program. This is needed to maintain equity and because school districts need more "flexible" monies from the state.
- No further reductions in the Local Fund Assignment from the approximately 11.3% share of the Foundation School Program. This tracks the LBB recommendations.
- Support of a proposal to use the Permanent School Fund to guarantee school bonds for construction. This will increase the bond rating for many school districts and reduce their interest costs.
- The League must work against further erosion of the tax base. Most exemptions and benefits result in a shifting of the tax burden and can result in great inequities.

WATER

It was about this time in the last legislative session that debate began on the Water Trust Fund proposal introduced by Speaker Clayton. The League promptly testified in opposition to the provision of this complex proposal that would have dedicated half of the state's "surplus" revenues for each biennium to the new fund for water projects, citing our long-standing position opposing the constitutional dedication of state revenues. As debate continued, we also pointed up the need for an updated state water plan as a guide to the spending of state water funds. League efforts to delete the dedicated surplus provision from the proposed constitutional amendment were almost, but not quite, successful in the summer special session, and the issue went to Texas voters as Proposition 4 on the November ballot. State and local League Action Committees campaigned against the amendment, which was decisively defeated.

On November 18, 1981, the Texas Water Development Board considered an emergency item on "the need to amend and update the Texas Water Plan." Following the meeting, Chairman Beecherl issued a press release stating that the Board hoped to complete revisions and present results and recommendations to the Legislature in 1983. League president Diana Clark was appointed to the Governor's Water Task Force, which was to offer policy guidance on water planning issues; and state League board members Lynne Johnson and Catherine Perrine were appointed to committees that advised both the Task Force and TENRAC (the Texas Energy and Natural Resources Advisory Council).

In the spring of 1982 the Department of Water Resources published "An Overview of Texas Water Resource Problems and Water Resource Issues" and asked for public comment at 13 forums held around the state. Many local Leagues, as well as the state League, testified at the forums in support of effective water conservation measures, protection of water quality, groundwater management, and other League concerns. The Governor's Task Force report, issued in September, was in accord with League positions on these issues.

Meanwhile, the Six-State High Plains Ogallala Aquifer Study, authorized by Congress in 1976, was nearing completion. There was no opportunity for public input in Texas on the study itself, which was published in March, 1982. But the state League did submit extensive comments on a Review Copy of the Summary and Recommendations, which were presented by Governor Clements to the Secretary of Commerce in January, 1983. Water conservation programs are urged as "the single most important public policy and private sector action for immediate consideration." Major multi-state water conveyance systems were found not to be financially feasible in the foreseeable future.

On February 17, the Department of Water Resources released a Review Draft of Water for Texas: Planning for the Future. Weighing in at four pounds and containing 700 pages, this volume should give League water people ample spring reading material. Hearings on the Review Draft will probably be held this summer.

Catherine Perrine

AIR QUALITY

Again this past two years, the focus on air issues has been at the national level. Though LWVUS, state Leagues, and lots of local League lobbying delayed the gutting of the Clean Air Act this past session of Congress, we are not yet home free. The National Clean Air Coalition of which the League is a member, has held another symposium for many of us who have been active in air matters for the past few years. It was a good chance to talk to the returning members of our Texas delegation, and to touch base with the members who are freshmen this year. Several of the new ones are much more environmentally concerned than those whom they replaced.

Industry efforts to weaken the Clean Air Act, as the new Congress considers it, will continue. You will no doubt be getting some Time For Action appeals again. Please respond. I know it is beginning to seem like old hat but this session will no doubt complete the reauthorization process and give us a revised Clean Air Act. We can't let down now.

On the state level there is no legislation currently on air issues. Most of the action at the state and local level has to do with the sanctions which the Environmental Protection Agency has imposed on several Texas cities for exceeding the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Please monitor these situations locally, particularly those of you in Dallas and Houston. Your local League involvement in urging cities to take action to reduce pollutants will be essential the next few months. There will be hearings in the early summer--times and places not yet announced--at which time the EPA will take public input regarding the sanctioning process which Mrs. Burford, EPA Administrator, says the law requires her agency to impose on cities not able to meet the standards by the end of 1982.

WATCH THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR A CONVENTION GET TOGETHER ON CLEAN AIR FOR ANY OF YOU WHO WANT TO TALK ABOUT CLEAN AIR ISSUES.

Meg Titus

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ENERGY

Conservation, Coal, Oil, Gas, Nuclear

Most of my work this past year has related to oversight responsibilities-- of TENRAC (Texas Energy & Natural Resources Advisory Council) and the Bureau of Radiation Control. TENRAC has been under sunset review and, happily, their work was seen as positive by the Sunset Commission. Some language relating to balance of the advisory committees, which the League supported, has been added to its enabling legislation. Additionally, the Energy Development Fund (EDF), which primarily funds basic research, continues to grow. Since the EDF funds alternative energy technologies, particularly renewable resources, I am pleased to see this trend.

Happy news in conservation includes a recent "windfall" from the Federal government of \$17 million to be used in conservation areas including weatherization, help on energy bills, and energy audits.

My work on the Texas Radiation Advisory Board included writing some very "good" regulations for processor-collectors of radioactive waste. My committee has just finished regs for a low level radioactive waste site and for public hearings. I am disappointed in the final outcome of the public hearing rules (in some cases licenses will be issued and a public hearing held after the fact), and so I think the legislation will have to be changed to improve the situation.

Meanwhile, DOE is much closer to choosing five candidate sites for possible high level waste storage. Texas is high on the list of candidate sites, and careful monitoring will be required in this area. TENRAC is following this closely also.

I think this will be a good session for conservation legislation. Several bills have been introduced having sponsors who do not like to lose. I thought this day would never come!

Laura Keever

Renewable Energy

Following the legal action in 1982 which forced the administration to begin implementing the Federal Solar Bank Program, LWV-T wrote a letter in support of the Texas Energy & Natural Resources Advisory Council (TENRAC) application for the Texas portion of the funds.

The TENRAC Solar Advisory Committee met several times in the fall of 1982 to draw up recommendations for new actions to increase the use of renewable energy.

Renewable Energy (cont.)

We learned that the only piece of solar legislation passed last session--requiring that during the design process all new state-financed buildings explore the lifetime-cost-benefits of using solar energy--was generally being disregarded. We recommended that TENRAC offer assistance in applying this procedure. We also recommended five pieces of legislation which the League supports and which have all attracted sponsors.

Nationwide, the use of solar energy is increasing steadily, in some categories even rapidly. Sales of photovoltaic cells (for producing electricity directly from sunlight) are doubling annually. In California, the utilities have realized the advantage of buying wind-generated power over having to build expensive new power plants, and are offering purchase rates which, combined with state incentives, are causing many huge windfarms to spring up.

Because Texas does not have an income tax, it cannot offer large incentives like many other states. Another major impediment is the pervasive historical Texas "oil is the only energy" attitude which prevents renewable energy from being taken seriously even though our oil fields are slowly running dry. As a result, our solar energy industry is not being developed for the future or contributing to our economy now as it could.

Isabel Miller

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Resource Recovery has gained impetus in this legislative session with the filing of Senate Bill 378, sponsored by Senator John Traeger of Seguin. The bill was drafted by the Resource Recovery Advisory Council of the Texas Department of Health, of which I am a member. The legislation encourages resource recovery facilities by establishing planning, research, and technical assistance funds; creating a fifteen-member advisory council, establishing solid waste management service as a utility; authorizing public agencies to enter into long-term contracts; outlining procedures for public financing of large-scale projects; providing for waste stream control; and establishing sales and property tax exemptions.

The LWV-Texas Board agreed in November, 1982 to join the Container Resource Recovery Coalition and to support H. B. 136 (Terral Smith) which promotes the reuse and recycling of beverage containers, prohibits certain packaging, and specifies penalties for violators.

Both of these bills represent a positive force in the field of Solid Waste Management. Resource Recovery is the preferred alternative in solid waste management. Our state lags far behind other states in the development of these facilities. The technology is available, and we as voters, must work to see the facilities implemented.

Dolores Hayter

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HAZARDOUS WASTE

This year the Hazardous Waste committee monitored two federal acts: the Resource Conservation & Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

RCRA came up for renewal in Congress in 1982. The House bill strengthened the act and eliminated some loopholes. We wrote a letter to Senator Bentsen recommending the House version. The Senate version weakened the act. Nothing was done about RCRA during the regular session, and the weak bill was again proposed during the lame duck session. We again wrote to Sen. Bentsen recommending the stronger bill.

The EPA is in the process of delegating the authority for RCRA to the state of Texas. We have monitored this process.

We are also following hazardous waste legislation in the 1983 legislature.

Barbara Bain

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GOVERNMENT

During the biennium this portfolio has seen some backing and filling. As the personpower needs of the state League have undergone reassessment and reassignment, established experts in some areas such as Merit Selection of Judges and District of Columbia Voting Representation have generously continued to confront those issues.

Prior to the convening of the Texas Legislature, the government portfolio's principal concerns have been renewal of the federal Voting Rights Act and the recently completed national League consensus on Public Policy on Reproductive choices.

During the legislative session, watchdog attention is being given to initiative and referendum, and recodification of election laws. Election laws are a popular subject for legislative draftsmen, and almost all proposals are reviewed on a continuing basis in case local Leagues need to be put on alert. To date, this session has not produced filing or passage of bills in the government areas which enjoy high League priority.

Lynne Johnson

EXECUTIVE, LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL

Constitution Revision

This part of our government positions were formerly categorized as Modernizing State Government and Texas Constitutional Revision. It includes our support for measures to increase the effectiveness of the executive department, the efficiency and responsiveness of the legislature, and an effective judicial structure, as well as revision of the Texas Constitution.

Activity in this area during the past biennium has focused on the Merit Selection of Judges. In September, 1982, we testified before the Select Committee on Judicial Selection of the House of Representatives at a hearing held in Houston. At its September meeting the state board decided to ask Texas League members if they believed that our position on the Merit Selection of Judges should include district judges as well as appellate judges. Twenty-seven out of thirty Leagues participating in the concurrence proposal concurred. Our position on selection of judges now reads:

The LWV-Texas supports a plan for selection of district and appellate judges that combines nomination by nonpartisan commission, initial executive appointment, and nonpartisan, noncompetitive elections.

GOVERNMENT (contd.)

Some of the proposals for legislation in this area include:

- a constitutional amendment to establish a merit screening commission to evaluate all candidates for election to an appellate judicial position. The commission would find each candidate either "qualified" or "unqualified." This would serve as information only. Voters would be free to elect a candidate labeled "unqualified." It would be optional for the governor to submit names of potential nominees to the commission for screening.
- a constitutional amendment to establish a merit screening commission which would be charged with supplying a list of qualified candidates to the governor whenever there is a vacancy in a district or appellate judicial office, and would screen all candidates for election to district or appellate judicial office, and issue public reports on all those candidates 30 days prior to the election.
- provision for the election of all appellate judges on nonpartisan ballots.
- measures to allow nonpartisan election of judges in counties of over 500,000 on a local option basis.

We are opposing the bills that provide for nonpartisan elections with no provision for a screening mechanism to ensure that the candidates are qualified for the office and that do not eliminate the need for extensive fund raising and campaigning. Our position calls for appointment of judges from a list of nominees who have been screened for their knowledge of the law, experience, and their character, who will then be rejected or retained by the voters in a nonpartisan, noncompetitive at the end of each term of office.

Lavora Arizaga

FINANCING STATE GOVERNMENT

Relative to other states, Texas would appear to be in excellent financial condition. The state will have a surplus at the end of this biennium and projections of revenue for the next biennium indicate substantial increases.

In recent sessions, when lawmakers put together a budget, they were forced to spend much of the state's increases in revenue to cover higher costs due to inflation.

Although inflation is now moderate, there are great demands on the state to provide more and better services.

This growing demand for services is the result of several factors: a growing population, the shifting of responsibilities from the federal government to state and local government, and the pressing need to address certain issues which, because of political or funding problems, have been deferred for many years. In addition, cities, counties, and school districts which are all heavily dependent on property tax revenues are finding their taxpayers in a rebellious mood and are turning to the state for greater financial assistance in certain areas.

Because of these budgetary pressures on the state, the LWV-Texas will be closely monitoring any legislation which would provide new or increased revenues.

We will use the LWV criteria for equitable taxation when evaluating proposals.

We also anticipate that there will be a number of proposals for new or expanded dedicated funds. These proposals are primarily generated by a fear that future legislators may not deal kindly with certain areas. The League will continue to insist that flexibility is needed in the state's finance structure and we will oppose any increases in constitutionally dedicated funds.

Jan Albers

PROPERTY TAXATION

Property tax, the mainstay of city, county, school district, and special district budgets, is currently being attacked from all sides. There are many reasons for this, but three factors are worth mentioning.

- Inflation has caused property values to rise faster than personal incomes.
- The earning power of certain segments of the population, notably farmers, has decreased to such an extent that property taxes are a real burden.
- In Texas, many problems have arisen during the implementation of a new property tax appraisal system.

League members will recall that the state's old system of property tax administration also had many serious problems and this is contributing to the difficulties during the transition period. Many districts were appraising property way below market value and were seldom, if ever, doing general reappraisals. The increases in appraisals in such districts this year would have been very large even without inflationary pressures.

Correcting the problems of the property tax system at this point in time has been painful indeed. Adding to the pain are the logistical and technical problems associated with the transition to single appraisal districts. It is important to note, however, that the greatest public outcry during the transition has come from those areas that had previously done the poorest job of property tax administration.

During this legislative session the LWV will be monitoring some "fine-tuning" proposals to the Property Tax Code. But our greatest efforts must be directed toward preventing further erosion of the property tax base. As in recent session, there are a tremendous number of bills being filed to grant further tax exemptions or benefits. There is seldom data to justify these exemptions, but legislators like to take credit for passing a "tax-relief" bill. Of course, there usually isn't any real "tax-relief." Without state reimbursement to local governments, there is usually just a shifting of the tax burden. This can result in great inequities.

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PROPERTY TAXATION (contd.)

The LWV-Texas will continue to advocate that exemptions or benefits should be targeted to those most in need. We will oppose new or expanded property tax exemptions, especially constitutionally mandated ones.

Jan Albers

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During the legislative session the LWV will be monitoring some "line-item" proposals aimed at property tax. But our greatest efforts must be directed toward preventing further erosion of the property tax base. At the recent session, there are a number of bills being filed to grant further tax exemptions or benefits. There is seldom data to justify these exemptions, but legislators like to take credit for passing a "tax-relief" bill. When local governments, there is usually just a shifting of the tax burden. This can result in great inequities.

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ORGANIZATION

During the first year of the biennium two Leagues disbanded and membership declined. There is happier news this year. Membership did not decline, and two League groups advanced in status. The former Greater Kerrville State Unit is now a provisional League; the Montgomery County Provisional League is on the brink of attaining full local League recognition. We say, "Well done, and welcome."

In the fall, regional workshops were offered in Arlington, Houston, Midland, and San Antonio. The workshops were designed to cover a full range of community relations, i.e., Development/Finance, VS/CI, VOTER/Publications, and overall Public Relations.

Further organizational activities during the year are contained in the following reports from the membership/units and field service directors.

Beth Brown

STATE UNITS AND MEMBERS AT LARGE

As a result of the LWVUS membership campaign (Action Packed Politics), and an election year, 1982 brought new members into our state units and increased the number of our members-at-large (MALs). We were especially impressed that one of our state units (Kerrville) applied for and received a grant of \$100 which they used in their membership drive.

During the biennium, two new state units were organized--Alvin and Burleson. The Port Lavaca state unit has disbanded, with five members retaining their member-at-large status. Currently, we have 180 members-at-large, including 37 who live in communities without a state unit. As of January 1, 1983, our state units were:

<u>State Unit</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
Alvin	21	Velma McLane	Beth Brown
Burleson	16	Lin Clark	Myrtle McMahan
Cleburne	10	Jackie Cunningham	Ethel Sturgis
Greater Kerrville	50	Beverly Reagan	Rowena Rodgers
Pasadena	46	Charlie Tamez	Helen Hunter

Since January 1, Greater Kerrville has attained provisional League status.

- more -

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State Units/Members-at-Large (cont.)

One member-at-large was gained by having joined at the national level, and distribution of our state Voters Guides brought a household membership.

While the main responsibility of the membership director is overseeing the state units and MALs, another challenge has been to review some organization manuals. Completed were a revision of State Unit Guidelines and A Guide to the Discussion Unit--The Heart of League Activity. There is also the ever-present challenge to present ideas to local membership chairmen for increasing membership. Congratulations to all in local membership drives!

Eleanor Sutherland

FIELD SERVICE

Field service representatives have kept in touch with their assigned Leagues regularly throughout the year, maintaining the link between local Leagues and the state board, and advising local Leagues upon request. Twenty-one of our thirty-four Leagues have been visited by field service representatives; full board training was provided for fifteen of these. In addition, six visits have been made by state board members to speak on selected subjects.

The good news is that membership in local Leagues is up by an average of 7.7%. Twenty-five Leagues reported a membership increase; fifteen of these were increases of 10% or more. CONGRATULATIONS! Continuing this trend while retaining newcomers will be your challenge in the year ahead.

Field service representatives and the state board are keenly aware of the difficulties encountered by local Leagues in which members, in increasing numbers, are joining the work force outside the home. Our challenge will be to develop techniques to maintain the high standards of the League in light of the limited volunteer time of many League members.

A special field service project this year has been the preparation of a new Fundamentals for Local League Boards. It was a cooperative effort by field service representatives and several members of the state board. It will be distributed to local League presidents at convention and sent on DPM soon thereafter.

There will be some changes in the field service assignments at the beginning of the new biennium, and local League presidents will be advised as soon as the new assignments are made.

Ethel Sturgis

1982-83 PROFILE OF TEXAS LEAGUES

LEAGUE	Date Organized	Miles From State Office	Basic Dues	Membership		1982-83 Budget	Attendance at Workshops & Conferences		
				1/1/82	1/1/83		SC	NC	PR
Abilene	1952	216	\$20.00	36	31	\$ 3,548	x	x	x
Amarillo	1951	485	25.00	35	37	4,470	x	x	x
Arlington	1981	197	25.00	68	76	8,400	x	x	x
Austin	1919		22.50	242	285	24,271	x	x	x
Bay Area	1965	190	20.00	80	110	6,287	x	x	x
Baytown	1954	190	20.00	56	62	3,604	x	x	x
Beaumont	1947	247	20.00	124	145	9,550	x	x	x
Brazos County	1966	103	20.00	79	110	5,914	x	x	x
Corpus Christi	1945	194	18.00	123	124	7,906	x	x	x
Dallas	1938	202	26.00	355	372	35,065	x	x	x
Denton	1961	232	25.00	84	87	8,128	x	x	x
Edinburg/McAllen	1949	304	20.00	30	38	2,040	x	x	x
El Paso	1919	583	25.00	53	51	2,955	x	x	x
Gainsville	1977	256	20.00	45	40	2,083	x	x	x
Galveston	1919	208	21.25	119	123	9,629	x	x	x
Houston Area	1919	162	25.00	600	601	37,660	x	x	x
Ed Fund						93,183	x	x	x
Irving	1959	210	20.00	59	57	14,055	x	x	x
Lubbock	1952	377	25.00	114	130	7,164	x	x	x
Marshall/Harrison Co.	1978	281	25.00	28	45	2,500	x	x	x
Midland	1941	305	22.00	48	38	5,415	x	x	x
Odessa	1952	339	20.00	17	17	1,745	x	x	x
Orange Area	1974	263	20.00	34	38	3,425	x	x	x
Pearland Area	1972	185	20.00	24	25	1,345	x	x	x
Plano	1976	225	22.00	42	56	6,670	x	x	x
Richardson	1961	218	25.00	50	53	4,128	x	x	x
Rockwall County	1979	230	20.00	41	33	3,130	x	x	x
San Antonio Area	1919	80	25.00	199	189	24,800	x	x	x
San Marcos	1962	31	20.00	33	26	1,778	x	x	x
Sherman	1973	268	21.00	79	80	9,355	x	x	x
Tarrant County	1941	192	25.00	163	193	21,475	x	x	x
Tyler	1951	226	25.00	45	60	4,892	x	x	x
Victoria	1955	123	25.00	40	56	5,267	x	x	x
Waco	1949	106	25.00	71	79	4,861	x	x	x
Wichita Falls	1950	284	21.00	36	37	4,075	x	x	x
				3,252	3,504				

** Workshops & Conferences: SC = State Council NC = National Convention PR = Public Relations Workshop

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PUBLIC RELATIONS

We continue to evolve, becoming more sophisticated in the services we offer voters, in the approaches we choose to get our message to citizens, and by extending our reach in projects to encompass League talents not previously tapped.

The 1980-82 biennium was one of sharpening skills and expanding horizons in Voter Service/Citizen Information, Publications, and Public Relations.

A conference addressing Election Laws and Practices, designed to update League members' knowledge, was highly successful. Following the lead of an outstanding panel of speakers, Leagues across the state increased VS/CI activities in conducting elections.

Publications took on a more professional look and marketing was more successful, thus getting our message to more citizens. Women Under Texas Law had the highest sales in the shortest time of any previously published Facts & Issues. The companion piece, Exercising Your Legal Rights, is expected to do as well.

The state Voters Guide continues to be of inestimable value to the League. A larger format, with photographs of candidates, made the three Guides published this biennium some of the most comprehensive tools to which voters had access for decision making at election time.

A series of four workshops held around the state offered League members practical advice in Development/Finance, VS/CI, local VOTERS, publications, and public relations.

Recognizing the importance of the electronic media in reaching the widest audience, the LWV-Texas Education Fund presented a gubernatorial debate in cooperation with Texas Monthly--the first ever to be televised live statewide. It was a tremendous success. Debate '82 offered voters in Texas an opportunity to see, hear, and evaluate the two leading contenders for the governorship as they came face to face to speak on issues.

This convention will hear a workshop presentation on Cable TV and public access to that medium. As we move into a new biennium it is important that we not lose the hard-earned skills of the past, but rather evaluate, condense, or add to them as we compete with many voices for the citizen's ear. This we must do if we are to have increased citizen participation in government.

Jeanette Davis

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PUBLICATIONS

Publications produced during 1982-83:

PROGRAM-ACTION

1983 Legislative Priorities

Advocacy Papers:

- . Solid Waste Management
- . D.C. Congressional Representation
- . Human Resources
- . Alimony
- . Merit Selection of Judges

PROGRAM

Focus: Aid to Families With Dependent Children
Women Under Texas Law
Exercising Your Legal Rights

VOTER INFORMATION

When You Go To Austin--A Guide to the 68th Legislature
May 1982 Primary Election Voters Guide
November 1982 General Election Voters Guide

BOARD TOOLS

A Guide to the Discussion Unit--The Heart of League Activity
Fundamentals for Local League Boards
1982-83 LWV-T Directory

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• Attorney
• North Carolina of Judges

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BYLAWS PROPOSALS

Following are the changes recommended by the LWV-Texas Bylaws Committee as well as those received from local Leagues.

[] indicates deletion; _____ indicates substituted language or language to be incorporated

ARTICLE VII. Financial Administration

Sec. 2. Local and Provisional League Financial Support

- (b) Each local League shall support the state League by an annual per-member payment, based on membership as of January 1st. Where two members reside at the same address in a common household, the local League may make a payment equal to 1 1/2 times the determined per-member payment. The amount of such payment for each year of the biennium shall be determined by a three-fifths vote of those members present and voting at convention. No per-member payment shall be assessed for life members.

Change proposed for clarification.

--Recommended by the state board.

Sec. 3. Statewide Fundraising

- [(a)] Responsibility for additional support for the League of Women Voters of Texas shall be assumed by the board of directors [through a development committee] which shall develop and solicit other sources for funding the state League. Funds raised as a result of solicitations in local League areas shall be shared with the respective local League under a policy adopted by the state board of directors.

- [(b)] Solicitation and funds raised as a result of solicitation of outside sources in local League areas shall be shared with the respective League under a policy approved by a majority vote of those members present and voting at convention.]

The change both reaffirms the state League's commitment to share contributions and allows some flexibility, particularly in restricted grants or when a donor specifically requests that the contribution not be shared. The present formula is 20% or a percentage of restricted grants. Also, there might be a time in the future when the state board faces significant recurring financial limitations, necessitating a reduction in the percentage. Under no circumstances could the formula be reduced to 0.

--Recommended by the state board.

ARTICLE IX. Council

- Sec. 3. Authorization for Action. [The council shall consider program, methods of work, and budget as submitted by the board of directors.] The council shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year. Upon recommendation of the state board or any local League, the council may make an addition to the

Bylaws Proposals (cont.)

program in the event of an emergency. A local League shall submit any proposed addition to the state board at least 8 weeks in advance of the meeting of the council. An addition proposed by a local League or by the state board must be sent to the local League presidents at least one month in advance of council. A 2/3 vote of the members of the council present and voting shall be required to make an addition to the program. Council may transact such other business as is duly presented.

Change is proposed to clarify role of council and more nearly conform to LWVUS Bylaws.

--Recommended by the state board.

ARTICLE X. Nominations and Elections.

Sec. 1. Nominating Committee. The nominating committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the board of directors. The chairman and two members, who shall not be members of the board of directors, shall be elected by the convention. [Nominations for these offices shall be made from the floor.] The other members of the committee shall be appointed by the board of directors immediately upon their taking office. Vacancies

Change is proposed to make Sec. 1 consistent with Sec. 3 provision permitting (not mandating) floor nominations.

Proposed by LWV-Houston Area (1981).

--Recommended by the state board.

Sec. 3. Report of Nominating Committee and Nominations From the Floor. The report of the nominating committee of its nominations for officers, directors, and the chairman and two members of the succeeding nominating committee [,] shall be sent to local Leagues. . . .

Editorial change.

--Recommended by the state board.

Sec. 3. Authorization for Action. [The council shall consider program, methods of work, and budget as submitted by the board of directors.] The council shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year. Upon recommendation of the state board or any local league, the council may make an addition to the

BYLAWS

of the

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

Adopted June 19, 1947

Amended 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1981

STATE CHARTER

As Amended August 10, 1956

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

THAT WE, Mrs. Harris Masterson and Ruth Hastings, residents and citizens of Harris County, Texas, and Mrs. Carl L. Voss, a resident and citizen of Dallas County, Texas, under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Texas, do hereby voluntarily associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a private corporation, under the terms and conditions set out as follows:

- I. The name of this corporation shall be the League of Women Voters of Texas.
- II. The purpose for which this corporation is formed is in support of an educational undertaking and specifically to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government; to render such other services in the interest of education in citizenship as may be possible, and to do every act appropriate or necessary to carry out any of the foregoing objects. The corporation shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.
- III. The principal office of the corporation and the place where its business shall be transacted is the City of Austin, Travis County, Texas.
- IV. The term for which it is to exist is fifty (50) years.
- V. The number of directors shall be not less than three, nor more than twenty-one; and the names and post office addresses of the directors for the first year are as follows:

Mrs. Harris Masterson	Houston, Texas
Mrs. Carl L. Voss	Dallas, Texas
Ruth Hastings	Houston, Texas

- VI. This corporation is formed for the support of an educational undertaking as specified in Article II without profit to the corporation and, therefore, has no capital stock. This corporation has now no goods, chattels, nor lands.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we hereunto sign our names this, the 18th day of December, A. D. 1930.

Mrs. Harris Masterson
Ruth Hastings
Mrs. Carl L. Voss

ARTICLE I. Name

Sec. 1. The name of this corporation shall be the League of Women Voters of Texas. This state League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

ARTICLE II. Purpose and Policy

Sec. 1. Purpose. The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Texas is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Sec. 2. Political Policy. The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

ARTICLE III. Membership

Sec. 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Sec. 2. Types of Membership. The membership of the League shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

- a. Voting members shall be those citizens at least 18 years of age who are enrolled in the League at the local or state level;
 1. members who reside outside the area of any local League and join the League at the state level shall be members at large and shall pay annual dues to the state League;
 2. members who have been enrolled in the League for 50 years or more shall be life members and shall not be required to pay annual dues.
- b. All others who enroll in the League shall be associate members. Those who reside outside the United States may join the League at the national level and shall pay dues to the League of Women Voters of the United States.

ARTICLE IV. Officers

Sec. 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The officers of the League of Women Voters of Texas shall be a president, three vice presidents, a secretary, and a treasurer.

Sec. 2. The President. The duties of the president shall be: to preside, or to designate someone else to preside, at all meetings of the corporation and the board of directors; to sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes in the absence or disability of the treasurer; to be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the nominating committee; to have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office; and to perform such other duties as may be designated by the board.

Sec. 3. The Vice Presidents. At its first board meeting the new board of directors shall designate one vice president who, in the event of the absence, disability, resignation, or death of the president, shall possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office. Should the vice president so designated be unable to serve in that capacity, the board of directors shall choose one of its other elected members to fill the vacancy. The duties of the vice presidents shall be those designated by the president and the board.

Sec. 4. The Secretary. The duties of the secretary shall be: to keep minutes of all conventions and councils of the League and of all meetings of the board of directors; to notify all officers and directors of their election; to sign, with the president, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the board; and to perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Sec. 5. The Treasurer. The duties of the treasurer, or the duly-appointed assistant, shall be: to collect and receive all monies; to be custodian of these monies and deposit them in a bank or banks designated by the board of directors; to disburse them only upon order of the board; and to present periodic statements to the board at its regular meetings and an annual report to convention or council. The treasurer shall be bonded, and the books of the corporation shall be audited annually.

ARTICLE V. Board of Directors

Sec. 1. Number, Manner of Selection, and Term of Office. The board of directors shall consist of the officers of the League of Women Voters of Texas, seven elected directors, and not more than seven appointed directors. The officers and the elected directors shall be elected by the convention and shall serve for two years beginning June 1 of the year of their election. The elected members shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding seven, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The term of office of the appointed directors shall expire concurrently with the term of office of the elected directors.

Sec. 2. Qualifications. No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this corporation unless that person is a voting member enrolled in a local League in the state of Texas, or is a citizen of voting age enrolled as a member at large of this state League.

Sec. 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy other than in the office of the president may be filled, until the next convention, by a majority vote of the remaining members present and voting of the board of directors.

Sec. 4. Powers and Duties. The board of directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the corporation with full power and authority to manage and conduct the same, subject to the instructions of the convention. The board shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program on state governmental matters as adopted by the convention. It shall accept responsibility delegated to it by the board of directors of the League of Women Voters of the United States for the organization and development of local Leagues, for the carrying out of program, and for promotion in the local Leagues of finance programs requisite to further the work of the League as a whole. The board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Sec. 5. Regular meetings. There shall be at least three regular meetings of the board of directors annually. The president shall notify each member of the board of directors of all such regular meetings by mailing to each member's last-known post office address, at least two weeks before any such meeting, notice thereof, giving the time and place of the meeting. No action taken at any regular board meeting attended by three-fourths of the members of the board shall be invalidated because of the failure of any member or members of the board to receive any notice properly sent or because of any irregularity in any notice actually received.

Sec. 6. Special Meetings. The president may call special meetings of the board of directors, and shall call a special meeting upon written request of five members of the board. Members of the board shall be notified of the time and place of special meetings by telegrams or letters, sent at least six days prior to such meeting, provided, however, that during a convention the president may, or upon the request of five members of the board shall, call a special meeting of the board by handing the members of the board a written notice of the time and place of said meeting.

Sec. 7. Quorum. A majority of the members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of the members in attendance at any board meeting in the number of a quorum shall decide its action.

ARTICLE VI. Recognition of Local and Provisional Leagues and State Units.Sec. 1. Local Leagues.

- (a) Local Leagues are those Leagues which have been recognized by the League of Women Voters of the United States.
- (b) The board of directors shall recommend to the national board that the national board recognize as a local League any group of members of the League of Women Voters of the United States in any community within the state, provided the group meets recognition standards for local Leagues as adopted by the national convention.
- (c) In the event of recurring failure of a local League to meet recognition standards, the board of directors shall recommend to the national board that

the national board withdraw recognition from the local League. All funds held by a local League from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Texas.

Sec. 2. Provisional Leagues.

- (a) Provisional Leagues are those Leagues which have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of Texas.
- (b) The board of directors has responsibility for the establishment of new local Leagues. For this purpose the board may organize a group of people in a community in which no League exists and shall recognize the group as a provisional League when it meets the recognition standards for provisional Leagues adopted by the national convention.
- (c) The board of directors shall withdraw recognition from a provisional League for recurring failure to meet the standards for recognizing a provisional League or for failure to progress toward recognition as a local League. All funds held by a provisional League from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Texas.

Sec. 3. State Units

- (a) A state unit is a group, composed of members at large, who wish to share League activities in the community under the direction of the state board.
- (b) The board of directors of the League of Women Voters of Texas has the responsibility for the establishment of state units. State units may be organized in communities in which no local League exists and where it is not possible at the time to carry on the full program of local League activities.

ARTICLE VII. Financial Administration

Sec. 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Texas shall commence on the first of June of each year.

Sec. 2. Local and Provisional League Financial Support.

- (a) Financial responsibility for the work of the League of Women Voters of Texas shall be assumed annually by the local Leagues.
- (b) Each local League shall support the state League by an annual per-member payment, based on membership as of January 1st. Where two members reside at the same address in a common household, the local League may make a payment equal to 1 1/2 times the determined per-member payment. The amount of such payment for each year of the biennium shall be determined by a three-fifths vote of those members present and voting at convention.
- (c) Annual minimum state support payment shall be established for local Leagues as determined by a three-fifths vote of those members present and voting at convention.
- (d) Annual support payments from provisional Leagues shall be determined by the board of directors.

Sec. 3. Statewide Fundraising.

- (a) Responsibility for additional support for the League of Women Voters of Texas shall be assumed by the board of directors through a development committee which shall develop and solicit other sources for funding the state League.
- (b) Solicitation and funds raised as a result of solicitation of outside sources in local League areas shall be shared with the respective League under a policy approved by a majority vote of those members present and voting at convention.

Sec. 4. The Budget and Budget Committee.

- (a) The board shall submit to the convention or council for adoption a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. This budget shall provide for the support of the state League. A copy of the proposed budget shall be sent to each local League president at least one month in advance of convention or council.

- (b) The budget shall be prepared by a committee which shall be appointed for that purpose at least four months in advance of the convention or council. The treasurer shall be ex-officio a member of the budget committee, but shall not be eligible to serve as chairman.

Sec. 5. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of a dissolution for any cause of the League of Women Voters of Texas, all monies and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the absolute control of the League of Women Voters of Texas shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of the United States after the board of directors has paid or made provision for the payment of all the liabilities of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

ARTICLE VIII. Convention.

Sec. 1. Place, Date, Call, and Notification. A convention of the League of Women Voters of Texas shall be held during the odd-numbered years. The time and place of the convention shall be determined by the board of directors. The president shall send a first call for the convention to the presidents of local Leagues not less than four months prior to the opening date of the convention fixed in said call. Thereafter, the board of directors may advance or postpone the opening date of the convention not more than two weeks from the date fixed in the first call. A final call for the convention shall be sent by the president to the presidents of local Leagues at least two months before convention.

Sec. 2. Composition. The convention shall consist of the delegates chosen by members of the local Leagues, as provided in Sec. 4 of this article; the president of each local League or an alternate, in the event the president is unable to attend; and the members of the board of directors of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

Sec. 3. Qualifications of Delegates and Voting. Voting members at the convention shall be the delegates, local League presidents, and state board members, all of whom must be members of the League of Women Voters of Texas. Even though attending in more than one capacity, each shall be entitled to only one vote at the convention. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted. The convention shall be the sole judge of whether a delegate is qualified to vote.

Sec. 4. Representation. The members of the League of Women Voters of the United States who are organized into recognized local Leagues in the state of Texas shall be entitled to voting representation in the convention as follows: the president of the local League or an alternate, in the event the president is unable to attend; one delegate for the first 15 voting members and one delegate for every 10 additional voting members or major fraction thereof belonging to said local League on January 1st of said year. The record in the state office of paid voting members shall determine the official membership count for this purpose.

Sec. 5. Authorization for Action. The convention shall consider and authorize for action a program, shall elect officers, directors, and the chairman and two members of the nominating committee, shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year, and shall transact such other business as may be presented.

Sec. 6. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered at the convention provided that not less than a majority of local Leagues are represented.

ARTICLE IX. Council.

Sec. 1. Place, Date, Call, and Notification. A meeting of the council shall be held in the interim year between conventions, approximately twelve months after the preceding convention. The time and place of the meeting shall be determined by the board of directors. A formal call shall be sent by the president to the presidents of the local Leagues at least thirty days before a council meeting. Special meetings may be called in case of extreme emergency.

Sec. 2. Composition. The council shall be composed of two delegates chosen by the board of each local League, and the board of directors of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

Sec. 3. Authorization for Action. The council shall consider program, methods of work, and budget as submitted by the board of directors. Upon recommendation of the state board or any local League, the council may make an addition to the program in the event of an emergency. A local League shall submit any proposed addition to the state board at least 8 weeks in advance of the meeting of the council. An addition proposed by a local League or by the state board must be sent to the local League presidents at least one month in advance of council. A 2/3 vote of the members of the council present and voting shall be required to make an addition to the program. The council shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year, and shall transact such other business as shall be presented.

Sec. 4. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered at the council provided that not less than a majority of local Leagues is represented.

ARTICLE X. Nominations and Elections.

Sec. 1. Nominating Committee. The nominating committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the board of directors. The chairman and two members, who shall not be members of the board of directors, shall be elected by the convention. Nominations for these offices shall be made from the floor. The other members of the committee shall be appointed by the board of directors immediately upon their taking office. Vacancies occurring in the nominating committee by reason of death, resignation, or disqualification shall be filled by the board of directors. The president of the League of Women Voters of Texas shall send the name and address of the chairman of the nominating committee to the president of each recognized local League. It shall be the duty of the chairman of the nominating committee to request through the president of each local League suggestions for nominations for the offices to be filled.

Sec. 2. Suggestions by Local Leagues. The president of each local League shall request suggestions for nominations for offices to be filled. Any member may send suggestions to the chairman of the nominating committee.

Sec. 3. Report of Nominating Committee and Nominations From the Floor. The report of the nominating committee of its nominations for officers, directors, and the chairman and two members of the succeeding nominating committee, shall be sent to local Leagues not less than one month before the date of the convention. The report of the nominating committee shall be presented to the convention on the first day of the convention. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any member of the convention provided that the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Sec. 4. Election. The election shall be in the charge of an election committee appointed by the president on the first day of convention. The election shall be by ballot; if there is but one nominee for each office, then it shall be by voice vote. A majority vote of the members present and voting shall constitute an election.

ARTICLE XI. Program.

Sec. 1. Principles. The governmental principles adopted by the national convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for adoption of program.

Sec. 2. Program. The program of the League of Women Voters of Texas shall consist of: a) action to protect the right to vote of every citizen; and b) those governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

Sec. 3. Program Selection. The convention shall select the governmental issues for concerted study and action using the following procedures:

- (a) Local League boards may make recommendations to the board of directors at least three months prior to the convention.
- (b) The board of directors shall consider the recommendations and formulate a proposed program which shall be submitted to local League boards at least one month before convention.
- (c) A majority vote of the members present and voting shall be required for adoption.
- (d) Any recommendations for the program submitted at least three months prior to the convention but not recommended by the board, may be adopted by the convention provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote of the members present and voting and the vote on adoption comes on a following day. Adoption of a not-recommended item requires a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting.

Sec. 4. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters of Texas only when authorized to do so by the board of directors of the League of Women Voters of Texas. Local Leagues may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the League of Women Voters of Texas and/or the League of Women Voters of the United States.

ARTICLE XII. National Convention and Council.

Sec. 1. National Convention. The board of directors, at a meeting before the date on which names of delegates must be sent to the national office, shall elect delegates to the convention in the number allowed the League of Women Voters of Texas under the provision of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Sec. 2. National Council. The board of directors shall elect delegates to the meeting of the council of the League of Women Voters of the United States at its meeting immediately preceding such council meeting in the number allowed the League of Women Voters of Texas under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

ARTICLE XIII. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the corporation in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV. Amendments.

Sec. 11. Amendments. These bylaws may be amended at any convention by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting using the following procedures:

- (a) Proposals for change shall be submitted by local boards to the board of directors at least three months prior to convention.
- (b) All such proposed amendments, together with the recommendations of the board shall be sent by the board to the presidents of local Leagues at least one month prior to convention.
- (c) The presidents of the local Leagues shall notify the members of their respective Leagues of the proposed amendments. The failure of a local League president to give such notice or failure of any member to receive such notice shall not invalidate the amendments to the bylaws.