

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Galveston, Texas

Signed by Joan K. Benner Office: Program - Vice President

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 27

How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Our evaluation of the present Texas Executive - appointed and elected is that it is top heavy, lacks guidelines and should be more responsive to control by the Governor.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

None

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Commissioner of Agriculture, Comptroller, Treasurer. There was disagreement over whether the Railroad Commission should be elected or appointed by the Governor.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Combine office of Comptroller and Treasurer

(OVER)

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CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

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Our evaluation of the present Texas Executive - appointed and elected is that it is top heavy, lacks guidelines and should be more responsive to control by the Governor.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

None

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Commissioner of Agriculture, Comptroller, Treasurer. There was disagreement over whether the Railroad Commission should be elected or appointed by the Governor.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Combine office of Comptroller and Treasurer

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Appoint Treasurer and All Commissioners which we don't elect

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

This should be done

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Consolidate all Boards according to function.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Yes

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The Governor

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

League of Women Voters of Texas

FEB 24 1970



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

2-19-70

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Hendlingen, Texas

Signed by Mrs. Wayne Potter Office: vice-president
Mrs. Wayne Potter

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 10

How many meetings were held? Units? General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Very Cumbersome. Governor should have more authority commensurate with responsibilities with which he is charged.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

see III

B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

see III

C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

see III

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

see III

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

see III

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Yes - cabinet type executive branch of state government. Four year terms for governor and lt. governor

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Cumbersome and inefficient and expensive; overlapping in some areas and leaving confusing gaps in others

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team? >

No opinion on running together; four year terms for both.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

Joint committee of legislature with advice and recommendations of governor.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

Governor and lieutenant governor elected for four terms; cabinet type executive branch of state government/^{with cabinet heads} appointed by governor with approval of legislature. Establish a sound merit system. A specified number of boards and commissions which are responsible to governor and to the cabinet officers; these to be appointed by governor with approval and recommendations of cabinet officers.

RETURN 3 COPIES TO STATE OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 28, 1970

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FEB 20 1970

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Beaumont, Texas

Signed by Mrs. J.P. Mooneyham Office: State Program Chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 25

How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership? No, but discussd at Board meeting

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Feel it needs to be changed- Consolidation of many Boards would make Exec. Dept. more efficient. Governor should be able to appoint and remove more members of Boards. Also need to reduce number of elected officials.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease: A shorter ballot would be better. More officials should be appointed.

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Commissioner of Agriculture, Comptroller, Commissioner of General Land Office.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Treasurer and Comptroller should be combined under Secretary of Treasury. Some felt that office of Lt. Governor should be Abolished.

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Yes, Comm. of Agriculture, Commissioner of General Land Office.

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Thinks this would be a good idea.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Thinks there is too much overlapping. Many are unnecessary and ineffectual. Many have similar functions and much money could be saved by combining.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Most felt they should run as a team. Small minority felt they should not.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The Governor should prepare the only budget submitted to the Legislature, and also provide bills for revenue.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

The Gov. and Lt. Gov. would run as a team. The number of elected cabinet members could be cut-- these would be appointed by Gov. with power to also remove if necessary. Gov. should appoint all department heads, chairmen of Boards & commissions, and members. Number of Boards would be cut by combining functions. The Gov. should submit only budget prepared, and should generally have more power. Should be elected for 4 year term.

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JAN 16 1970 JAN 20 RECD

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Corsicana

Signed by Mrs. R. Bellisley Office: President

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 8

How many meetings were held? Units? 3 General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

It is divided into so many departments that we find it amazing that the Executive Department is able to function at all.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Comptroller; Commissioner of Agriculture; Railroad Commission (or at least the Railroad Commission needs to be made larger)

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

We give a tentative yes that some of the positions be abolished. The Commissioner of Agriculture seems that it could be abolished.

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Commissioner of General Land Office--appointed
Comptroller could rise through the civil service ranks
of that office.

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

A cabinet type executive branch would be a tremendous improvement over the present form. We do feel that such a reorganization will be a long time in coming.

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

With so many Boards and Commissions, we find it amazing that the state is able to function. The Executive Department should be able to function much more efficiently if the Boards and Commissions were divided into a limited number of departments established according to function.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team? With our present state Constitution giving the lieutenant governor the control over the Senate that he has, we feel that they should not run as a team.

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

With our present state Constitution, the budget is about the only way the Governor has of presenting a coordinated program so we feel that he should prepare the budget with the advise of the Comptroller and financial advisors.

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

FEB 12 1970

OCT 11 1969

FEB 16 1970

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Ballas

Signed by Margaret Hunter Office: Committee Chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 165

How many meetings were held? Units? 1 General membership? 1

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Disorganized, weak, lacking in authority, and dependent on the personality of the governor.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease-

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Comptroller, Treasurer, Agriculture, Land Commissioner
Divided on Attorney General, Board of Education and Railroad

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

No.

6 units recommend combining Treasurer and
Comptroller.

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Comptroller, Treasurer, Agriculture, Land Commissioner
Divided on Att. General, Education and Railroad Comm.

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Approve

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Lack of efficiency and coordination with overlapping functions.
We would like more study on individual boards and commissions.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

No Consensus

*Actually have
Consensus*

5 units -yes. 7 units said yes if- governor stronger; cabinet type executive; executive instead of legislative; etc. 1 unit-no consensus

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

Governor

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

We would like to see a State Government in line with the Model State Government, with a 4 year term for the Governor, a cabinet appointed by the Governor with removal power for his appointees. We would like a limited number of departments grouped by function.

FEB 27 1970

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Austin

Signed by Bonella Korian Office: Ch. Texas Exec. Com.

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 41

How many meetings were held? Units? 4 General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

The present structure is weak, cumbersome and inefficient.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

A decrease in the number of elected officials.

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Commissioner of Agriculture, Treasurer, Controller, Commissioner of General Land Office and Railroad Commissioners. There was some support for not electing Att. General & Bd. of Education members.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

None of these offices should be abolished. There was some support for abolishing the office of Lt. governor.

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones? The officers no longer elected should be appointed by the governor with senate approval. The governor should have removal power with safeguards against abuse.

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function? The Austin league approves. The Austin league approves such a change. Agreement was unanimous that such changes be accompanied with the establishment of a sound merit system for state employees. There was feeling that this consensus question was slanted.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department? There should be reorganization of the Boards & Commissions to reduce the number, eliminate duplicate functional areas & reduce the use of ex officio members. It was felt more study was needed in this area of government.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

The governor and lieutenant governor should run as a team.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The governor should prepare the budget. There was some support for a legislative budget.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

RETURN 3 COPIES TO STATE OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 28, 1970

FEB 1 RECD

JAN 26

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

*Critical of
Questions*

League of Women Voters of Victoria, Texas

Signed by Viola Tompkins Office: Secretary

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 15

How many meetings were held? Units? 4 General membership? 25

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Despite the fact that the Texas State Government does function with remarkable results, this governmental machinery can only be described as unwieldy.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

We suggest a decrease in the number of elected officials.

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

The Governor and Lt. Governor should be elected.

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

The Governor should have the power to appoint all necessary department heads, subject to confirmation by the Senate, in order to form a Cabinet.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

This change, hopefully would delete deadwood, and realign the departments in keeping with changing governmental functions.

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

The necessary department heads, who would make up the Cabinet.

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Same as II - C, 1&2.

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

We feel that State Boards and Commissions need to be more responsible to Texas citizens on the local level. Standardization of qualifications should be spelled out in order that the Governor and his department heads be given guidelines by which to choose his appointees for boards and commissions.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?
As long as the Lt. Governor retains his present powers over the Legislature, the idea of team-running is Premature.

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The Governor should propose the budget.

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

(Our league feels that repetition and wording of these questions were vague and confusing.)

FEB 4 1970

FEB 9 RECD

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Waco

Signed by Lynne Schell Office: Sec

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 8

How many meetings were held? Units? _____ General membership? 1

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Unwieldy and lacking in organization as well as weak and ineffectual.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease - according to ~~majority~~ almost but not all status quo - minority opinion

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected? *Land Com, Agric, Railroad Com, Ed, Hwy, It sh should remain with govt - approximately with Senate approval*
2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

NO

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

yes

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

yes - needed

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

No control by the Executive dept

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

yes

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

Gov

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

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FEB 27 1970

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

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October 1969

League of Women Voters of Wichita Falls, Texas

Signed by Alesa Larson Office: President

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 11 + 5 = 16

How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership? plus board meeting

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government? time to lobby in commissions and agencies and legislature for his program. Executive dept should have agency and department heads appointed by the governor with legislative approval (senate?) so as to have loyalty to governor. Departmentalization is needed with restrictions to streamline agencies within departments.

II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Definitely no increase. Decrease preferred.

B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

All but the governor and Lt. governor
Need cooperation not dissention at the top in the executive department, so fewer should be elected separately.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?
Do not know that any can be abolished; they all seem to have a function.

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

All except the governor and lt. governor with a system of departments. Governor could have a cabinet, not necessarily those who are now elected. Their present positions (elected) might be revamped, consolidated, or otherwise changed.

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

We think this would be excellent and workable for Texas. This would involve consolidation of agencies with a department head responsible to governor.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

These are unwieldy in number, size, and variety. They should be reduced in number, responsible preferably to a dept. head who is in turn responsible to the governor.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Yes.
Definitely ~~yes~~ yes.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

Budget is still a puzzle to many members. Most seemed to feel that the Legislative Budget Board should prepare the budget with governor having a role in preparation. Present executive budget method seems waste of money because it is ignored.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

Cabinet
We would see the executive dept departmentalized with about 20 (+/- 5) departments, heads being appointed by governor with state senate approval and responsible to the governor (open to dismissal). The agencies would be streamlined and efficient. The workers in the executive dept would be covered by a merit system; considerable suspicion was voiced of a civil service system (promotes mediocrity?). The governor and lt. governor would run and campaign together. The lt. governor's powers would remain primarily legislative (per legislature consensus).

We felt that the League's position, if it matched ours, should be strong for these changes yet somehow leaving room in the wording for ~~its~~ flexibility so that if improvement proposals came along, but were not whole and perfect, they could be supported as improvements.

League of Women Voters of Texas

FEB 24 1970



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
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October 1969

League of Women Voters of San Antonio

Signed by Valeska Cox Office: Chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 31

How many meetings were held? Units? 5 General membership? 1

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

The present structure of the Texas Executive Department is weak, ineffective and outdated.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

None

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Commissioner of Agriculture, Comm. of Land Office, Comptroller and Treasurer with a minority feeling that the above plus the Attorney General should be elected.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

A minority felt the Commissioners of Land Office and Agriculture and Comptroller should be abolished.

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones? Secretary of State, Commissioner of Agriculture, Comm. of Land Office, Comptroller, Treasurer, State Board of Education and Railroad Comm.

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

The General Consensus called for a cabinet type executive branch.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

They should be reorganized into larger departments, whose executive heads are appointed by the Governor.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

The majority felt they should run as a team.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The Governor's budget staff to prepare the budget and present to Legislature for approval

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

We would have the Governor and Lt. Governor run as a team. We would have a cabinet type reorganization with some elected officials eliminated and the rest appointed by the Governor. A consolidation of Commissions and Agencies along functional lines.

All unit meetings felt strongly that the Lt. Governor was too powerful and wanted this power reduced. The research committee make the following recommendations:

I. The Lt. Governor position should be clarified. Is he an officer in the Executive Branch or the Legislative Branch of State Government? He is considered a part of the Texas Executive yet his main duties are carried out in the Legislative.

II. Reduce the power of the Lt. Governor.

A. Legislative committees should be selected by a committee with the Lt. Governor as one of the members.

Some system devised whereby Legislators' interest and senoirity allow him to be on committees that he has served on.

B. Chairman of each committee selected by the entire committee----not by Lt. Gov.

C. Majority vote of a committee determines the outcome of a bill or resolution. Oppose the present method of the Chairman overruling the other members.

D. Use of Calendar System or some more fair system of placing bills before the Legislature. Lt. Gov. should not have this power alone.

FEB 23 REC'D

FEB 16 1970

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

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League of Women Voters of the Bay Area

Signed by _____ Office: State Program Chair.

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 27

How many meetings were held? Units? 3 General membership? 1

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Majority wanted changes, changes that require Constitutional Revision. Governor should have powers to appoint only when he can have power to recall.

II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Decrease number of Commissions, each commission should be titled explicitly so that its name imply its function.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

At present, no.

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Commissions of Agriculture, Land Office, Education, Railroad, should be appointed by Governor. Governor should have power of recall.

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch would be desirable. However, TCR would be the first step in that direction. *TCR did not*

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Majority felt more information needed on this. However, there seems room for consolidation of Boards and Commissions, with coordination and consolidation of functions.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Majority felt they should run separately. All felt the powers of the Lt. Governor should be sharply curtailed. Need TCR.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The Governor should present budget,; timing of the presentation is important, at the beginning of the ~~session~~ legislative session. Legislature should have budget committee as well, to review & pass on it.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

(see attached sheet)

RETURN 3 COPIES TO STATE OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 28, 1970

MEMORANDUM FROM:

League of Women Voters of Texas

MAR 23 RECD

1970

TO: Ruth Martin

From: Gloria Norman

Re: Consensus Reports.

You did not receive reports from Brownsville + Corpus Christi since they only sent 2 reports; I should have mentioned this to you - sorry, they are attached. Yes, Richardson and Brazosport were late.

postmarked 2-27-70 Jayce
MAR 2 1970
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League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Amarillo

Signed by Mrs. Donald Bingham Office: 2nd Vice President and Resource Chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 25

How many meetings were held? Units? 4 General membership? 1

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Present structure not as good as it should be. Check and balance system through Judiciary, Legislative and Executive Departments not really effective as Executive Department is weak and has no real head.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

None

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected? **Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of General Land Office, State Board of Education and Railroad Commission.**

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Not able to answer as it would have to be based on the structure of any reorganization.

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Probably. However, this too would depend on the structure of any reorganization.

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Definitely favored a change in this direction.

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Cannot be at maximum efficiency. There would seem to be overlapping functions and unclear guidelines for responsibilities and accountability. Should be more accountable to the Governor and responsible to him or other elected officials.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

No. We felt that too much power would be centralized in the hands of these men if they ran together as a team. By running separately authority is better balanced.

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The Governor should prepare the budget for the approval of the legislature.

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

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Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Daytown
Signed by Mrs. M. Rosenbaum Office: V. Pres.

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many meetings were held? Units? General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

responsibilities of that department of state government? Change is needed. The Governor needs more responsibility and control. (In Texas, both the Lt. Governor and the Railroad Commissioners have more power than the Governor.)

II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected? Treasurer, Comp. of
and Commissioner of Agriculture. A strong minority felt that

the Commissioner of General Land Office should also be appointed. The Sec. of State should continue to ^{be} appointed.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

The Comptroller of Public Accounts and the Treasurer could be combined, provided there is an independent audit of the state books.

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones? **Treasurer, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Commissioner of Agriculture.**

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function? **Appointment of some of the currently elected officials would be a change in the direction of a cabinet type.**

Some members felt that cabinet heads should be called something other than "Commissioner" to differentiate them from the elected Commissioners; they could perhaps be called "Secretary" or "Director".

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department? **Eliminate duplication by consolidation. Group boards in same field together; for example, all boards concerned with agriculture should be grouped under the Commissioner of Agriculture.**

Each board would be responsible to its department head. The board would set the policies and the head of the department would administer these policies. The boards should no longer elect an outside administrator.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team? **no. If elected as a team, the Lt. Governor may, in effect, become appointed by the Governor. This would make the Governor too powerful.**
The Federal analogy of the President and Vice-President running as a team doesn't hold, because in Texas, election is determined in the primary elections.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?
The Governor. There should not be two budgets.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

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★ **The name of the Railroad Commission should be changed to something more indicative of its actual responsibilities.**

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League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

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League of Women Voters of BRAZOSPORTSigned by Mrs. A. A. Miller Office: State Program Chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

(It was felt by the Board of Directors of this League that 19 out of a membership of 83 could not constitute a consensus.)
How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 19

One for

How many meetings were held? Units? Night General membership? One for Day Units
Unit

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

The remarks here furnished are "points of view" only

Items V and VI are the only definite views of the few participating at the program meeting.

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

AN AREA OF OPINION developed the need for more information in order to make a good assessment of which officers should be elected but

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?
felt qualifications commensurate with office was desirable --particularly the Atty.-General and Treasurer and Comptroller.

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Full information was not available as to the Boards and Commissions' functions; however time would not have allowed much discussion to enlarge on this topic.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Our "area of opinion" was that the governor and lieutenant governor should run as a team.

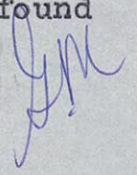
VI. Who should prepare the budget?

Our "area of opinion" was that the governor should prepare the budget. The view was also held that there was need for one FINANCE DEPT. to be in chare of all state funds- in and out-go.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

Note - This committee regrets not being able to develop CONSENSUS as requested but these opinions were expressed by a membership relatively new to League, small in ratio to total member roster, and one "snowed" in the depths of program-making. We found the subject and resource material informative.



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MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

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October 1969

League of Women Voters of Pasadena , Texas

Signed by Mrs. W.H. Williams Office: Chairman State Items

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 25

How many meetings were held? Units? General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Under the present structure of the Exec. Dept. The Governor does not have sufficient power to carry out his responsibilities. Our league believes that the governor should have the power to name more members of this department.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Our members think the elected officers should be decreased.

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Appoint the commission of agriculture ; and the Comm. of General Land Office.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?
Elect the Comm. of Education; the head of the Railroad Comm. but appoint the members. Consolidate the Treasury and the Comptroller office but elect the head.

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Our league would favor a cabinet type executive dept.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Our league favors a consolidation or elimination of some of the boards. The consolidation should be on the basis of function ; We feel that all boards should be accountable to someone higher up as in a cabinet type executive dept.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?
yes-

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

We favor a committee composed of some members of the legislative named by the legislators, and some members named by the governor to prepare the budget, and this committee should work under the direction of the governor.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

We would like to see the state executive patterned on the national government with the boards and commissions organized according to function and held responsible to a cabinet level officer,

the high level appointees should be with the advice and consent of the Senate. Appointees should meet stipulated requirements to be eligible for appointment. these requirements based on the expertise needed for the specific job. A conflict of interest should rule out a prospective appointee.

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League of Women Voters of Richardson
Signed by Mrs. N. Ekelman Office: State Item Program

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 22

How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

It is ineffectual and anarchic. There is need for change toward unity.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

All except governor and lt.governor.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

We would need further study to see if the duties are overlapping and can be eliminated.

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

All except gov. and lt.gov. should be appointed as qualified with approval of 2/3 of the Senate. There should be proper checks and balances for appointments & removals, more like the nat'l gov.

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

We were in favor of a change to a cabinet with 20 departments as a limit. This would also require reorganization of the depts. with the addition of civil service.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

They seem to be autonomous and there should be a change toward more cooperation with the governor. The fractioning (overlapping and gaps in functions) is in need of consolidation.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Yes, with a redefinition of the duties of the lt.governor so he is an executive, rather than legislative officer.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The executive department.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

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League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Denton

Signed by Ann S. Reban Office: State Program Chairman

(Mrs. Milan J. Reban)

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 17

How many meetings were held? Units? 4 General membership? _____

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Our League finds the Texas Executive Dept. too fragmented and lacking the necessary coordination to fulfill its administrative duties effectively.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

a decrease.

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Land Commissioner, Comptroller, Treasurer,
Commissioner of Agriculture, Texas Railroad Commission

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Since streamlining and consolidation of the department is desirable, it is difficult to say just which particular positions should be abolished.

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones? Only the governor and lieutenant governor as well as the attorney general should be elected. All the others should be appointed, with the advice and consent of the Legislature.
- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function? Our League supports the consolidation of the many boards and commissions under a limited number of departmental officials but also is very concerned that the Legislature give its advice and consent on the appointees and a civil service type of merit system for state employees be guaranteed.
- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department? The fragmentation of the Texas Executive Department makes it impossible to evaluate the overall functioning of the Boards and Commissions. There are certainly too many of them.
- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team? Yes, however a minority felt that this isn't necessary because the chief function of the lieutenant governor in Texas lies in his responsibilities to the Legislative branch of state government.
- VI. Who should prepare the budget? The governor.
- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)
- Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

Note: Our reservations on increasing the powers of the governor and his department rest on the absence of a vigorous two-party system in Texas and the fact that elected officials still have two-yr. terms of office.

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League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

President's Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of La Barge

Signed by Rev. Ralph D. Jones Office: Chairman Carter Chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 34

How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

It is extremely uncoordinated and disorganized with many overlapping functions. Changes through Constitutional revision would soon have to make the Executive Department more responsive to the people. Basic criteria should be set up for each elected or appointed official.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

All except Governor and Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Comptroller

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of General Land Office, Board of Education, Railroad Commission, Secretary of State

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Would be in favor of a cabinet type executive branch, provided that basic qualifications were established for department heads and that these heads would be subject to review.

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

They are not as efficient as they should be. There are too many Boards and Commissions with many overlapping duties. We felt that an in depth study of each Board and Commission now in existence would help us to better evaluate and thus combine many of these boards into their functional areas, thus abolishing overlapping duties and areas of concern.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Yes

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

If a cabinet type executive department were established we felt that the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and the Cabinet members could prepare the budget and then have it approved by a 2/3 vote of the legislature. If no cabinet type, the Governor, Lieutenant (see below)

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

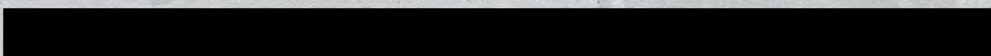
#VI can't --- Governor, Speaker of the House and Senate and then four from the house elected by the members.

pastmarked 2-28-70
Lyle

MAR 2 1970

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League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of SOUTH JEFFERSON COUNTY

Signed by Mrs. John H. Miller Office: Program Chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 25

How many meetings were held? Units? 3 General membership? 25

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?
There are too many departments with over-lapping of duties.
A merit system would improve the quality of work done by Board of Professional members(skilled) in the duties of the Board, should be added.
- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:
 - A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?
Six members of the Unit voted for a decrease in the number of elected officers. Four members of the Unit voted for Status-quo.
 - B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?
(undecided)
 - C. If a decrease:
 1. Which officers should no longer be elected?
(undecided)
 2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?
(undecided)

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

(undecided)

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

The group believed that the cabinet system would serve the Executive Department with efficiency.

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

There are too many duplications of services of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team? no
The governor and lieutenant governor should run on separate tickets.
The duty of the lieutenant governor is Chairman of Senate (Upper House of Congress). The duty of governor is to enforce the law.

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The governor, the Boards and Finance Committee made up of members of the Senate and the House.

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

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League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Texas City

Signed by Mrs. P. D. Parks Office: President

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 17

How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Fractionated

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Unit #1 - Everyone except the Lt. Governor.

Unit #2 - Treasurer, Comptroller, Commissioner of Agriculture.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Not abolished but consolidated and combined according to functions.
(Railroad commissioner should work with railroads. Oil wells should work under natural resources.)

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Unit #1 - All appointed except Lt. Governor

Unit #2 - Treasurer, Comptroller, Commissioner of Agriculture.

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Unit #1 - Prefer a cabinet type of government if the governor's term is extended to 4 years.

Unit #2 - Prefer a cabinet type of government and grouped to areas of interest.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Unit #1 - We are pleased with the functioning of the boards.

Unit #2 - Obligations archaic to invested interests.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Yes

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

Unit #1 - New governor

Unit #2 - New governor, in cooperation with the Comptroller, Treasurer, and an interim committee from the legislature.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

Unit #1 - Revise the Constitution along the lines of the model constitution.

Unit #2 - Governor and Lt. Governor run as a team with strengthen powers. Limitations imposed on the legislative committee especially the conference committee.

League of Women Voters of Texas



FEB 27 1970

MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of HOUSTON

Signed by Jane L. Lohr (Mrs. L. G.) Office: Chairman, Texas Executive

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 147

How many meetings were held? Units? 14 General membership? 19 60

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Present structure too fragmented, inefficient, unwieldy. No central authority and no place to pinpoint responsibility. Change necessary. Governor should be more powerful and therefore more responsible. One unit even thought Lt. gov. should not be head of the Senate but an assistant to gov. only.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Majority - Decrease

Very minor minority - keep as is

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

None

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Small majority in favor of continuing to elect attorney general and comptroller. Large majority in favor of appointing the others.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Majority for retaining positions. Minority thought that not enough time nor information available to make that decision. Very minor minority suggestions: Lt. gov. "superfluous;" comptroller-treasurer combined; comptroller-land office combined.

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

All who are not elected should be appointed by the governor.

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Very large majority in favor of such a change.

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Very large majority for streamlining. Very minor minority found good in citizens' boards and very minor minority for merit-type system for employees of departments.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Large majority for. A very small minority "no" with one group voting "no" if the lt. gov. retains present legislative power.

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

All for the governor, but many added with "the help of the cabinet" or "a commission," and "with legislative approval."

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

The governor would be a de facto chief executive and policy-maker by virtue of his appointive and removal powers and control over budget-making. However, these would be subject to the usual legislative controls. Also, the attorney general and comptroller would remain elected officials. The many boards and commission would be aligned under departments with an eye to efficiency and function.

Two units thought that elected officers, in addition to the gov. and lt. gov. should meet some qualifications. One unit thought the railroad commission should have no oil or gas interests (as they are required to have no railroad interests.)

It was mentioned at two units that this was the best resource material we have ever had.

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Board approval 2/26/70

JAN 30 1970

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League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

Provisional

League of Women Voters of Hunt County *(Provisional)*

Signed by Mrs. E. B. Gladding Office: Unit Organization Chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 26

How many meetings were held? 2 Units? X General membership?

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

It is inefficient and antiquated. The governor has insufficient power, and in the executive department as a whole there is too much duplication and overlapping.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

A decrease.

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

a) Majority: Commissioner of General Land Office, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture.

b) Minority: All 2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

c) Majority: Combine duties of Treasurer and Comptroller.

d) Minority: Retain all present positions. (OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Majority: Appoint Land Commissioner, Comptroller, Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture. (Gov. should be able to appoint his

Minority: Elect all present officers. (Gov. should not be give so much power.)

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

This League favored such a change. Also favored the Merit System of appointments, suggested by the Model State Constitution.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

There is too much overlapping and duplication of effort.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Majority: Yes.

Small minority: No.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The budget should be prepared by the Executive Department under the direction of the Governor.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

We should like to see only three top officers (Governor, Lt. Gov., and Attorney General) elected. The Governor would appoint his own Cabinet, subject to the approval of the Legislature (Treasurer, Secretary of State, Comptroller, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Land Office, Adjutant General). Boards and Agencies would be placed under the Cabinet positions, reporting to the Cabinet instead of operating independently. The Cabinet would report to the Governor, who would have the authority to remove people from the Boards and Agencies if necessary. The Railroad Commission would be appointed, not elected. The offices of Comptroller and Treasurer would be combined into a single office. . . . One member would like to see all officers elected, with no appointments; all law enforcement and regulatory agencies under the Atty. Gen.'s office; the Governor not given any more power; the Legislature responsible for making up the Budget.

~~SEE ATTACHED SHEET FOR OTHER UNIT PLAN.~~

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The voters would elect the Governor, the Attorney General, and a Comptroller-Treasurer. The Gov. would appoint a Sec. of State, whose duties would be similar to those of a Lt.-Gov. or Vice President. The Gov. would also Appoint the following officers and boards: Corrections; Examining and Licensing; Natural Resources; Utilities; Transportation; Education; Lands and Veterans' Affairs; Agriculture; Health and Social Services; Highway and Safety; Parks and Wild Life; Interstate Compacts; Business and Labor (with Tourist Director); Employment.

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

January 19, 1970

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Dickinson, Texas

Signed by Mary Margaret Cissley Office: Director

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 21

How many meetings were held? Units? General membership? 2

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?
Our League was unanimous that it was too weak and needs strengthening. One group felt that it was poor and ineffective and one group thought it was not responsive to the people.

II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

A decrease.

B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

--Not applicable--

C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

Comptroller of Public Accounts, Commissioner of the General Land Office and the Commissioner of Agriculture.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

Our League felt that the above offices, as well as the Railroad Commission, could be more effective if organized according to duties.

(OVER)

- D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

Comptroller of Public Accounts, Commissioner of the General Land Office and the Commissioner of Agriculture.

- III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

Our League favored a partially integrated cabinet type, possibly limiting the number of departments to 20, except for temporary requirements.

- IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Our League felt there were too many, they were not divided according to function, and had overlapping duties and authority.

- V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Yes.

- VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The governor should prepare the budget.

- VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

League of Women Voters of Midland
Signed by Virginia Hanley Office: _____

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 20

How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership? 0

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

(OVER)

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones?

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team?

Yes

VI. Who should prepare the ^{only} budget?

The Gov.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

The feel the general public is unaware of the need for adm. reorganization and would like to see next years state program concentrated on water education. Surely they would be responsive if they thought the state could save money by reorganizing!

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NOV 31 1969

Brazos Co

NOV 21 RECD

League of Women Voters of Texas



MRS. WILLIAM E. JOOR, President

Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)
October 1969

*Critical of
Question II*

League of Women Voters of Brazos County

Signed by Mrs. Glen Porter Office: committee chairman

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART II: ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

How many members participated in arriving at this consensus? 35

How many meetings were held? Units? 2 General membership? 0

(It may not be possible to achieve consensus on each question.)

- I. How would your League evaluate the present structure of the Texas Executive Department in view of your understanding of the duties and responsibilities of that department of state government?

Complex, cumbersome, inefficient, outdated, overlapping of duties. It needs changing. See comment at end of this report.

- II. If your evaluation indicates changes are needed:

- A. Would your League propose an increase or a decrease in the number of elected officers?

Decrease

- B. If an increase, what additional officers should be elected?

Not applicable

- C. If a decrease:

1. Which officers should no longer be elected?

See answers to II.C.2 and II.D. Question II.C.1 (This question) doesn't really make sense to me in view of the questions that follow.

2. Should some or all of their positions be abolished? Which ones?

A very small minority felt that the Lt. Gov.'s position should be abolished. A small minority felt that the Sec. of State's position should be abolished. The consensus was that the Comptroller and Treasurer should be reorganized (which might necessitate abolishing one of the positions); there was ~~consequence~~ (OVER) that the Railroad Commission should be reorganized (perhaps abolishing their jobs and spreading the duties to other departments).

RE: We felt that Question II was one of the most ~~and~~ difficult questions to get consensus on because of the roundabout way in which it was worded.

D. Should some or all of these officers be appointed instead of elected? Which ones? Yes; Comm. of Agriculture (small minority of 1 felt it should be elective; Comm. of Land Office; Small minority felt State Board of Educ. should be appointive; Compt. & Treasurer should be in same dept. with one appointed by other (we don't know enough to say how); Railroad Commissioners if the

III. How does your League evaluate a change in the direction of a cabinet type executive branch of state government divided into a limited number of departments established according to function?
Commission is not re-organized.

It was felt that a move in this direction would be good. Perhaps we should avoid the term "cabinet" (expressed by a small minority). Emphasis was placed on the need for civil service.

IV. How does your League evaluate the functioning of the Boards and Commissions within the Executive Department?

Too much overlapping of functions; no accountability to any one person (the governor); too splintered, fragmented, and expensive; no clear-cut, pinpointed responsibility.

V. Should the governor and lieutenant governor run together as a team? The majority feeling was that the two should run together. In this event, however, it was felt that the Senate rules would have to be changed to ensure separation of power. While the rules are being changed, some of the power of the Senate leader should be taken away, since the new leader would not be elected by a majority of the people. There was a fairly strong minority for keeping the gov. and Lt. Gov. as they are.

VI. Who should prepare the budget?

The governor.

majority of the people. There was a fairly strong minority for keeping the gov. and Lt. Gov. as they are.

VII. (Optional, for the resource chairman and her committee)

Please give a paragraph summary description of what the Executive Department of Texas Government would look like if your League could magically have its wishes granted keeping in mind the political realities of life.

The question itself is contradictory. However, we would like to move toward a cabinet type with department heads who would be appointed by the gov. (with approval of the legislature), divisions under the depts., all responsible directly or indirectly (through division heads) to the governor. One unit felt that a good starting point would be the new planning and coordinating divisions established in the governor's office. Also, some kind of Reorganization act passed by the legislature would be helpful.

Comment: I don't know whether this comment falls under question 1 (evaluating the present structure or question 7 (keeping in mind the political realities of life). Anyway, the comment is: our present structure with its fragmented, decentralized power is more democratic than a completely integrated system would be. It fails to work because the people in the state don't exercise their democratic right of control. So to gain efficiency, we sacrifice a little democracy. Our whole study revolved around the "powerlessness"

of the governor -- all the texts and material from the State Bd. emphasized how little power the gov. has. Yet, in looking at what really happens in our state, we see that our gov. is a very powerful person usually. Maybe it's a political power rather than an executive power. What I'm driving at is, perhaps we should think twice, open our eyes wide, and at least know what we're doing when we elect to increase the power of the office.

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May 16, 1969

MAY 19 RECD

TO: Herman, Martin, Caine, SO
FROM: Barstis
RE: Consensus on the Texas Executive

Exec. Consensus

Since Jean mentioned it, and now Ruth, I do have a preference for "to" rather than "should"; that is,

1. The governor to be elected
2. Gubernatorial elections to be held
3. General Land Office to be elected
Secretary of State to be appointed
4. The governor to have officers
5. The Texas Constitution to provide

Gloria, you have tried so hard to make sure that everyone else is satisfied. Are you? I am sure that you have felt frustrated in going the carbon route, and I think your suggestion in re a statement in the policy sheet is a good one--that the Board be permitted to make ~~1/1/1~~ editorial changes. At least I think it is a good suggestion unless some one says something that changes my mind for me.

May 15, 1969

TO: Herman cc - SO
FROM: Martin
RE: Executive Consensus

Your final copy just arrived this evening. This note is to tell you to carry on as planned as far as I am concerned even with the "shoulds". My memo about that did not reach you, I am sure, when you wrote the final draft. I received your original one of May 6 ~~am~~ on May 8, but did not get mine written until May 12. Your last is posted May 13, so. no "screams" from me.

I have this thought: if we find out ways some of this could be better worded, or if the SB does not like some of it, or both, we can look forward to some rewording when we work on proposed state program for 1970-71, n'est-ce-pas?

Thanks for copy of your pre-board report. Are you including the analysis of the consensus to go to the state Board? (This is the information that you sent your committee on May 22--just your page 1.) Chairmen customarily provide the SB with this type information. It gives them a much better idea of the strength of the positions, number of LLs responding to each consensus question, etc. I hope that you will see that the Board gets this from you--even at the time we meet if it rushes everyone to get it out before then.

The Lively Issues are stuck in my typewriter. Everything happens to delay. This has been a terribly busy spring for me, familywise and Leaguewise, but guess it will all work out somehow.

*Mentioned this in my half-page
May 12 memo.*

THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE

CONSENSUS

First part

Martin

Posted May 13 PM

Standing Order
DPM

MAY 15 RECD

CONSENSUS ON THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

The Texas Executive Department:

Evaluation of the organization and the functioning of the Executive Department of the state government.

Consensus Statement:

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports measures that will provide for a more effective Executive Department of Texas government.

Support Positions:

1. The governor should be elected for a four-year term, and be limited to serving two terms which may be successive.
2. Gubernatorial elections should be held in non-presidential election years.
3. The lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller of public accounts, treasurer, commissioner of agriculture, and commissioner of the General Land Office should be elected for ~~four~~ four-year terms; the secretary of state should be appointed for a four-year term.
4. The governor should have, within reasonable safeguards prescribed by law, the power to remove appointive officer of the Executive Department and appointees to boards and commissions.
5. The Texas Constitution should provide for the succession to the office of governor should the governor become unable to perform the duties of his office.

Posted May 13
PM

PRE-BOARD REPORT: THE EXECUTIVE AND BUDGET

The off-board committee here in Houston is working like good leaguers should in getting data together for our third publication which will be titled, "How Gloria Found out that Text Books Can be wrong" or "Life in the Real World of Boards and Commissions." We are working on a series of interviews with people in state government and our view are being challenged at every turn.

I do feel that we can stick to our time schedule and have all our material in the hands of LIs by the end of the summer. I would like to include for use of Resource Chairmen, the reports we have been making on our interviews. These reports are just our notes made readable and have not been checked by the interviewee (the person interviewed.) Have we ever done this before? Could it be too risky?

Having arrived at a consensus statement via mail, I want to recommend that we never do this again, and/or we have in our policy statement the freedom to change wording of consensus statements in state Board meetings to clarify meaning.

Please be thinking about the 1970-1971 Budget; have you any broad ideas for change in approach of presentation to the LIs? Will the 50th anniversary be involved in any way? Can individual portfolio chairmen see that they will need lots more or less (imagine that) money for that year? Do you have any ideas for good members of the budget committee to meet in September to draw up the new budget?

TO: Baratis, Caine, Martin, S.O.

FROM HERMAN:

Attached to the above is the final Consensus statement which I will tell Joyce to type and send out on the 15th unless you all scream. I'll send you an agenda before the Board meeting, unless I feel that the pre-board covers everything.

File

P.S. Do you plan to include Bay~~xxxx~~ Area report which was late? My copy came May 5. We have been using a policy of considering late cons. reports (but not Program-Making). Consensus is not a bylaw deadline as is ~~is~~ Program. At post-Council Bd. meeting the Board seemed to think this policy is all right. But we need not let the LLs know they still get counted even if very late. *Just tactfully not mention it.*

May 12, 1969

TO: Herman cc-SO
FROM: Martin
RE: Executive consensus

I ~~hope~~ we never have to do another consensus by carbon copies. And if we had polled the Board it would still not have been much better for it would still have been the carbon routine. What is needed of course is a face-to-face meeting to iron out these wording problems. Thank goodness there is no question of what the LLs said in their reports. If we had had to face that, this system would have been impossible.

Do you think you can word the positions now that will be agreeable to everyone--by picking out the best of suggestions? I believe you can. I hope you can for I know you are anxious to get it to the LLs, as we all are.

Why don't you send out what you consider your final copy but tell SO and all concerned to let you know within a few days (5) if there is anything that must be changed before it is mimeographed. You could let SO know by telephone re the go ahead and any possibly revisions.

I assume your report to the ~~Board~~ ^{statute} will include similar data that is on page 1 of your 4/22/69 analysis of the LLs reports ?? You probably already have it done.

May 12, 1969

TO: Herman, Gaine, Barstis, SO
FROM: Martin
RE: Consensus on THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE

I apologize for being so slow to answer this time, Gloria. You have done a fine job of rewording in view of all of our variety of proposals for changes.

I am inclined to agree with Jean about the "shoulds" in each position statement. I did not particularly care for the "to bes" either, but prefer the latter to the Shoulds. Could we change the order to eliminate these? I think the reason that I do not like should is that it does not sound positive. I do not know exactly why I don't like the sound of "to be" unless it somehow seems superfluous. Could we do something like this:

1. Election of the governor for a four-year term; ^{with?} permission (or the right to) succeed himself; limitation ~~to~~ a total of two terms.

(Gloria is right that the LLs did not say a total of two consecutive terms. They just said two terms.)

2. Hold gubernatorial elections in non-presidential election years.

3. Election of the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the comptroller of public accounts, the treasurer, the commissioner of ~~the General Land Office~~ agriculture, and the commissioner of the General Land Office to four-year terms; appointment of the secretary of state to ^afour-year term.

4. Give the governor power to remove gubernatorial appointees to the Executive Department and to boards and commissions within reasonable legal safeguards.

(I do not think Gloria's word "including" is what we want to say; is it? I am in Gladys' school in that I am not completely sure, but my memory is that not all are considered executive.) If you think we really need the "prescribed by law" stipulation, I suggest we just say "legal").

5. Succession of the lieutenant governor to the office of governor in the event the governor becomes unable to perform (or discharge) his duties.

(I think Gladys is right that we do want this in constitutional law so therefore we should name the lt. governor.)

About all I have done is do away with the shoulds and to bes. I will not quarrel with anyone if you decide to keep one or the other. I prefer "to be" in preference to "should". To be should sounds like "Well, it ought to be so and so, but..." whereas we want this consensus to sound forceful--with the LWV of Texas ready to fight in

the legislature and elsewhere for our beliefs. Cheers Gloria. This is "spooky"!

~~MAY 8 RECD~~
MAY 10 RECD

✓
TO: Herman, Martin, Barstis, SO

May 7, 1969

From: Eaine

RE: The Executive Consensus

Sorry to be so slow in responding. I did send Gloria a note before I left for Council but it did not reflect the kind of clear thinking that Gladys and Ruth have done. I came home last night after a week at Council and then a long weekend entertaining customers so my thinking may still be fuzzy.

On the support positions:

1. I like Ruth's on her May 1 memo. It seems to me that it takes care succinctly of what the Leagues really wanted. But maybe it doesn't spell it out definitely enough for future boards.
2. 3. 4. I think these are good—as stated in Gloria's memo of May 2.
5. I think I like Ruth's suggestion "an order provided by law" etc. etc.

I am not sure I like the shoulds in each one. I rather lean to the to bes! But it is not an important point.

I do like measures in the first statement —the opening statement, I mean.

MAY 6, 1969

MAY 8 RECD
MAY 8 RECD

TO: Herman, Martin, Caine, SO
FROM: Barstis
RE: Consensus on the Executive

Consensus Statement:

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports measures that will provide for a more effective Executive Department (for or of?) Texas government.

Support Positions:

1. The governor should be elected for a four-year term, and should be permitted to serve two consecutive terms.
2. Gubernatorial elections should be held in non-presidential election years. (as per Gloria's May 2 memo)
3. The lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller of public accounts, treasurer, commissioner of agriculture, and the commissioner of the General Land Office should be elected for four-year terms; the secretary of state should be appointed for a four-year term. (as per Gloria's May 2 memo except for this question - which also applies to #1 - aren't people elected "for" rather than "to" an office? I really don't know, but checked a text book and it uses "for.")
4. The governor should have, within reasonable safeguards, the power to remove gubernatorial appointees to the Executive Department and to boards and commissions.
(This is my own ignorance, but are all of the board and commissions part of the Executive Department?)
5. The Texas Constitution should provide for the succession to the office of governor should the governor become unable to discharge (or perform) the duties of his office.
(the consensus question did not specifically refer to the lt. gov. Statutory law does provide for succession beyond the lt. gov., but we want this as constitutional law -- right?)

I am glad postage rates haven't gone up yet, or we would be subsidizing the Post Office on just this round of correspondence.

Draw a deep breath, Gloria, next will be my turn ---- constitutional amendments.

MAY 5 RECD

May 2, 1969

TO: Caine, Barstis, Martin, S.O.

From: Herman

RE: Consensus on the Executive

Thanks to all of you for the prompt and helpful replies. Let's try this one; let me hear from you by the 12th of May, hopefully with an approval but not necessarily so; not doing this at a board meeting is kinda spooky.

CONSENSUS ON THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

The Texas Executive Department:

Evaluation of the Organization and Functioning of the Executive Department of the State Government.

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports measures that will provide for a more effective Executive Department of the state government.

Support Positions:

1. The governor should be elected to a four-year term, should be able to succeed himself, but should be limited to a total of two terms. ~~consecutive~~
2. Gubernatorial elections should be held in non-presidential election years.
3. The Lieutenant governor, attorney general ~~general~~, comptroller of public accounts, treasurer, commissioner of agriculture and the commissioner of the General Land Office should be elected to four-year terms; the secretary of state should be appointed to a four-year term.
4. The governor should have the power to remove gubernatorial appointees to the Executive Department, including Boards and Commissions, within reasonable safeguards prescribed by law.
5. The Lieutenant governor should succeed to the office of governor when the governor is unable to discharge the duties of his office.

(Obviously, many thanks to Gladys for her suggestions. #1. reflects what the Lls said, i.e. that the governor should not serve more than two four-year terms regardless of the successive terms or not. I may not have worded it well.....

MAY 1, 1969

TO: Herman, Barstis, Caine, SO
FROM: Martin
RE: Executive consensus

Gladys, you have proposed a change in the opening statement that is similar to one I had written out but then discarded and left as Gloria had it. I, too, felt we should say "measures" instead of limiting it to "revision of the Texas Constitution". Then I thought perhaps Gloria intended this intentionally since most changes effecting the Executive Department would (I guess!) have to be constitutional changes. However, I am not real sure on this latter premise.

At any rate, whether it would of necessity be a constitutional change or some measure to result in what is desired, I think it is better to call it measures. I would suggest a couple of changes from the way Gladys has it. Leave out "an" between for and improved and instead of state government call it Texas government.

Here is my latest brainstorm:

1. Election of the Governor for a four-year term with a maximum of two consecutive terms.
2. Like Gladys has it only leave out "preferably". As far as I can tell, the LLs (20 of them) definitely said non-pres. ~~eight years~~ ^{each year}.

I may as well give up on hold- ing the line on this margin!

3. I prefer Gloria's statement here. I would not like for our position to be tied to whether or not these officials are elected because there is the possibility some could become appointive. Besides, the "to be elected" was not in the consensus question, and as far as the reports indicate was not discussed by the LLs.
4. I do not like the "to have" in either Gloria's or Gladys' version but cannot think of a way to avoid it. I do not like what I sent in my April 28 memo, either. Could we say "Give the Governor power to remove gubernatorial appointees to the Executive Department and Boards and Commissions within reasonable safeguards." Do you think we really need the "prescribed by law"? I like Gladys' within reasonable safeguards better than "with safeguarding limitations". That will be a good decision to have to make should legislation along this line come up!

5. I prefer Gladys' term "discharge" in preference to "disabled" even though the question said disabled. As Gladys points out, there could be other reasons. I believe this would more nearly fit the thinking of the LLs. We could say "if the Governor becomes unable to perform his duties". ? ? ?

I have had another thought re this No. 5 statement of position. Should we omit the part, or reference to, the Lt. Governor? What ^{about} "Provision for succession ~~xxxxxx~~ in an order provided by law if the Governor becomes unable to perform his duties." After all the No. 1 THE GOVERNOR nor the consensus question did nothinge this response to the Lt. Governor. ^{just to succession.}

Out of room. Have fun Gloria. By now I've probably helped to confuse you. Could you retype the statement and give us another round at it?

APR 28 REC'D
APR 29 REC'D
April 28, 1969

TO: Herman, SO, Caine, Martin
FROM: Barstis
RE: Consensus on Executive

Gloria, I have taken considerable liberty with your proposed consensus statement, but right now I am very much aware of the fact that we should say what we mean. I am sure that my suggested wording can be improved, but it will at least express my concept.

Consensus statement:

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports measures that will provide for an improved organization and functioning of the Executive Department of the state government.

(Isn't the first statement, "The LNV of Texas supports, etc." actually the consensus statement, to be followed by itemized support positions? Should we tie ourselves specifically to "revision of the Texas Constitution" or should we use a more general term, such as "measures"?)

Support Positions:

1. The Governor to be elected for a four-year term, but not to serve for more than two ~~years~~ consecutive terms.

2. Gubernatorial elections, preferably, to be held in non-presidential election years.

(Do we want to tie ourselves to a specific as to when the governor should be elected?)

3. The Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller of Public Accounts, State Treasurer, Commissioner of Agriculture, and the Commissioner of the General Land Office to be elected for four-year terms; and the Secretary of State to be appointed for a four-year term.

4. The Governor (to have) the power to remove gubernatorial appointees to the Executive Department and Boards and Commissions, within reasonable safeguards (to be prescribed by law.)

5. Provision for the succession of the Lieutenant Governor to the office of Governor should the Governor become unable to discharge the duties of his office.

(Do we want to limit the succession of the Lt. Gov. to the office of Governor only if the Governor becomes disabled -- there may be other reasons?)

Yes

April 28, 1969

TO: Herman, Caine, Barstis, State Office
FROM: Martin
RE: Consensus on The Texas Executive

I think you have done an excellent job of analyzing the 32 23-- plus one provisional--local League consensus reports. The fact that only one question (number 4) got a bit mixed up is in my opinion a good indication that the questions were good. Question number 6 has some shading, but it does come through loud to give the governor power of removal.

Number 4 should be left out of your consensus statement, but it should be mentioned in your summation to the State Board (or analysis) which would be about the same as your analysis to your committee.

Number 6 poses a problem. If we add the safeguard limitations re the governor's removal powers, what would--or could--we do if legislation came up to give him the power of removal, PERIOD? Yet, only 9 said with no limits while 11 want legislative approval and two to confine it to his own appointees. I guess it will have to be stated like, or similar to, your proposed statement. Then, if a bill comes up without legislative approval, we will just have to pass it up. Perhaps this is something that would at another time need a restudy, or review, to see if the 11s still agree with their present position.

I think your statement is all right with the exception of a couple places which might be a little more smoothly worded.

For instance, No. 4: Would it sound better to state: "removal power by the governor of appointees," etc.?

And No. 5: "succession to the governorship by the lieutenant governor if the governor becomes disabled".

I am not sure my suggestions are any better, but I think some change is needed. Somehow it does not sound just right for these to start with "the" and "the governor to". Maybe it is just me.

Other suggestions:

Unless you heard from Ruth Joor before she left I think this should not go out until she has had a chance to OK it.

When it goes, be sure to tell SO it is to be on Standing Order.

Put The Texas Executive item as it is presently worded above your consensus statement, like the new Legislature Statement on the recent consensus.

Final thought: Could some plans be made to get a more usable position on the questions of power of removal of appointees during the study of boards and agencies? As they study these, they might review their ideas on removal with or without limitations. I hope eventually it could be stronger one way or the other.

CHEERS IN YOUR FIRST EXECUTIVE CONSENSUS!

It is a good first step.

Change
See 4/29
memo
to above

April 29, 1969

TO: Herman, Caine, Barotis, SO

FROM: Martin

RE: Change in one of my suggestions re EXECUTIVE consensus

I did not know that Ruth Joer had left as early as she did, nor that she would be gone quite a while after the National Council. I am so glad that she is getting a little time off, but this does change one suggestion that I wrote in my yesterday's memo to you named above.

I said that unless Gloria had heard from Ruth re her proposed consensus statement before Ruth left that I thought it should be held until her return. This is now impossible, so we will just have to do our best without Ruth's advice. I think it is imperative that the statement go out without delay.

Gloria, I wonder if you would want to also check with Joan and Veta in the absence of Ruth J.? They are close and this could be done by phone; could it not? I suggest them because they are VPs. But, this is only a sgn suggestion. Please do as you wish. I do not question your consensus interpretation, or any of it. I'm just thinking of arriving at the best wording possible. Sometimes another person or two helps decide--if you need any help.

TO: Caine, Barstis, Martin, S.O.

4/22/69

APR 26 1969
Posted Apr. 24th

RE: CONSENSUS ON EXECUTIVE 23 lls reporting

1. Should the Texas Constitution be Revised to change the length of term of the governor? If so, how?

to 4 years;

22 leagues said yes; one reported, "lengthened"; 2, for a 6 year term in a minority report and 3 leagues had a minority for 2 year terms.

CONSENSUS: Term should be lengthened to 4 years.

2. Should the governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

Limit terms to two 4-year terms... 21 leagues; unlimited no. of terms, 1.

Minority for unlimited number of terms... 4 leagues; minority for 3 terms... 1. One league wanted 2 successive terms, then an interim term and be allowed to serve again.

CONSENSUS: Governor should serve two four-year terms.

3. Should the governor be allowed to immediately succeed himself?

Yes... 21 leagues.; break after two four-year terms... 2 leagues.

CONSENSUS: Yes.

4. Would the length of term for the governor effect your answer to questions 2 and 3?

Longer term should provide for restriction in number of terms... 10 lls

8 years is a reasonable length of time... 4 lls.

No... 2; if two-year term, want unlimited terms... 4 lls.

I'm sorry I ever asked this; it was designed primarily to get the Leagues to realize that their desired for a 4 year term might not apply if we continue to keep a two year term. It is not truly a consensus question in that it does not bring out any position. Can

* we just not report on it? ?

5. Should the governor be elected in a non-presidential election year?

Yes... 20 lls. No... 1 league; no agreement, 2 lls.

CONSENSUS: Yes.

6. Should the governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Board and Commissions?

Yes, with limits (such as approval of legislature) 11 lls.

Yes, with no limits, 9 lls; yes, own appointees, 2 lls; yes, no limits in minority report... 2 lls; No decision... 1 league.

CONSENSUS: Yes with limits ?

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes... 18 lls. No... 2 lls. No consensus... 2 lls. There were many comments about this question being vague, but no disagreement with the general idea that some provision should be present in the Texas constitution to provide for this contingency

CONSENSUS: Yes

8. Should the length of term of the other official in the Executive Dept. be changed? If so, how?

Made 4 years... 13 lls. No decision... 4 lls; 4 years with limits like the governor... 3 leagues.

CONSENSUS: Yes. To 4 years

From this kind of summary, I hope we can arrive at a consensus statement.
I suggest it might be worded like this:

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports revision of the Texas
Constitution to provide for:

1. ~~xxxxix~~ the governor to serve a limit of two four-year terms.
2. ~~xxxxix~~ gubernatorial elections in non-presidential election years.
3. four year terms for the lieutenant governor, attorney general, comptroller of public accounts, treasurer, commissioner of agriculture, commissioner of the General Land Office, and the secretary of state.
4. the governor (to have) removal power of appointees to the executive department and Boards and Commissions with safeguarding limitations.
5. the lieutenant governor's succession to the governorship should if the governor becomes disabled.

Could you let me have an answer by May 5th with your comments and suggestions for better wording? Also don't hesitate to question me on whether or not we do have a consensus; I may be too subjective at this stage in the game.

Thanks.....Gloria

Dear Ruth - (Calendar)

May should be OK on this Consensus.

Gloria

hold for Toor's return

standing order

Put stem as worded at top of sheet

March 13, 1969

TO: Herman cc - Joer
FROM: Martin
RE: Executive Item consensus

Thanks for your agenda and your second draft of TEN EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
II. ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION.

I have read the latter very hurriedly and will not comment until I have time to really read it. It reads well. Some may still think some of the information is dull, but as I have commented before how fascinating can anyone make this kind of study material. We have to provide facts. I hope there will be plenty of time to go over this with your committee while in Austin.

*Have
LL
Reports*

Re the consensus on Part I of the EXECUTIVE, I would hate to see the report of this wait until the Board meets in June. However, generally speaking I do not like polling the Board by mail on League positions; do you? I am wondering if it turns out that you have quite a number of reports from the LLs by the time we go to Austin could you give the Board a quick estimated summary of the way the trend (s) is/are going to provide them with a little advance background. Then after all reports are in you can compile the information with recommendations for positions and poll the Board. You may want to try out this estimated advance summary on your committee first.

MAR 11 RECD

March 8, 1969

To: Martin, May, Taylor, S.O.

Comte Agenda

From: Herman

RE: Agenda for Committee Meeting, March, 1969

I. Time of Meeting Attention SO.

If there is a choice, or you are scheduling some of the committee meetings after Council, it might be better for me to meet after getting helpful direction from Council.

II. Gloria's Second Look at The Executive

A. Enclosed material to make a four page publication.

B. A second mailing to resource chairmen to include:

- C. 1. Brief descriptions of some of the Boards and Agencies,
Education, Railroad Commission, Highway, Liquor Control,
Employment,.....
2. additional bibliography
3. copies of newspapers articles
4. other?

C. Executive Department III

1. Previous suggestions for reorganization in Texas
Griffenhagen,....
2. Alternative forms of state administration both theoretical
and in use
~~with Texas~~
3. with Texas?

III. What do I do about Consensus (aside from learning how to spell it)
Must I wait for June Board meeting? ...very late in terms
of the legislature.

*I'll be away from the 10-15th of
March resting up for Council. See you*

*xxx
Gloria*

*See will send
you for copy of
Gloria's 2nd drops*

JUL 3 1968

October 1968
Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)Rec'd too late
Przy UPLWV of Brazos County Provisional Signed byMrs. C. J. Leabo

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how? **Yes, Change to four years.**
Both a.m. group (13 members present) and p.m. group (4 members present) agreed. This would cut down on campaign costs and allow the governor to spend more time planning and executing his program, less in politicking.
2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many? **No consensus reached on this one.**
a.m. group: No, limit to two terms (with a small minority asking for only one 4-year term)
p.m. group: Yes. You can always vote a bad governor out of office.
3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?
Yes. (But a.m. group says for only one additional term.)
4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain. **Yes. In the discussion involving questions 2 and 3, a 4-year term was assumed.**
5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year? **No consensus.**
a.m. group: Yes. Every four years in even numbered, non-presidential election years. Avoid a coat-tails situation and give more thought to our state needs. Voter turn-out might be lighter than for presidential election, but races for congress, the senate (on occasion) and the state legislature should attract voters.
p.m. group: No. Election should be held with the presidential election. It would promote a bigger voter turn-out, promote the two-party system, and provide for more national unity by tying the state in with national feeling.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

a.m. group (15 members present at meeting when this one question was discussed): Yes, for the appointments he makes, and yes, but with senate approval, for appointments made by his predecessors. A small minority report: No, it would give too much power to the governor.

p.m. group: (13 members present for discussion of this question): We lack sufficient knowledge of the Boards and Commissions to decide on this question.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

a.m. group (13): No. However it would be well to define "disabled." Since our governor and lt. governor do not run on the same ticket, a 25th-type-amendment to our constitution could result in a situation less desirable for Texas than for the U.S.

p.m. group (4): Yes.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes. Their terms should coincide with the governor's (assuming the governor's term is four years).

RETURN 3 COPIES TO STATE OFFICE BY MARCH 31, 1969.

MAY 1 1969

MAY 5 RECD

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(5 copies)

*see other
side re
lateness*

LWV of the Bay Area

Signed by

Mary F. Myers - 1st VP
& State Program Chmn

(EX)

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes. All would prefer four year term.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

A majority felt he should be allowed to, but a strong minority felt he should be limited to two four-year terms.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Omitted

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

No. It seemed to all units that present article in the Constitution was sufficient, unless we didn't understand the question.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

One unit felt the terms should all be 4 year concurrent with the Governor.

The other two units felt we needed to study these offices before answering.

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We are sorry these reports are past the deadline. Our calendar did not have any room for these units until April.

APR 17 1969

APR 21 RECD

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Prov.

Provisional League of
LWV of Hunt County

Signed by

Ms. William P. Collins

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

yes - to 4 year term

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No, if the Gov. is granted a 4 year term, then he should be limited to 2 terms (8 yrs. total).

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes, above answers reflect the change to 4 years.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Our study groups (2) were split 50-50 on this issue. Each group split 50-50. We were unable to reach a consensus.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes, upon showing cause to an Executive Board, not the Legislature.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes, to coincide with the Governor's change of term to 4 years.

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(While @ Austin)

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LWV of ABILENE Signed by _____

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes, the Texas Constitution should be revised to change the length of term of the Governor.

It should be changed to four year terms.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many? The Governor should not be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms. Two four-year terms is too long for a bad governor, but the need is for the people to reject him if they want to after four years. This may make the electorate more thoughtful. Two terms should be the limit. A minority favored unlimited terms, saying that if they are limited they will run their wives and exercise power through them.
3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself? yes.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain. Yes. The feeling was that two two-year terms are enough; also two four-year terms are too many. The lame Duck effect was also discussed. Limiting terms might also keep pyramiding (of power) from happening.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year? Yes, so focus can be on state slate. Some felt it keeps down election costs to have them run with the national candidates.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions? Yes, to some extent. It would be equally as bad for the governor to have the power to remove all previous appointees. Perhaps if he could remove upto 50%, or some other proportionate figure, this would give him more control while he is in office. Members also felt it is not good for these persons to be re-appointed indefinitely, also it was brought up that some of the Boards of Regents should not be so heavily loaded with alumni. Could there be some method of re-calling board appointments made by a previous governor that had not been confirmed by the Senate? Maybe there could be reorganization of agencies into departments of fewer numbers. Removal power possessed by governor should be clarified so he can use it more often.
7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled? Yes, "disabled" needs to be defined.
8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how? Yes, they should be lengthened to four years with the same limitations as the Governor. Perhaps some should be made appointive instead of elective.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

Meeting

FEB 10 1969

FEB 17 RECD

LWV of

Amarillo

Signed by _____

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?
Yes. The length of term should be changed to 4 years. Written into new Constitution or by amendment to present constitution.
2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?
Unlimited terms should not be considered until Texas has more equally balanced political parties. There should be a limit of 2 four year terms in office.
3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?
No (other than the 2 four year term limit.)
4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.
Yes. Self-explanatory.
5. Should the Governor be elected in non presidential election year?
Majority Opinion: ~~Should be elected in presidential election year.~~
Governor should be elected in a non presidential election year.
Minority:
Should be kept in presidential election year because more people would go to the polls to vote.
6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?
Yes. Governor should have removal powers as stated in the question, with same requirements of approval of legislature as needed to appoint.
7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?
Yes
- 8.

OVER

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?
Length of terms should be changed to run concurrently with that of Governor.

lex

4 year terms ... limited to 2 succeeding terms. Members recognized this could result in complete turnover in top offices of state's government as new Governor is elected. Felt this was not necessarily bad, but recognized the value of some continuity and stated that this was just as possible as for all to be new at one time.

Members felt these offices have not been self-limiting many times because Texas has been a one party state so long.

MAR 31 1969

APR 7 RECD

October 1968
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CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

The 4 year term was the consensus of all although mention was made of a 6 year term limited to one term.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

The majority opinion was for 2 terms but the proponents for an unlimited number of terms ran a strong second.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

The governor would not be allowed to succeed himself after 2 four terms.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

The answers to numbers 2 and 3 definitely influence this one. Giving the governor a longer term, most felt, would necessitate a restriction in the number of terms.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

The majority were for elections in nonpresidential years however a few preferred presidential election years because of increased voting.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

The majority definitely felt that the governor should have removal powers but one unit proposed this in conjunction with 2/3 or majority vote of the Senate. Another unit called for further study with no opinion given.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

The consensus was yes with some feeling that more study was needed as to whom should originate such action.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Consensus was yes - all agreed to change the terms to coincide with the 4 year term of governor.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

MAR 18 1969

Margaret
(I kept one copy - 8)
MAR 24 RECD.
(While @ Austin)

October 1968
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LWV of BEAUMONT

Signed by MRS. J.P. MOONEYHAM

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes, to 4 year terms, to be done through constitutional revision.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No, majority felt 2 terms sufficient.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes, if terms were not increased to 4 years, number of times he can serve should be increased.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes, if he appoints them, he should be able to remove them also-- if not too arbitrary.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes, to 4 year terms to coincide with the Governor's term.

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MAR 3 1969

MAR 8 RECD

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LWV of Baytown

Signed by

Jean Rosenbaum

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how? Yes, to 4 years. Campaign costs and size of the State indicate a longer term. Also, the Governor has little time to get started on his program in a 2 year term.
2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many? If a four year term, the number of terms should be limited to 2. One unit felt an unlimited number of terms if each term was 2 years. Other unit felt the 2 year terms should be limited to 4 or 8 years.
3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself? If a 4 year term, he may immediately succeed himself once. He may run again after someone else serves. If 2 year term, one unit felt there should be no limit. Other unit felt he could succeed himself 3 times to make a total of 8 years. The he could run again after someone else serves.
4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes. See above.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year? To put more emphasis on the Governor's race, it should be held in an off Presidential election year if there is a four year term. Some felt there was possible merit in holding it in odd numbered years if the 2 year term is retained but felt it might be difficult to change.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions? Power to remove should go with power to appoint. He should be able to remove with a simple majority of Senate approval.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled? Yes, although the problem is not as serious with a 2 year term. The provision should be similar to the 25th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, keeping in mind that the Lt. Governor is elected separately from the Governor, and the Governor does not appoint all the members of the Executive Department. A similar provision should also be made for the removal of the Lt. Governor, especially since in Texas he is more powerful than the Governor.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes. They should be the same as the Governor.

RETURN 3 COPIES TO STATE OFFICE BY MARCH 31, 1969.

CORPUS CHRISTI
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
March 12, 1969

APR 3 1969
APR 7 RECD

THE GOVERNOR

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes, 4 year term

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

The majority felt there should be a limited number of terms.
Two terms of 4 years each.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes. The majority felt if a 2 term term is retained the limit of terms should be extended to 4 terms. (8 years)

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non-presidential election year?

Yes. It would focus more attention and publicity of our state government and its problems.

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Board and Commissions?

Yes. The majority did feel definite causes for removal should be outlined.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes. Majority felt a 4 year term would be most effective. It should, however, always be the same as the Governors.

9. Should some state officials that are now elected be appointed by the Governor?

Yes. Majority felt this would give our governor more power and make for a better state government.

10. If so, which officials?

The majority felt the governor should appoint all officials except Lt. Governor and most felt the Governor and Lt. Gov. should run as a team on the same ticket.

Any Comments:

Questions No. 9 and 10 were added to the consensus by our local league because we felt they were important to this study.

Signed: Mrs. Betty Bennett
State Program Chairman

MAR 31 1969

APR 7 RECD

October 1968
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CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

13 units 163 members participating

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes - to a 4 year term

(all 13 units - two units had minority opinion for 2 yr term)

- * 2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No, - two term limit

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

If the governor has only a two year term he should be allowed to serve for at least 4 consecutive terms. (Strong agreement that 8 years in a row is optimum)

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes - the Governor should be elected in non-presidential even numbered years.

* Dallas consensus to 1, 2, and 3 reads

The Governor's term of office should be limited to two consecutive four year terms and then he should be able to ~~serve~~ serve again after an intervening 4 year term

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

The Governor should be able to remove at least his own appointees. A majority of the Dallas League wants to allow him to remove any appointed official, and 5 units disapproved the proposed power of the legislature to exempt any appointed office.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Texas needs a disability provision modeled loosely after the 25th amendment. Four units expressed objections to the TCR proposal that the Governor may not resume his office when he recovers (if the supreme court declares the office vacant) especially if he is serving a 4 year term.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

The terms of other executive officials should be the same length as that of the Governor. Six units would like their terms limited in the same manner as the Governors.

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APR 7 RECD

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Signed by

Gunn S. Reban
(Mrs. M. G. Reban)

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

yes - to four years

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

a definite majority of our membership present and voting (68%) favored a limited number (2 terms). However, a 16% minority favored an unlimited number of terms.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Those in the majority on Question 2 feel that a total of eight years, should a Governor be reelected is not an unreasonable length of time, no matter how those years are divided into terms.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

yes - informed voter turnout in non-presidential years would possibly be increased.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes - The power to remove his own appointees.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes - however, our League feels that a provision should be provided, in case of such disability, enabling the Lieutenant Governor to call a special session of the Legislature so that a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote in both houses could declare the office vacant.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes - to four years to coincide with that of the Governor.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

APR 7 REC'D
MAR 31 1969

October 1968
Presidents Mailing
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LWV of Dickinson, Texas Signed by Mrs. D. W. Granitz

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

The majority recommended the change to four years. One person liked the two year term. Most felt that a change was not likely to happen.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

Wide variety of opinions. Most favored unlimited number, but some felt if term was lengthened, then number of terms should be limited.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes. Most felt a safeguard was needed against a political machine, although others felt there are always ways of getting them out.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes. In presidential year, too many people are too involved with the presential campaign.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes. But with approval.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

The terms should be concurrent with the governor's term.

N.B. Our league did not have a consensus meeting, as such, as our two meetings on the Executive both had guest speakers. Therefore the above answers were not arrived at wholly by discussion, but rather by polling. Nevertheless, there seemed to be wide agreement among members.

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Signed by

Mary G. McHathery (Mrs. L. L.)

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes. The term should be for 4 yrs. instead of 2 yrs.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No. The Governor of Texas should not be allowed to serve unlimited terms. If elected for a 4 yr. term he should serve only 2 consecutive terms. After another governor has served 4 yrs. he may serve a third.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes. Another consecutive term. This question was answered in 2.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes. Explained above.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes. The Governor should be elected in a non presidential year.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes. The Governor should have the power of removal in the above cases.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes. The succession as provided by 1948 Amendment seems clear, but this would be clearer.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes. These 5 officials' terms should coincide with the term of the Governor as stated should be 4 yr. terms.

There were 17 of 30 active members present at 2 unit meetings in which the consensus was made. This is an almost unanimous opinion of the group.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

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LWV of Marlängen Signed by Mrs. C. E. Bryan, III

type

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

The governor should have a four year term.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

Two terms--in succession or not

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

No. Whether term remains a two-year or becomes a four-year term.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes, with the approval of the Senate.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Succession to the office of governor should follow to the Lt. Governor, and if necessary, then to the Speaker of the House. In either case, these people would serve only until a special election could be arranged within the calendar year or unless a regular general election should come within the calendar year.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

These terms should coincide with the governor's term--four years.

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LWV of Houston Signed by Jan Watterworth

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Change to 4 year terms. Small minority for 2 year terms, small minority for 6 year terms.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No, limited to 2 consecutive terms. Small minority for unlimited terms.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes. If 2 year terms, all for unlimited terms.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Consensus for non-presidential elections. Small minority for presidential year elections. Campaign costs entered into opinion on this question and on all of the above.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Consensus for giving Governor removal powers with some limitations, such as consent of the Senate or some type of appeal. Strong minority feel Governor should be allowed to remove appointive officers with no other approval.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Succession should be clarified. Minority felt question was unclear so couldn't make a decision. Many felt this requires more study. There were some questions as to line of succession, especially pertaining to the President Pro Temp of the Senate.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Re-enforced previous consensus that the Lt. Gov. and Gov. run as a ticket. (Legislative consensus 1968) All officers should have the same term as the Governor. Strong minority were in favor of a cabinet type Executive Dept. Some felt the Comptroller and/or Attorney General should remain elective. Many preferred to wait until next year's study to make decision on who should be elected and who appointed.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

APR 2 1968

October 1968
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LWV of Irving Signed by Irene Goussie

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes. A four year term is unanimously recommended.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No consensus. If governor served four years, members were about evenly divided between those who favor unlimited terms and those who favor two-term limit. A few favored three-term (12 year) limit. There were few strong partisans for any proposal, as members felt there was merit in all plans.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

YES. Members were overwhelmingly opposed to the TCRC proposal that the governor could not succeed himself until the expiration of an intervening four year term.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

As long as governor is limited to a two-year term, consensus was that there should be no limit on the number of terms he could serve.

If term is extended to four years, many members feel a limit might be advisable -- but there was no strong consensus on this point.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

The majority favors elections in non-presidential years.

Membership was divided on whether election should be in even-numbered years or in the odd-numbered year immediately preceding the presidential election year.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes.

The governor should have the power to remove anyone he himself has appointed. A majority felt the legislature should not have the authority to exempt any office. A minority felt the governor should have the approval of a committee from the legislature before removing an appointee.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Members were unanimous in agreeing that there should be some provision for succession when the governor is disabled.

Most members felt they did not have adequate information to decide what form this should take. However, after discussion, one unit recommended that Texas should model its provision on the 25th amendment to the U.S. Constitution and that Texas not follow the TCRC proposal.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Consensus was that these officers should serve the same length of term as the governor.

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MAR 24 1969

October 1968
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LWV of La Marque

Signed by Mrs. A. W. Boyd, Pres

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes. Four year terms.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No. Two- four year terms.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Only once...giving no more than two four-year terms.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Use of the two -year term should include use of unlimited succession as is presently set forth in the Constitution. The question of six or eight year terms for the Governor was not discussed.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

No. Considered acceptable as it stands.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Absolutely. Since he is considered capable of appointing them, then certainly he is capable of knowing when they should be discharged.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes. They should be equivalent to that of the Governor.

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LWV of LONGVIEW, TEXAS

Signed by

Elizabeth Dreyer

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

The constitution should be revised to give the Governor a four year term.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

The Governor should be allowed to serve two four year terms.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes. If he is limited to a two year term, then he should be able to serve an unlimited number of terms.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

After much discussion we could not reach an agreement.

(OVER)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

MAR 14 1969

MAR 17 RECD

October 1968
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LWV of MIDLAND

Signed by

Mrs. A. M. Hanley

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes--The Midland League feels that the Governor should serve a 4 year term.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No--We feel that two terms are sufficient.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Obviously

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes-- with approval of the Senate.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes--to coincide with the terms of the Governor.

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MAR 31 1969

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CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

yes, to 4 year terms

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

no; majority for 2 4-year terms

minority for 3 4-year terms
(of 1)

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

yes

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

yes, on even numbered years

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

yes

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

no; Supreme Court should have jurisdiction.
in deciding jurisdiction disability
some discussion of letting legislature
initiate proceedings

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

yes, to 4 year terms

(all 2 yr terms)
(all elect.
except Sec. of
State)

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

MAR 24 RECD
While @ Austin

MAR 23 1969

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LWV of San Marcos, Texas

Signed by

Wynette Bate

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes. The term should be lengthened.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No. Not if the term is four years.

The governor should not be allowed to serve more than 8 years, regardless of the number of terms this involves.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Depends on the length of term.

Yes, if the term is four years (or less).

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes, we would like to see a limit of 2 terms if the terms are 4 year terms.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes.

(minority favored keeping election in presidential year.)

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes. He should have the same power to remove as to appoint, subject to approval of the legislature.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Yes.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes. These offices should run concurrent to the governor's term.

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Night meeting: 7 present
Morning meeting: 9 present

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

APR 7 RECD
APR 1 1969

October 1968
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LWV of South Jefferson County

Signed by

Mrs. Raymond Fisk

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

Yes, The term of office of the Governor should be changed to four Years, two consecutive terms. Election to be held in none Presidential election year.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

No, Two Consecutive terms.

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

Yes, only once.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

no.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Yes,

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Yes

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

No Should remain as is.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

Yes, It should be Changed to the same^{Term} as the Governor.

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L210 San Antonio Mar. 21, 1969

MAR 24 1969

LWV/Texas

March 1969

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

yes to four years

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If now, how many?

no - limit terms to two

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor affect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Only if majority of League prefer 2 yr. terms then we would limit number of terms to four

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non-Presidential year?

yes

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

unable reach consensus (see back)

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

Constitution should be revised with model Constitution as basis for change

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

yes to four year terms - same as Governor

(over)

In regard to question # 6. The thinking
of the small number of members attending
united was that the Governor should
have removal power but an evenly
^{split} decision developed as to whether he should
have the power with advice and consent
of senate or without same.

P. S. Our Committee felt that the area of
elective officers being appointed merited
discussion. He introduced the subject
to the units and all our members agreed
they would like study in this area.

Lair Bliss Committee member
for Val Cook as all

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

APR 7 RECD

October 1968
Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)

LWV of TARRANT COUNTY Signed by Mrs. Robert S. Gooch

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

APR 1 1969

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

There was a strong feeling among members participating in the discussion that the Texas Constitution should be revised to provide a four-year term for the Governor. One unit stipulated that they did not favor a constitutional amendment to provide the four-year term, but did want it provided for in any over-all Constitutional revision.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

All units but one favored limiting the governor to two four-year terms in office. However, the largest unit (almost 1/3 of those participating in the consensus) favored limiting only the number of successive terms a governor could serve. They stipulated that after a man had served two successive four-year terms there should be an intervening term before he would again

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself? be eligible.

It was felt in all units that the governor should be allowed to succeed himself, at least once, providing his term was four years. As explained above, most units favored a limit of two four-year terms for the governor, but the largest unit favored limiting the governor's service only by providing an intervening term after two successive four-year terms.

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Our answers to the above questions are based on the four-year term. However, about half of the units answered the question in years as well as in terms and agreed that an eight-year limit was desirable.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Consensus favored electing the governor in non-presidential election years.

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?
Consensus was strongly in favor of the Governor's right to remove appointive officers of the executive department, with 2/3's favoring unrestricted removal power and the other one-third favoring restricting this power by requiring advise and consent of the Senate for removal. A few members felt that the legislature should have the power to exclude any office by a two-thirds vote.

(Continued below.)

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?
All units favored provision for gubernatorial succession in the event of disability substantially along the lines of the 25th amendment. One unit specified that the word "disability" must be clearly defined and that investigative procedure must be spelled out by law. Almost all groups expressed the view that succession should be through elected officials.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?
Members favored changing the terms of these officials so that they correspond with that of the governor, in other words they favored four-year terms. They did not impose the two-term limit on these officials, however, except that the group which limited the successive terms of the governor felt that the lieutenant-governor should be limited in the same way. One unit went on record as favoring the governor and lieutenant-governor as part of one ticket. The view was held by several units that most of these offices should be appointive, lieutenant-governor and attorney general being the exceptions mentioned.

6.
6. (Continued from above)

On the question of removal of appointees to Boards and Commissions, more than one-third of our members expressed reservations. Our largest unit favored denying the governor the right to remove these officials, while another unit said it would be difficult to draft a statement covering all boards and commissions. A substantial majority either favored restricting all removal powers of the governor in some way or specifically mentioned that he should not be allowed unrestricted removal power in regard to appointees to Boards and Commissions.

RETURN 3 COPIES TO STATE OFFICE BY MARCH 31, 1969.

APR 7 1969

Consensus on the Texas Executive Department

League of Women Voters of Tarrant County

Consensus was taken on the Texas Executive Department at unit meetings in February, 1969. Fifty-one members in seven units took part in the discussions. Resource material used was THE TEXAS VOTER, September, 1968; THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, PART I, published by the Texas League; and the attached sheet which was included in the local Voter for February. In addition to this, discussion leaders were provided with a copy of the discussion questions on the Governor sent out in August by the State League and with the following suggestions for helpful opening questions.

1. Does Texas have a weak governor or a strong one?
2. Which do you think we should have?
3. If a change is needed, how would you suggest changing things?

In the larger units, where the taking of consensus tended to be more involved, there was little time for discussion of the supplementary questions, and an over-all consideration of the governor's position was not possible. It was felt that this was due to the specific nature of the questions and the complexity of the possible responses, at least in part.

FEBRUARY UNIT MEETINGS: THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE - PART I, THE GOVERNOR

Mrs. R. S. Gooch

Resource Material: THE TEXAS VOTER, Sept. 1968
THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE DEPT. - LWV of Texas

This excellent resource material is now in the hands of all members. The consensus questions to be answered are clear and specific. This is a subject on which every member can easily inform herself and bring the force of her own constructive thought to bear.

In addition to the above material, the suggestions for change in the Executive article of the Texas Constitution by the Constitutional Revisions Commission are briefly set out in the following two paragraphs. Also for your consideration is the chart on the following page.

A four year term for the governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state (appointed by governor), attorney general, comptroller of public accounts, treasurer, and land commissioner was recommended. The governor would not be able immediately to succeed himself, but the other elected officials mentioned above could have unlimited terms. All would take office at the same time as the governor and would be elected in non-presidential election years. The governor

would have the power to remove his own appointees. This removal power would be limited by allowing the legislature to exempt by law any office it so desired. A clear cut line of succession in case the governor becomes mentally or physically incapacitated is also recommended. The constitution at present is silent on the question of what happens if a governor becomes incapable of performing his duties.

The proposal states that if a governor becomes incapacitated, the legislature shall determine his disability by a two-thirds vote. The Texas Supreme Court would then get the question of the governor's incapacity and have exclusive jurisdiction to determine whether a vacancy exists. This is similar to the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution. Another recommendation states that if a governor-elect should be unable to assume office during the entire first year of his elective term, the office would become vacant and the lieutenant governor would become governor.

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS:

- 1) Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?
- 2) Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?
- 3) Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?
- 4) Would the length of term of the Governor affect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.
- 5) Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?
- 6) Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?
- 7) Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?
- 8) Should the length of terms of the lt. governor, secretary of state, comptroller of public accounts, treasurer, commissioner of the general land office and attorney general be changed? If so, how?

CONSTITUTION (Date adopted)	TEXAS (1876)	MODEL	MICHIGAN (1964)	NEW JERSEY (1947)	HAWAII (1959)
Term of office of Governor	2 year - unlimited terms	4 year- unlimited terms	4 year - unlimited terms	4 year - limited to 2 terms	4 year - unlimited terms
Succession	Lt. Gov., President pro tem of Senate, Speaker of House, Attorney Gen- eral, Chief Justices of Appeals Courts	Presiding officer of Senate until election can be called, if vacancy will exist over a year	Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General	President of Senate, Speaker of House	Lt. Gov.
Other Elected Administrative Officers	Lt. Gov., Att. Gen., Treas., Comptroller of Public Accts., Commis- sioner of Land Office	None	Lt. Governor, Sec. of State, Attorney General	None	Lt. Gov.
Appointive Powers	Appoints with approval of 2/3 of Senate	Appoints all Dept. Heads	Appoints Dept. Heads with advice & consent of Senate	Appoints Dept. Heads with ad- vice & consent of Senate	Appoints Dept Heads with advice & consent of Senate
Removal Powers	None	Can remove all officers	May remove any official	May remove all officials except Sec. of State & Attorney Gen.	May remove with advice and con- sent of Senate
Limitation of Number of Depts.	None	No more than 20	No more than 20	No more than 20	No more than 20
Civil Service	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Executive Budget	Yes, but Legislative Budget also	Yes	Yes	No specific provision	Yes
Permission to re- organize Execu- tive Dept with Legislative approval	No	Yes	Yes	No	No

FEB 28 1969

MAR 4

RECD

October 1968
Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)

LWV of Wichita Falls, Texas

Signed by Alisa Larson, pres.

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

Eyes

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how? Yes. We feel the Constitution should be revised to change the length of term of the Governor to four years.
2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many? Under the above recommendations we feel the Governor should be allowed to serve two terms.
3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?
Yes, he should be allowed to succeed himself one time. (2 term limit)
4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain. Yes. We support a change to four years. Any other changes would be subject to additional study and consensus.
5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year? ~~Yes~~ Yes
~~xxxxxx We feel he should not be elected in a presidential election year.~~ (intervening even year preferred for 4 yr terms)

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?
He should have the power to remove appointees to the Executive Department but we are not in agreement with regard to the Boards and Commissions. We would like to have more information and time to consider the Boards and Commissions as far as removing them from office is concerned. We feel some method should be established but are not ready to make any recommendations at this time.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?
Yes.

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how? Yes. To coincide with the office of Governor.

We feel the constitution should be amended to allow four year terms.

It was suggested that the that the Lt. Governor be elected on a ticket with the Governor. Also that serious consideration be given to the making the other Executive Department officials appointive positions with the Governor appointing.

^{small}
A minority felt that appointing executive officials would be abdicating the responsibility of informing ourselves on the other officers and allowing someone else to make our decisions for us.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

APR 2 1968 REC'D

October 1968
Presidents Mailing
(5 copies)

LWV of Victoria, Texas Signed by Mrs. John B. Crumman

CONSENSUS QUESTION ON THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PART I. THE GOVERNOR

(Please, try to arrive at the answers to the following questions through a group consensus emerging from discussion rather than by actually polling the members present or asking for a show of hands.)

1. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to change the length of term of the Governor? If so, how?

yes. The length of term of office of governor should be four (4) years.

2. Should the Governor of Texas be allowed to serve an unlimited number of terms? If not, how many?

*No. If the length of term be extended to four years, two successive terms (total of 8 yrs.) is enough.
(Minority opinion for unlimited terms)*

3. Should the Governor be allowed immediately to succeed himself?

yes

4. Would the length of term of the Governor effect your answers to questions 2 and/or 3? Explain.

Yes. Explanation already given.

5. Should the Governor be elected in a non presidential election year?

Right unit - no.

Day unit - no clear consensus

(OVER)

6. Should the Governor have the power to remove appointive officers of the Executive Department and appointees to Boards and Commissions?

Consensus opinion that the governor should have some removal power over his own appointees.

7. Should the Texas Constitution be revised to include a provision modeled after the 25th Amendment to the United States Constitution to provide for the succession to the office of Governor when the incumbent is disabled?

not discussed sufficiently for consensus

8. Should the length of terms of the Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land Office and Attorney General be changed? If so, how?

not discussed sufficiently for consensus.

Since this is a relatively new study item, we feel 1 to 1 1/2 hours of unit study did not give us adequate time to develop a broad base (of knowledge) from which to express an educated opinion. We respectfully suggest

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that there are too many questions to cover, within the limitation of our time!

E.B.

MEMORANDUM FROM:

FEB 27 RECD

League of Women Voters of Texas

[REDACTED]

TO: Ruth Martin

From: Gloria Herman

18 You are a great V.P! I know exactly what you are saying in your note of Feb. 18, but tis not necessary. I am very happy and believe it or not moving along in the way you indicate I should be....slowly to be sure.

Speech writing is something I have never done, but for such a nice lady as you I will give it a try. However, do not be surprised if I end up saying something I have not written. I am mindful of the fact that most of the Leagues will be sending in their Consensus during March, and I may be in a position to discuss these at Council but would not be able to have them ready for Joyce to include in her mimeographing.

How is Amarillo doing? Thanks for Arkansas consensus.

2-18-69

Dear Gloria: No cc to anyone - not important enough to others...

I would have liked to have had a few minutes to talk to you before leaving Austin...but, you know how that is. All I got done was to try to mumble a few words to you in the board meeting room after you had made your report. What bothered me about your report was that it sounded to me as if you had been completely discouraged from doing your proposed pamphlet or F and I type publication. I did not think so then and I still do not. That is why I so valiantly defended doing the publication.

I thought your committee agreed the facts part should go into a chart, that the Lt. Governor and Atty. General parts could pretty well stay as was and that you were to consider adding an agency or two as case study examples (this last was Janice's suggestion). There was even a proposal to ask the question, "Do we need a Cabinet?" and to describe this, etc. My final notes were that your Cmte would recommend doing a pamphlet or a F & I type, but that you would hold finalization until after receiving direction at Council. Is this the way you remember it? Please set me straight if it isn't. Of course I do not think your material is as dull as the discussion implicated. Basically, It is pretty darn good. After all, how fascinating can you make the subject involved?

Let me hear from you when you have time. If you want to get the No. II Executive going per schedule, I think you should have some fairly concrete plans (and a draft) ready for possible revision following Council direction. Out of room. Love, Ruth M. *Ruth M.*

TEXAS
THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

JAN 4 1969
1st Draft
REC'D

II. ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Executive Department of government in Texas is composed of thirty-one elected members and a multitude of appointed ones. The governor is theoretically the chief elected official and has been described in THE ~~KING~~ GOVERNOR¹. The other elected officials include the Lt.^G Governor, Attorney General, Treasurer, Comptroller of Public Accounts, Commissioner of the General Land Office, Commissioner of Agriculture, three members of the Railroad Commission, and twenty one members of the Board of Education. These are the public servants who make of the governor a chief among equals.

Leave except cut salary terms, etc + put in chart

The Lt. Governor is elected for a two year term. He runs independently of the governor and even though in November their names appear together on the Democratic (and Republican) ticket, their political views may be far apart. Qualifications for the Lt. governorship are the same as ^{those} for the governor, i.e. a U.S. citizen 30 years of age and a resident of Texas at least five years immediately preceding his election. His salary as written in the Constitution is the same as that of a Senator unless he is acting as governor during which time he receives the same salary as the governor. He is paid \$4800 annually plus \$12 a day for the first 120 days of a regular session of the legislature and the first 30 days of a special session and a travel allowance of \$2.50 for each 25 miles traveled to and from the state capitol. In addition the lt. governor receives an apartment in the Capitol.

The lt. governor acts as governor when the latter is out of the state or temporarily unable to fulfil the office of governor. He may succeed to the office of governor in case of the death, permanent disability or removal of the incumbent governor. He serves as an ex-officio member of several committees including the Legislative Budget Board and Legislative Redistricting Board.

The major duty of the lt. governor is to serve as the presiding officer of the Texas Senate, the President of the Senate. Unlike our national Vice-President, the presiding officer of the Texas Senate wields a tremendous

1. THE TEXAS EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, I THE GOVERNOR, league of Women voters of Texas, October, 1968.

1. Gantt, Governor of Texas

amount of power. He sets the size of committees and appoints ~~most~~^{not} only the members to these committees but also their chairmen. In so doing he can heavily influence what will emerge from a committee and hence what business will be transacted by the Senate. He refers all bills to committees and can further control the action of the Senate through parliamentary rulings. ~~The~~ Lt. governor also obtains strength from the fact that he is elected state-wide and represents varying elements in the state.

Eleven of the fifty United States do not have a lt. governor; of the thirty-nine that do in all but one he is elected by the people; in one state Tennessee, he is chosen by the State Senate from among its members. Salaries range from strictly a per diem and car allowance in several states to a high of \$32,500 annually in Pennsylvania. States providing basic salaries of over \$20,000 include California, Hawaii, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York and Pennsylvania. In seven states the governor and lt. governor run as a ticket.

Leave > The Attorney General, another constitutionally authorized official, is elected for a two year term and receives a salary of \$27,000 annually; he must reside in the Capitol while in office. There are no qualifications spelled out for this office, though custom has decreed that its holder be at least an attorney. The office traditionally has been regarded as a "stepping stone" to the governorship¹ and this regard enhances the importance of the office. In addition, by the very nature of his work, the attorney general is in statewide contact with many lawyers and judges who constitute a strong political group within the state.

The attorney general uses an annual budget of about \$1.6 million in carrying out the many responsibilities of his office. Primarily he ~~is~~ (1) gives legal advice to state and local officials in the form of advisory opinions on questions of legality or constitutionality of laws, (2) represents the state in civil proceedings and (3) furnishes assistance to any member of the legislature who, in writing, requests that the substance of a bill to be introduced be put into legal form. The Attorney General's office will rule on the constitutionality of a bill after its introduction if requested to do so by the House of Representatives or Senate Committee to which it

has been referred. The work of the office is carried on through separate divisions each headed by an assistant attorney general. These divisions are: Land, Bond, Taxation, Oil Gas and Rate, State Affairs and Law Enforcement. Obviously, ^The attorney general and his staff cooperate with numerous other members of state government, both legislative and administrative. It is the attorney general, himself, who retains the final determination on matters of policy, final review of opinions, and personnel matters. He personally argues the major case for the State. The Attorney general serves ex-officio ¹ on more Executive Boards than any other state officer.

In the other United States, the salaries of Attorneys General range from a low of \$6000 in Arkansas to a high of \$40,000 in New York. Those ^{over} states paying a salary of \$27,500 include New York, Michigan, ^{Illinois and Georgia,} ~~Illinois~~ Florida, \$34,000 and California, \$32,000. In 42 of our states the attorneys general are elected by popular vote; in six states, appointed by the governor; ~~on~~ one state, ~~Maine~~, the attorney general is elected by the legislature; in Tennessee he is selected by the Judges of the State Supreme Court.

The Comptroller of Public Accounts is elected for a two year term and paid a salary of \$26,000 annually; he must reside in Austin while in office. No qualifications for his office are given.

Without attempting to cover the whole picture of public finance in Texas, one can still get an understanding of the complexity of the Comptroller's duties. As chief tax-collector of the state, he collects most of our major taxes: the severance tax on oil, natural gas, sulphur and cement production; the gross receipts taxes on telephone companies and public utilities; corporation franchise taxes; gasoline and other motor fuel taxes; inheritance taxes; ~~sales~~ and some occupational taxes. While the comptroller does not actually collect ~~property~~ ^{are} and motor vehicle registration taxes, he is involved in their collection ~~at~~ the county level. Other agencies involved in tax collecting for the state; the Liquor Control Board collects and administers taxes on alcoholic beverages while liquor stamps are sold by the Treasurers office;

the Department of Public Safety collects fees for Drivers' Licenses; many occupational licensing boards collect fees of one kind or another. Obviously in Texas the comptroller is the major tax collector but other collecting agencies make for a complex situation.

The Comptroller is also the states accountant and bookkeeper. As such he maintains a general ledger recording all the business transactions of the state. He authorises the Treasurer to accept all funds placed in his custody and classifies and keeps account of the revenue deposited in the Treasury by the many separate funds. He authorises the issuance of warrants or checks in payment for expenditures authorised by appropriation bills but only after making sure the money is still available in the specific fund from which it is to be taken. All appropriation bills passed by the Legislature go to him to determine whether or not the amount appropriated goes beyond anticipated income; if it does go beyond anticipated income, the comptroller refuses to certify the bill and it must be invalidated. He also signs all checks which are co-signed by the Treasurer before being valid.

At the opening of each legislative session, the Comptroller's office presents a statement with respect to the financial condition of the state at the last fiscal year and an estimate of revenues anticipated for the coming biennium. Theoretically the state maintains a pay as you go situation since the Comptroller will not authorise an appropriation bill for which his projection of income will not provide funds.

The Comptroller must also keep a complete inventory of all state property. He issues annual reports on the condition of state finances, maintains files on county and municipal budget reports, and registers state, county, school, municipal and other bonds. This is a large department of state government and it is no wonder that its budget is the largest within the Executive and Administrative category and is equal to that of the total Judicial section of the state budget -over \$6 million.

Within the fifty states, ten provide for the popular election of the State Comptroller; in twenty-two there is no comptroller as such, his work being done by some other agency or individual; the governor is privileged to appoint his controller in eleven states; two others are selected by legislatures; four are appointed by Boards; one is on civil service. Salaries range from a low of \$10,000 in South Dakota to \$40,000 in New York. Three states, South Carolina, Missouri and Maryland pay \$20,000; Hawaii, Colorado, and Michigan pay \$22,000; Georgia bestows \$22,500 annually on its Comptroller and California, \$25,000. Only one state, New York, has a higher salary for its comptroller than does Texas.

The Treasurer is also elected for a period of two years and receives a salary of \$26,000 annually. He must live in the state capitol while in office and may not receive any fees, costs or perquisites of office for his own use. He eventually receives almost all the moneys collected by various departments and agencies as fees, taxes, etc., and is responsible for them. His department spends about \$500,000 annually.

"While the state treasury is literally a bank with guards and vaults, most of the moneys are kept in hundreds of state and national banks throughout the state on time and demand deposits. The Treasurer serves as secretary of a three member state depository board (other members are the banking commissioner and a citizen appointed by the governor) that designates which banks shall be the state depositories. The department is like a bank in that each day's work must balance out and employees cannot leave until the balance is obtained. During any working day, these balances change hourly.

The treasurer issues warrants which are counter-signed by the comptroller and then must cash them when presented. Over 600,000 warrants are issued and cashed monthly involving pensions, salaries, purchase orders, etc. In addition the Treasury must keep up with some 300 special funds and five to ten thousand deposits a day.

The treasurer is custodian of securities belonging to the various permanent and investment funds of the state. He is directed by law to hold

certain securities of the depository banks, insurance companies, investment companies and building and loan associations in trust. The Treasury must issue monthly and annual reports showing transactions in the various state funds; this department also sells excise stamps for cigarettes, wine and liquor containers. The treasurer, himself, serves on several state boards. Besides the Depository Board, he serves on the State Banking Board which issues licenses and permits to state banks and credit unions and supervises their activities; the Board to Calculate the Ad-valorem Tax Rate used for public school purposes and Board for selecting the auditor of the prison system.

In 40 states the treasurer is elected by popular vote; in 8, he is appointed by the governor or another agency; in Hawaii his work is done by another official; Alaska has no treasurer. Florida pays the highest treasurer's salary - \$34,000 annually. Three states pay under \$10,000. Four states pay more than the \$26,000 Texas does: Illinois, and Michigan, \$30,000; Pennsylvania, \$32,500 and Florida. (No information for New York.)

Commissioner of Agriculture In addition to the executive officers provided for by the constitution, the legislature has from time to time added statutory officers. Of these the Commissioner of Agriculture is one of the most important. This office is filled biennially through popular election. The salaries of the statutory officers are determined by the legislature in each biennial appropriation bill; in 1968 the salary for this position was ²⁶\$15,000. The Department of Agriculture has a budget of almost \$2 million.

The Department of Agriculture is primarily an agricultural law enforcement agency, but it also performs research and educational functions in the field of agriculture. One of the major duties of the Commissioner of Agriculture is to administer the various state laws regarding the control of plant pests; the department may set up quarantines to control these pests. No fruit, trees, shrubs, flowers, or nursery stock may be shipped into Texas without filing with the Commissioner of Agriculture an affidavit of inspection granted in the state of origin. All florists and greenhouse operators are licensed and inspected by this department.

in East Texas in 1930, the regulations became more sweeping and stringent. Now the agency issues drilling permits, inspects wells, sets the limits of oil production (prorations) to match supply with demand, maintain prices and safeguard the Texas oil industry.

Insert.

The Railroad Commission spends almost \$3 million annually. This represents a considerable increase in funds since the year 1962 when to investigate charges of slanted drilling some major oil companies contributed money to the Railroad Commission to enable it to investigate charges of slanted drilling.

32

In other states, the governors appoint the person or Board in charge of Public utility regulation; in 8 states a board or the legislature appoints, and in 10 states including Texas the people elect those who will regulate the public utilities.

~~KEYEN~~

~~Of these main executive department officials and~~

by Constitutional

The Railroad Commission was originally established in the Amendment; later areas of authority were added by statute. The Commissioner of Agriculture is a statutory office. All the other executives and the Board of Education are set forth in the Constitution. All elected by direct popular vote, they function without any legal direction from our so called chief executive.

Insert for preceding page.

Texas' first Board of Education, created in 1866, was briefly prominent during Reconstruction period. The State Board of Education was recreated in 1928 and strengthened by the Gilmer-Aiken Act in 1949.

The Railroad Commission is Texas' most powerful regulatory agency. It was established in 1891, at the urging of the Grange and Populist and after having been championed by Governor Hogg in his successful gubernatorial campaign. Its purpose, like that of the Interstate Commerce Commission on the federal level, was to correct abuses in the construction and operation of railroads in the state of Texas. The Railroad Commission today is still concerned with such matters as freight rates, passenger fares, and maintenance of rail facilities, but its responsibilities now extend to other areas as well.

The Railroad Commission is composed of three members elected for six year over-lapping terms. Their salary is \$22,500 a year. The governor may make an appointment to fill any vacancy that may occur in mid-term. Tenure in office tends to be long; relations with oilmen tend to be cordial. The commissioners may be more responsible to the oil industry than to the governor.

It is not entirely clear why the Railroad Commission's sphere has expanded so greatly. Certainly putting regulation of trucks and buses under its aegis, when state supervision of motor transport became necessary was perfectly logical, since the Commission existed and seemed to function well in a similar area. A special division of the Railroad Commission has jurisdiction over trucks and bus applications, insurance, fares and related matters. Other divisions have been created within the agency to handle gas utilities, pipelines as common carriers, and the most important--the oil industry. All gas companies in Texas are required to report to the Commission on the amount of gas sold, number of customers, price, etc., and the agency has on occasion mediated in city-company price disputes.

The focus of the Railroad Commission's regulatory activities in oil is the conservation of a natural resource. Following the chaotic oil rush

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In 1955 new legislation established county committees to pass on appraisals and approve sales of Veteran's land, and the composition of the board was altered to replace the governor and attorney general with two citizens appointed by the governor and approved by the senate. A constitutional amendment in 1967 extended the veterans land program by authorizing the sale of \$200 million in state bonds to purchase land for sales to veterans. In April, 1968 the present land commissioner limited purchase of land for veterans to 10% of any large subdivision, raising objections from real estate developers, who also complained of "low Appraisal," indicating that the Bascom Giles type of activity was not present at this time.

State Board of Education consists of 21 members who must be over 30 years of age and are elected from the 21 Congressional districts in existence in Texas in 1949. They serve 6 year over-lapping terms. These twenty-one also comprise the State Board of Vocational Education. When performing duties in this latter capacity, they receive per diem and expenses; otherwise Board members are not compensated.

The State Board of Education is the policy-making body of the Texas Education Agency. As such, it prepares and adopts an annual budget for education, makes contracts for texts and school material, reviews educational needs and formulates plans to meet these needs. It appoints the Commissioner of Education (for a four-year term) with the consent of the Senate. ^{Two day Monthly} Board ^{in Austin} meetings are open to the public, are held ~~monthly~~ with the exception of December and occasionally September for a two day session. These meetings are well covered by the press. There are always interested citizens in attendance particularly when the Board hears appeals or when text books are adopted. In the past three or four years the amount of time and work involved in vocational education has doubled, as the increasing number of programs require a study of financing and the use of federal aid.

The Texas Education Agency disburses over $\frac{1}{2}$ billion dollars annually. Considering this vast sum of money it controls, and the gradual acceptance by local schools of greater direction from the state, the State Board of Education will probably become increasingly powerful.

also designated the mineral rights in river beds and all areas within the tidewater limits as belonging to the school fund, and has reserved all or part of the mineral rights in the 7 million acres of school land which have been sold. The discovery of oil and gas on school lands, including the offshore oilfields, has increased the importance of the land commissioner post. He now handles millions of dollars per year in rentals, leases, and royalties.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office is perhaps best known as the administrator of the Veteran's Land Program. This program, established in 1946 (instead of pensions for World War II veterans,) authorized \$100 million in public funds to buy land for resale to veterans on a low down payment, long term, low interest basis. The program is run by the Veterans Land Board, which depends on the general land office to handle its administrative affairs. In 1954, when the board was composed of land commissioner Bascom Giles (originator of the Veterans Land Program), the attorney general, and the governor, flagrant mis-management of the program came to light and created a scandal for the administration of Gov. Allan Shivers. Land promoters and dishonest public servants conspired to defraud the veterans and fleece the state of some \$10 million. The abuses involved promoters duping veterans into signing papers for land which was then reappraised at 2 to 3 times its market value before the state purchased it. In other instances, veterans were bribed to purchase land for resale to those interested in the favorable mortgage terms. A state senate committee finally investigated the situation and eventually a grand jury indicted 21 persons including Bascom Giles. The attorney general and the governor, put in a delicate situation by their membership on the board were "exonerated" because they rarely attended the board meeting and claimed ignorance of the abuses. Bascom Giles was convicted on one charge of being an accomplice to theft of \$6800 and later pleaded guilty to accepting bribes totalling \$59,000. He was sentenced to 66 years and served 3.

7.

This department also enforces the regulations pertaining to the inspection, grading, color, packing, marketing, shipping, canning and processing of citrus fruits, and it prevents the marketing of immature or overripe fruit. Also enforced is the Cabbage Standardization and Inspection Act relating to the packing and shipping of cabbage in commercial quantities. This department has considerable authority over growers of seeds and plants and can certify and register plant and seed growers; all seeds from other states must be certified as meeting existing Texas standards regarding purity and germination tests.

Another aspect of the activities of the Commissioner of Agriculture is the enforcement of the state's laws regarding weights and measures. This includes testing scales, pumps, meters, etc. for accuracy. All warehouses in Texas are inspected by the Department of Agriculture and are certified as "bonded warehouses" if they meet the standards.

In 12 other states the Commissioner of Agriculture is elected by the people. In 21, he is appointed by the governor; in 13 by the legislature or Board; in 3 states there is no one agency in charge of agriculture; in one, the Commissioner is on civil service.

Commissioner of the General Land Office This office is unique; there is no similar office in any other state due to the fact that Texas, unlike other states, was allowed to keep its public domain when it entered the Union. The Commissioner of the General Land Office is a constitutional officer who is directly elected every two years. His salary of \$26,000 is fixed by the legislature; he must reside in the state capitol during his term of office, and he may not receive fees for services rendered. The annual budget for his Land Office is slightly over \$1 million.

The land office was originally created to keep records and documents pertaining to land titles. Its major activities today involve the sale and leasing of land and mineral rights assigned to the Permanent School Fund, and accounting related to these transactions. Texas owns and the commissioner has charge of 30 million acres of land of which about $1\frac{1}{2}$ million acres are set aside for the public schools. The legislature has