LWV of Texas
October 15, 19 6
LL Presidents Mailing (2 copies)
I. A. 2.
Action - State

LEGISLATIVE INTERVIEW FORM I. Return to: Barbara Nobles, LWV-T
1212 Guadalupe, #109
Austin, TX 78701

This interview form is designed to guide you in interviewing your legislators about prospects for legislative action on state program items during the 65th session of the Legislature. It is not for publication; do not give or mail form to the legislator. Deadline for returning is December 1, 1976.

Name of Legislator _____ Party _____

Senate or House District No. _____ County _____

Format of Interview _____
(Reception, coffee, lunch, office, etc.)

Local League(s) participating _____

_____ No. present ____

1. Major revision of the property tax will be introduced in the next session. What is your position on revisions to the property tax administration in Texas?

2. What changes, if any, do you advocate in the criminal justice system in Texas?

3. Do you favor establishing a single county elections office for voter registration and elections? If yes:
   a. Should the appointment of an independent administrator be mandatory in counties of a certain size; say, those over 100,000 inhabitants?

   b. Should a minimum level of funding by the county be required for the operation of the office?

   c. Should the county elections office be permitted to supervise or conduct, under contract, the elections of political parties & other jurisdictions in the county?

   d. Do you agree that one of the prime responsibilities of the elections office would be to provide mandatory training for election workers and volunteer deputy registrars so that registration & elections are conducted with a greater degree of efficiency and accuracy?

4. Will you support adequate funding and staff for a Commission on the Status of Women?

5. Would you support legislation providing a comprehensive public participation program in the formulation of a totally new Texas Water Plan, such as we have for Coastal Management plan?

6. Would you support a state land use management policy if it:
   a. delegated most land use management decisions to the local government when possible?

   b. did not establish a new agency at the state level, but was implemented through an appropriate existing agency?

7. Once again the anti-ERA's are cranking up for rescission or to pass legislation that would call for a referendum in 1977. The amendment reads: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Do you support equal rights and protections for all citizens as exemplified by the proposed amendment to the United States Constitution?

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY THE INTERVIEWER

1. What does this legislator regard as the major legislative issue, goal, or responsibility in the coming session?

2. What is this legislator's primary area of interest?

3. What is his or her attitude toward the League?

4. What other information did you gather from this interview? (Please use additional sheet of paper if necessary.)

5. Does he/she plan to introduce any legislation in the 65th Session?

6. Other comments, if any.

Signed _____ _____
Name Position

LWV of _____

BEFORE GOING FOR THE INTERVIEW: It is important that you be briefed by program chairs if you are not familiar with all aspects of League program. Excellent reference materials are: And Now Action, We Support, State Program: A Historical Perspective, and any special papers or publications like Facts and Issues, State VOTERS, and consensus background materials. Write up your report as soon as possible after the interview when it is fresh in your memory.

LWV of Texas
October 15, 1976
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I. A. 2.
Action - State

LEGISLATOR'S BIOGRAPHY REPORT-FORM II. Return to: Barbara Nobles, LWV-T
1212 Guadalupe, #109
Austin, TX 78701

This form is to be filled in by the local League. Please do NOT ask these questions of your Representative or Senator, either directly or by mail. If you are unable to complete this data sheet, please return it with as much information as you have available (campaign material, clippings, Voters Guides). Every League in district is urged to return this form with any information available to you.

NAME: Senator _____ District #_____ Party_____
Representative

LOCAL ADDRESS _____ Age_____

OCCUPATION _____

EDUCATION _____

When first elected to this office? _____

Other experience in government--what, when, where _____

_____

Other political history of importance such as party leadership or vigorous but

unsuccessful candidacy in the past _____

_____

Is this legislator generally considered to be aligned with any particular faction or interest in the legislature, state government, or business interests?

_____

Your comments and judgment concerning this member of the Legislature and your evaluation of his/her responses are very important. They supply us with our most valuable information for lobbying. Please give any other pertinent or useful information that you have available, such as his community interests, group support or opposition during his or her campaign.

Please give your evaluation of this legislator:

Reported by_____ LWV of_____ Date_____

Other Leagues in this legislator's district _____

This is NOT going on DPM

LWV of Texas
October 15, 1976
LL Presidents Mailing
I. A. 2.
Administration
Action - State

TO: LL Presidents and Legislative Chairs (to receive second copy)
FROM: Barbara Nobles, Legislative Director, LWV-T
RE: Legislative Interviews

The enclosed forms are for your use in discussing state issues with your legislators. Extra copies are available from state office. Please do plan to meet with them over lunch, at coffee, at a unit meeting, or dinner in the back yard. This need not be a formal office appointment. If your legislator does not have a position on a particular issue, make a note of that, too. Try to find out his/her main areas of interest (HR, NR, Tax, Education) and any legislation that he/she is planning to sponsor.

Where Leagues share legislators, the underlined League is responsible for the interview. If the assigned League cannot make the interview, arrangements should be made for a substitute.

While every League is urged to see each of its legislators, I realize there are a few incumbents who are less than co-operative. You may decide a contact with them would not accomplish any worthwhile results. This is <u>your</u> decision--just make a note of it.

Have fun - most legislators are nice people (even if they don't vote with us all the time).

LWV of Texas
October 15, 19 6
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Action - State

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Local League(s) participating_____

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   a. Should the appointment of an independent administrator be mandatory in counties of a certain size; say, those over 100,000 inhabitants?

   b. Should a minimum level of funding by the county be required for the operation of the office?

   c. Should the county elections office be permitted to supervise or conduct, under contract, the elections of political parties & other jurisdictions in the county?

   d. Do you agree that one of the prime responsibilities of the elections office would be to provide mandatory training for election workers and volunteer deputy registrars so that registration & elections are conducted with a greater degree of efficiency and accuracy?

4. Will you support adequate funding and staff for a Commission on the Status of Women?

5. Would you support legislation providing a comprehensive public participation program in the formulation of a totally new Texas Water Plan, such as we have for Coastal Management plan?

6. Would you support a state land use management policy if it:
   a. delegated most land use management decisions to the local government when possible?

   b. did not establish a new agency at the state level, but was implemented through an appropriate existing agency?

7. Once again the anti-ERA's are cranking up for rescission or to pass legislation that would call for a referendum in 1977. The amendment reads: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Do you support equal rights and protections for all citizens as exemplified by the proposed amendment to the United States Constitution?

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY THE INTERVIEWER

1. What does this legislator regard as the major legislative issue, goal, or responsibility in the coming session?

2. What is his or her primary area of interest?

3. What is his or her attitude toward the League?

4. What other information did you gather from this interview? (Please use additional sheet of paper if necessary.)

5. Does he/she plan to introduce any legislation in the 65th Session?

6. Other comments, if any.

Signed _____ _____
Name Position

LWV of _____

BEFORE GOING FOR THE INTERVIEW: It is important that you be briefed by program chairs if you are not familiar with all aspects of League program. Excellent reference materials are: And Now Action, We Support, State Program: A Historical Perspective, and any special papers or publications like Facts and Issues, State VOTERS, and consensus background materials. Write up your report as soon as possible after the interview when it is fresh in your memory.

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NAME: Senator _____ District #_____ Party_____
Representative

LOCAL ADDRESS_____ Age_____

OCCUPATION_____

EDUCATION_____

When first elected to this office?_____

Other experience in government--what, when, where_____

_____

Other political history of importance such as party leadership or vigorous but

unsuccessful candidacy in the past_____

_____

Is this legislator generally considered to be aligned with any particular faction or interest in the legislature, state government, or business interests?

_____

Your comments and judgment concerning this member of the Legislature and your evaluation of his/her responses are very important. They supply us with our most valuable information for lobbying. Please give any other pertinent or useful information that you have available, such as his community interests, group support or opposition during his or her campaign.

Please give your evaluation of this legislator:

Reported by_____ LWV of_____ Date_____

Other Leagues in this legislator's district_____

LWV of Texas
October 15, 1976
LL Presidents Mailing
(2 copies)
I. A. 2.
Action - State

SENATORIAL DISTRICTS - 65th LEGISLATURE

The League assigned to the interview is underlined (this is done on a rotating basis).
PLEASE SEND DUPLICATE COPIES OF THE REPORT FORMS TO THE OTHER LEAGUES IN THE DISTRICT.

District	Leagues in District
1	Lamar County
2	Tyler Hunt County (UAL) Richardson
3	Beaumont
4	Beaumont Orange
5	No League
6	Houston Bay Area
7	Houston Pasadena Bay Area
8	Richardson Irving Garland Dallas Plano
9	Garland Dallas Richardson
10	Tarrant County
11	Houston Pasadena
12	Tarrant County
13	Pasadena Houston Bay Area
14	Austin San Marcos
15	Houston
16	Dallas Garland Irving
17	Galveston Pasadena Pearland Houston Bay Area
18	Victoria
19	San Antonio
20	Corpus Christi
21	San Antonio
22	Denton
23	Irving Dallas Garland Richardson
24	Waco Abilene
25	Midland
26	San Antonio
27	Harlingen Brownsville Edinburg-McAllen
28	Odessa Lubbock
29	El Paso
30	Wichita Falls
31	Amarillo

LWV of Texas
October 15, 1976
LL Presidents Mailing (2 copies)
I. A. 2.
Action - State

HOUSE DISTRICTS - 65th LEGISLATURE

Please see instructions on Senatorial District sheet.

District	Leagues in District
1	No League
2	No League
3	No League
4	No League
5	Beaumont Orange
6	No League
7-1	Beaumont Orange
2	Beaumont
3	Orange
8	Orange
9	Lamar County
10	Hunt Co. (UAL)
11	No League
12	Tyler
13	No League
14	Tyler
15	Tyler
16	No League
17	Houston Bay Area
18	No League
19-1	Galveston
2	"
20	Pearland
21	Pearland
22	Sherman
23	Gainesville
24	Richardson
25	Denton
26	Dallas Co. See 33A - 33R
27	No League
28	No League
29	No League
30	No League
31	No League
32-1 thru 9	Tarrant County
33	No League
33-A	Dallas-Irving
B	Dallas-Irving
C	Dallas
D	Garland Dallas
E-I	Dallas
J	Irving-Dallas
K-O	Dallas
P	Richardson Dallas
Q-R	Dallas
34	No League
35-1&2	Waco
36	No League
37-A,B,C,D	Austin
38	San Marcos (Adopted)
39	Victoria (Adopted)
40	Victoria
41	Corpus Christi
42	Tarrant County
43	No League
44	No League
45	San Marcos San Antonio

House Districts

District	Leagues in District
46	Bexar Co. See 57A-K
47	No League
48-1-3	Corp us Christi
49	No League
50	Brownsville
51	Harlingen
52	Wichita Falls
53	Wichita Falls
54	No League
55	No League
56	No League
57	No League
57-A-K	San Antonio
58	No League
59-1-2	Edinburg-McAllen
60	No League
61	No League
62	Abilene
63	No League
64	No League
65	Amarillo
66	No League
67	Amarillo
68	Midland
69	Odessa
70	No League
71	El Paso
72-1-4	El Paso
73	Odessa

District	Leagues in District
74	No League
75-1-2	Lubbock
76	Lubbock
77	No League
78	Baytown Houston
79 thru 95	Houston
96	Houston
97-98	Houston
99	Pasadena Houston
100	Pasadena Houston Bay Area
101	No League

PLEASE NOTIFY STATE LEGISLATIVE CHAIR OF ANY CORRECTION.

LWV-Texas
August 27, 1976
III. C.
CI/VS-Legislative-Congressional
LL Presidents Mailing

Copies will be sent with next DPM and
Standing Order mailing

TO: Local League Presidents
FROM: Meg Titus, Program Vice-President

The program core has compiled the following issue-oriented questions which we hope you will find useful in talking with legislative candidates between now and the November election. These can be used for informal or formal discussions as well as for candidates meetings which I'm sure many of you will be sponsoring this fall. Detailed background information is included with some of the more complex questions and, of course, you may want to add questions of your own. You'll note that some of our "back burner" positions have not been included in this group of questions, but feel free to discuss TCR, MSG, and SLR matters with the candidates on your own. Please remember to send a report on the candidates' answers to Barbara Nobles, legislative chair, as this will be helpful in getting her pre-session files together.

1. How much have you received in campaign contributions and from whom?

2. Do you support uniform statewide property appraisal? Do you have any suggestions for making the property tax more equitable?

3. In your opinion, will new sources of revenue be needed? If yes, what sources would you support?

4. Do you approve of the establishment of a county election administrative office? Should such an office be required in all counties above a certain size, say 10,000 persons, or be permissible in all counties and subject to the order of the commissioners courts?
   If this office is established, should the commissioners court be required to provide adequate funding along guidelines suggested by the Secretary of State?

5. Should the county elections office be permitted to supervise or conduct, under contract, the elections of political parties and other jurisdictions in the county?

6. Should one of the prime responsibilities of the elections office be to provide uniform and effective training for election workers and volunteer deputy registrars so that registrations and elections are conducted with a greater degree of efficiency and accuracy?

7. Would you favor the legislature acting affirmatively to a proposal to increase the monthly benefits paid to families with dependent children (AFDC)?

8. Will you support adequate funding and staff for a Commission on the Status of Women?

9. If Constitutional Amendment #1 does not pass, would you support legislation providing a comprehensive public participation program in the formulation of a totally new Texas Water Plan, such as we have for the Coastal Zone Management Plan?

10. Would you support a state land use management policy if it:
    a) delegated most land use management decisions to the local government when possible?
    b) did not establish a new agency at the state level, but was implemented through an appropriate existing agency?

more

11. Do you favor ordinance-making power for counties?

12. What changes, if any, do you advocate in the criminal justice system in Texas?

13. Do you think the state of Texas should participate in the conservation program provided for in the Energy Policy and Conservation Act? If so, certain legislation will be required to qualify for funding, i.e. approximately one million dollars for FY 1977. Are you willing to support such enabling legislation as that which will probably be required in the area of lighting and thermal standards for buildings as well as government procurement practices?

14. What state legislation would you support to bring Texas' air quality up to national standards?

15. Would you support a merit plan for judicial selection calling for a commission to submit nominations to the governor for appointment, with tenure to be decided by a vote of the people in a non-competitive election?

Candidates' questions (cont)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON QUESTIONS 4, 5, 6.

This year we received more than the usual number of inquiries and complaints about registration and elections. The laws passed by the 64th Legislature--especially the registration law and the last-minute changes required in its implementation by the federal Voting Rights Act--were, of course, contributing factors, since voter education throughout the state was far from uniform and largely inadequate. These new laws served another, unexpected function: they focused the attention of voters and candidates on how the laws were being administered. Many were appalled at the haphazard way registration and elections were conducted in many counties and communities.

County, city, and school board officers are compelled to take on the burden of administering registration or running elections in addition to their other pressing duties, often without additional staff. Harried county chairmen of political parties find that they are expected to become experts in election law overnight. These officers have little time to keep fully abreast of election law and make certain that they are complying with all the changes required by the state each year. Even if they had the time, many of them do not have the means to do the kind of job they know should be done.

Many county officers and voters alike are advocating the establishment of a county administrative office for elections which would absorb the voter registration functions of the tax assessor-collector and the election functions of the county clerk. Funded by state and local taxes, this office would give voters the kind of service they expect, and underscore the importance of fair and efficient elections and the citizens' role in good government. In counties that choose to do so, a county lections administrator would be appointed by a special elections commission composed of the county judge, the county clerk, the county tax assessor-collector, and the chairperson of the county executive committee of each political party whose nominees for state and county officers are nominated by primary.

Leg Gr.

OCT 25 1976

Oct. 18, 1976

To: Nobles, Farmer, Anderson, SO
From: Hunter
Re: Lobby Learn-In Workshops

Barbara: Have Members-at-Large been invited or notified of the workshops? I think they should. Will you, please?

Peggy: I think it would be nice if you would send each a personal reminder of the workshop in her area and invite them to participate. Then will you send someone in each area-a sb member- to watch for MALs and welcome them. You would need to send the names to each person so they would know who to look for at which workshop.

October 22, 1976
To: Titus, Anderson, SO, Tilley
From: Nobles

As per our conversation the 19th, I have reserved SO for you on November 22. (Titus) It will sleep 3 cozily. Post cards have been sent to former lobby corps members and a notice will appear in the Nov. Austin VOTER. If you will remember, I was "special arrangements " before I became Leg. chair, and I've been busy with the special arrangements plus the program content plus the lobby corps and something has to come last.

I have heard nothing from the program chairs because you asked them to send it to you in your memo of the19th of Sept.

Things we need to discuss at lobby corps meetings:

Who wants which portfolio
What on earth does lobby corps have to do with learn ins except come to the Austin one if they wantto
Last session we did not use a legislative service, the rumor has it that Russell Fish's service will be in excess of $1500, Chris is going to see if we can at least get Blue Books for SB and one each for lobby corps and LL's.
The Legislative Newsletter will be published by the Legislative Office, probably once a week, although in the past it has been once every two weeks at the beginning of the session. A promo flier will go out to LL's and selected others (Diana T's list) in late November. Yes, we will have to do some re-scheduling of work in SO, and Diana T., Joanne, Margaret and I are going to get together to work on that problem and others such as where to put what so we can have some room in the Legislative Office. A telephone has been arranged and it will be in the new 'phone book.
Bill analysis report form--OK by me
Stratgy should be worked out with the people who are sponsoring the bills so we are not working at cross purposes or messing up their plans. The LO would need to know these plans.
You should have in your files two papers, one on the duties of the Capitol Corps and the Leg. Director and another on the Cap. C. and the Austin League--I think these are just fine and need not be changed. The former includes procedures for Action Alerts, who decides etc. Policy for Corps etc.
Testimony probably should be coordinated with the program ch., sponsor of bill or main opposition depending on our position, chair of the committee, me, lobby corps person and goodness knows who!
Learn-in for SB program great--you Leg. ch. could benefit, too.
We had origionally planned for LL's to come to Austin during the session when their help was most needed.
I am unaware of changes in the Leg. Newsletter---suggestions?
A telephone tree system was used in the past, with decisions made by the Pres, Pg. Vp., Leg., and Apppropriate Program Chair. usually by phone, but sometimes it is a judgment call and a lot of trust is necessary--we do need to work some of this out at Jan. SB with program and pr. people
More on a lobby corps agenda later I've got to get this to SO NOW!

To: LL Presidents
From: Barbara Nobles, Legislative Director
Re: Big Bash

LWV-Texas
January 31, 1977
LL Presidents
I. A. 2
Administration
State - Action

You will be pleased to know that more than seventy guests attended the Big Bash state board had for legislators in Austin on January 11. Some legislators brought their spouses and their administrative assistants, while others who were unable to attend sent staff members as their representatives.

Please check the following list to see if legislators from your area either attended or sent a representative.

Attorney Gen. John Hill*
Chet Brooks
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Farabee
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Doggett
Mr. and Mrs. Kent Hance
Gene Jones*
Grant Jones
Carl Parker

Henry Allee
Mr. and Mrs. David Allred
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Benedict
Bill Blanton
Jim Browder

John Bryant
Robert Bush*
David Cain
Donald Cartwright
Ron Coleman
Wilhelmina Delco
Betty Denton
Charles Finnell*
Smith Gilley
Ernestine Glossbrenner
Bob Hendricks
Gerald Hill
Lee Jackson
Lance Lalor*
Herman Lauhoff
Bob McFarland
Doug McLeod
Chris Miller
Walt Parker
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Peveto
Tony Polumbo*
Albert Price
Irma Rangel
Joe Robbins
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rudd
Mr. and Mrs. Froy Salinas
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Simpson
Richard Slack
Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Smith
David Stubbeman
Ken Vaughan
Ralph Wallace
Ron Waters*
Ed Watson*
Sarah Weddington

* sent representative

Pre-board Report, December, 1976
PR, Higgins

BIG BASH ASSIGNMENTS

Well, it looks like we'll make it.
The following assignments are to be committed to memory and adhered to within reason:

Receiving at the front door (foot of the stairs in the Great Hall, and isn't THAT a noble appellation?):

5:00 - 5:30----------Anderson and Nobles
5:30 - 6:00----------Tilley and Higgins
6:00 - 6:30----------Titus and Wilbur
6:30 - 7:00----------Anderson and Clark
7:00 - 7:30----------Hunter and Sugihara
7:30 - 8:00----------Anderson and Shlipak

The following are expected to "hover and cover" (which means hang around and talk):

Den----------Materka, Moore, Davies
Dining Room--------Brown, Glickman, Leabo
Music Room---------Heaberlin, Headrick, Peterman

The Publication Table will be set up in the Great Hall. (Diana T., note change. I was afraid they might not get into the music room, and I think publications should be UNAVOIDABLE.)

Also to be set up in the Great Hall (simply LOVE that, sounds so Dickensian) near the meeters and greeters will be a registration table containing: a. name tags
b. guest book
c. flowers for the lapels/bosoms of the newly-elected legislators.

The Project SAFEWATER slide show, "The Water We Drink", will be shown continuously in the music room. (Diana and Donna, note change.)

Capitol Corps members will attend to the registration table, run the slide show, show guests where to hang coats (Donna, in the Sun Room, instead of the other room, OK?), help Donna with the goodies, and supervise the coat room.

No assignments have been made for off-board chairs, because I was uncertain who and how many would attend; but will these please circulate as they deem appropriate?

Long dresses are suggested, but not mandatory. Blue jeans will be frowned upon.

MATERKA: Could you please bring with you a press release on this, all ready to go?

EVERYBODY: Please keep a watchful eye for emergencies, and help keep the wheels running smoothly.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO DONNA (PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED HELP), AND TO DIANA T. (WHO DID THOSE LOVELY INVITATIONS, AND HAS SECURED A STRING TRIO TO PLAY ON THE STAIR LANDING.)

(over)

League of Women Voters of Texas • League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund
1212 Guadalupe Suite 109 • Austin, Texas 78701 • Tel. 512/472-1100

Date

Address

Salutation

Congratulations on your election to the Legislature of the State of Texas. We trust you will find your legislative experience an exciting and challenging one. We look forward to working with you during the session.

Members of the League of Women Voters have been working for good government measures in the state for 56 years. We are represented in 43 communities throughout Texas. If there is no League in your district, the state League will attempt to provide you with materials prepared by our organization.

You will be hearing from us throughout the session about issues of special concern to our members. Although our interests are widespread, in 1977 we will be concentrating on bills relating to property tax, elections, and criminal justice.

Enclosed are two publications we think will be of interest to you. We do hope you will attend our reception honoring new legislators, Wednesday, January 12th, at Rather House, 3106 Duval. We are looking forward to greeting you then.

Wishing you a successful year.

Sincerely yours,

Betty Anderson

Betty Anderson, President

Enclosures: "We Support"
"Annual Report 1974-75"

1 Dec. 1976
To: Diana T., Barbara N., SO
From: Betty A.
Re: Cover letter to new legislators (You may have to job this out, too--I don't know when you are going to have time to do it. There are 44.)

December 1976

DEC 2 1976

_____
_____
_____

Dear Representative or Senator_____

Congratulations on your election to the Legislature of the State of Texas. We trust you will find your legislative experience an exciting and challenging one. We look forward to working with you during the session.

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Wishing you a successful year.

Sincerely yours,

Betty Anderson

Enclosures: We Support
Annual Report 1974-75

COPY

LWV of Texas
December 3, 1976
II
Program
State Board Mailing

TO: Program Core (Clark, Davies, Headrick, Higgins, Sugihara, Wilbur, Brasher, Duke, Keever, Moon, Anderson)
FROM: Meg Titus
RE: A brief report on our Austin joint program core/capitol corps meeting last week

Not all program people could attend, and only four of the lobby corps members were able to be present, but the meeting was productive nonetheless--we did miss those of you who couldn't make it. We'll have another chance to meet together just before SB meeting starts. Following are some of the decisions we reached on questions in my November 5th memo to you:

.....A few program people have found capitol corps members to work with on a one-to-one basis during the session. If you haven't found someone yet, write to Barbara Nobles or Nancy Bene, the Austin League president, for suggestions

.....We cannot afford a legislative service, but are hoping to get "blue books" for all SB members. The list of pre-filed bills is available every Friday morning from now until the session starts. Nobles will get this information to you promptly and will try to get the bill sponsor to send you a copy of any bills dealing with your topic. You may have to write the sponsor also--or phone--as rumor has it that there will be few copies available due to newly instituted economies.

.....The "Legislative Newsletter" will be sent out each Friday to give you and the LLs the week-ends to lobby. Each program person will be expected to provide Barbara with brief, succinct, clear paragraphs for use in the LN on bills we decide to track. Sample LNs <u>may</u> be sent to LLs to try to stimulate sales if the budget allows.

.....The lobby corps policy sheet is being revised--Fumi, Betty and I are working on getting it together, and you'll have it soon. It will include an organizational flow chart and will have the topics re-arranged with separate headings relating to the duties of program chairs, legislative director, lobby corps, secretary, etc.

.....We will develop a bill analysis report form with new, more-clear bill designations for action. This will be included in the revised policy sheet.

.....Strategy papers were deemed unnecessary as the "amplifications" for <u>Historical Perspective</u> seem to cover topics adequately for now. They may be needed in certain items later in the session.

.....Our communications network during the session will be defined in the revised policy sheet.

.....Each of you will be expected to update the files on your item in the Legislative Office. If you will be in Austin before the SB meeting, fine--if not, save some time during your SB meeting stay to: 1) Add new or updated publications; 2) Delete outdated or obsolete material; 3) make certain that records of previous action on your item are part of the file; 4) Go over the file with your capitol corps counterpart to be sure it's all clear to her as she'll rely on this file for accurate information during the session.

P.S. If any of you wish to propose changes in the Convention rules (see the El Paso workbook for the latest ones), please write me by December 15th and I'll incorporate your ideas in my pre-board report on proposed revisions to the Convention rules.

HOPE ALL OF YOU HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON--AND A GREAT NEW YEAR--SEE YOU AT SB MEETING!

LWV of Texas
November, 1976
I. A. 2.
Administration
Action - State

LOBBY DO'S

DO respond to Times for Action sent by state board during the session; if, for some valid reason you cannot respond, please let us know.

When writing to your legislators, DO spell your legislator's name correctly and indicate whether he/she is a Senator or a Representative.

DO describe a bill by number or by its popular name.

DO present a concise statement of the reasons for your position, particularly if you are writing about a subject on which you have specialized knowledge.

DO make your letters short and confine each letter to one subject.

DO time your letter to arrive while the issue is alive.

DO write letters of commendation when your legislator has done something of which you particularly approve, such as sponsoring legislation or voting for a particular piece of legislation.

DO send state office any new or novel arguments for or against League measures picked up during your contacts with legislators.

DO make friends for the League. Leave a legislator with a friendly feeling toward the League even if he/she is on the other side. You may regret that the legislator does not believe as we do, but listen to his/her point of view with care. Let him/her talk and present his/her side fully. It is helpful to learn other points of view.

See other side for Lobby Don'ts

LWV of Texas
November, 1976
I. A. 2.
Administration
Action - State

LOBBY DON'TS

DON!T write to any legislators other than your own. Our motto is: "Each takes care of its own." There are two exceptions to this rule:

1. You are urged to write to the Speaker and to the Lieutenant Governor in support of League positions as directed in Times for Action;
2. You may be requested to contact legislators from non-League areas. (Please volunteer to do this if you know a legislator from a non-League area.)

DON'T threaten the legislator with defeat at the next election.

DON'T write a chain letter, a form letter, or a postcard.

DON'T become a chronic letter writer.

DON'T write a legislator more than once on the same subject, unless you have new facts to present which may help the legislator.

DON'T assume that your legislator has less interest in and concern for good government than you, the constituent, do.

DON'T be afraid to admit ignorance on special points. You might say,"I'll look that up and let you know later." Then be sure to do so.

DON'T oppose or support items not within the League positions when acting as a League member for the League.

DON'T be careless with remarks in the galleries, elevators or other places in the capitol. DON'T talk personalities--you may be sitting alongside that Senator's wife or husband in the gallery. On the other hand, DON'T be afraid to be friendly. Sometimes a contact in the gallery can reveal lots of information. Simply exeacise caution and common sense in your conversations.

See other side for Lobby Do's

LWV of Texas
November, 1976
I. A. 2.
Administrative
Action - State

"HOW TO BE HEARD"

Taken from a 1971 American Civil Liberties Union communication to its members. These proven techniques are suggested for Members of Congress, but also apply to state legislatures.

1. Write or interview your senator and representatives, asking them to reply with statements of their positions. Pass these on to state office or national office.

2. Get to know the staff in your senator's and representatives' home offices. Tell them your views. They're an important channel of communication.

3. Take advantage of weekends to visit, formally or informally, with your legislators while they are home from Austin.

4. Enlist friends and major supporters of your legislators--urge their support of League-favored bills.

5. Write letters to the editor of your local newspaper--an oft-forgotten free forum.

6. Urge local newspapers, television and radio to give editorial support to the bill.

7. Interest reporters and columnists in the problem in general and the bill in particular.

8. Form coalitions with other interested groups. (We are doing this on the state level for ERA bills.)

9. Get coalition members and other community groups to issue statements endorsing the bill. Send this statement to your legislators. Bring it to the attention of the press.

10. Urge your friends and associates, as well as your local League, to join you in any or all of these steps.

Over, please

LWV of Texas
November, 1976
I. A. 2.
Administration
Action - State

MORE IDEAS TO HELP LEAGUES WITH LOBBYING

Within a local League, organize a telephone committee to alert members when letters are needed. Remember, ONLY THE PRESIDENT CAN SPEAK OFFICIALLY FOR THE LEAGUE. Members are encouraged to participate as individuals. For example, the FSG committee might want to respond as individuals to bills on school finance, or property tax reform; the criminal justice committee on court reform; the natural resources committee on coastal management bills. Responses must be immediate, though--a letter or telegram after a vote is too late!

If one of your legislators is on a committee and is opposed to a League-supported bill, urge the legislator to vote it out of committee so that a free and full debate can be held on the floor of whichever house is involved. Appeal to their sense of fair play and true democracy.

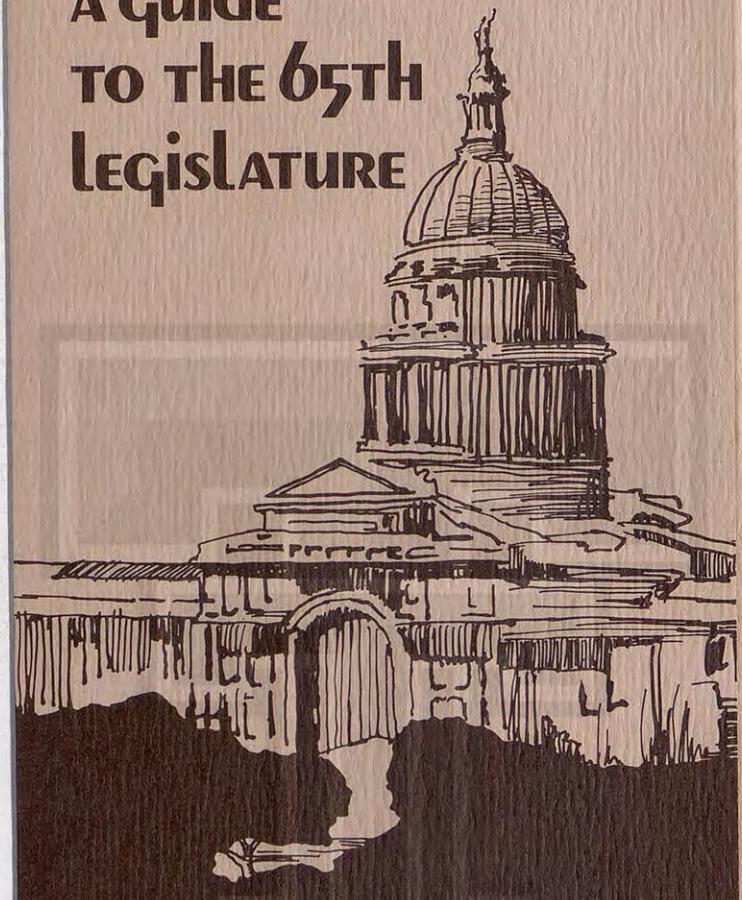
The League's strength has always been its reputation for having the facts about an issue. Legislators are aware of this and do respect our opinions. As new FACTS & ISSUES are published, hand-deliver them to your legislators--a perfect excuse for a visit and some PR. The legislator may not be with us this time, but might be on another issue.

The ultimate responsibility rests with local League members. The Legislative Director and the Capitol Corps can keep you informed, but the individual legislator will usually vote the way he/she thinks the "folks back home" feel about an issue. Your opinions are necessary and are respected.

Over, please

FEB 14 1977

A Guide to the 65th Legislature



When You Go to AUSTIN

League of Women Voters of Texas
Education Fund
1212 Guadalupe, No. 109
Austin, Texas 78701

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SEATING CHART

ALLRED	ROBBINS	BERLANGA		MORENO	J. CLARK		B. HALL	ALLEN		NABERS	NUGENT		LALOR	RUDD		HEATLY	BLAKE
	WICHITA	LUBBOCK	NUECES		EL PASO	HARRIS		WEBB	HARRIS		BROWN	KERR		HARRIS	TERRY		COTTLE	NACOGDOCHES
	RANGEL	M. GARCIA		GONZALES	HENDRICKS		SMOTHERS	TEMPLE		DAVIS	WRIGHT		UNTERMEYER	JACKSON		STUBBEMAN	R. WILSON
	KLEBERG	BEXAR		NUECES	COLLIN		DALLAS	ANGELINA		DALLAS	HARRIS		HARRIS	DALLAS		TAYLOR	HARRIS
	HUDSON	RAGSDALE		SALINAS	WASHINGTON		UHER	LANEY		VALE	SUTTON		RAINS	BOCK		ATKINSON	MANKINS
	DALLAS	DALLAS		LUBBOCK	HARRIS		MATAGORDA	HALE		BEXAR	BEXAR		HAYS	COMAL		BOWIE	GREGG
	DENTON	BIRD		MILLSAP	EVANS		LELAND	COLEMAN		POLUMBO	GILLEY		WILLIS	CAIN		F. GREEN	WHITEHEAD
	MCLENNAN	BEXAR		TARRANT	TARRANT		HARRIS	EL PASO		HARRIS	HUNT		TARRANT	DALLAS		NAVARRO	CHEROKEE
	GRANT	WATERS		MCFARLAND	ADAMS		VAUGHAN	HOLLOWELL		FOX	OLSON		SCHLUETER	ALLEE		L. JONES	LAUHOFF
	HARRISON	HARRIS		TARRANT	HARDIN		DALLAS	VAN ZANDT		HARRIS	MCLENNAN		BELL	HARRIS		EL PASO	HARRIS
	T. GARCIA	A. HALL		B. CLARK	SCHIEFFER		REYES	WATSON		SMITH	E. MARTIN		DELCO	BARRIENTOS		CATES	SEMOS
	HIDALGO	HARRIS		SMITH	TARRANT		HARRIS	HARRIS		DALLAS	MITCHELL		TRAVIS	TRAVIS		WHEELER	DALLAS
	TORRES	CHAVEZ		CLOSE	BRYANT		MADLA	CARAWAY		CRADDICK	HANNA		HALE	PRICE		SULLIVANT	HOESTENBACH
	CAMERON	CAMERON		OCHILTREE	DALLAS		BEXAR	HARRIS		MIDLAND	STEPHENS		NUECES	JEFFERSON		COOKE	ECTOR
	HERNANDEZ	TEJEDA		WEDDINGTON	WALLACE		G. GREEN	MILLER		MCDONALD	MAYES		HUBENAK	BENEDICT		GASTON	BAKER
	BEXAR	BEXAR		TRAVIS	HARRIS		HARRIS	TARRANT		DALLAS	HOOD		FORT BEND	BRAZORIA		DALLAS	GALVESTON
	FLORENCE	POWERS		PEVETO	DONALDSON		ENGLISH	BIGHAM		LEWIS	PRESNAL		NOWLIN	MALONEY		ORR	EZZELL
	CASS	JEFFERSON		ORANGE	CORYELL		TARRANT	BELL		TARRANT	BRAZOS		BEXAR	DALLAS		DALLAS	SCURRY
	JOHNSON	CEVERHA		KASTER	AGNICH		PARKER	KUBIAK		HEAD	RIBAK		KEESE	BLANTON		SLACK	PATTERSON
	DALLAS	DALLAS		EL PASO	DALLAS		DENTON	MILAM		HENDERSON	BEXAR		BURLESON	DALLAS		REEVES	LAMAR

J. WILSON	FAYETTE	BLYTHE	HARRIS	COLLAZO	JEFFERSON	EDWARDS	MONTGOMERY	HARRIS	WHITMIRE	TOM GREEN	MASSEY	ARCHER	FINNELL	GLOSSBRENNER	BEXAR	BROWN	D. HILL
VON DOHLEN	GOLIAD	SIMPSON	RANDALL	G. HILL	TRAVIS	WIETING	SAN PATRICIO	PARKER	COODY	TAYLOR	WEBB	JIM WELLS			BEXAR	MOTLEY	
WYATT	VICTORIA	BUSH	GRAYSON	CARTWRIGHT	BEXAR	BRISCOE	TARRANT	GALVESTON	MCLEOD	BROOKS	HARRIS	HARTNETT	THOMPSON	VALLES	HIDALGO	LOONEY	T. MARTIN
								JOHNSON	JOHNSON		HARRIS	HENDERSON	HARRIS	EL PASO		MIDLAND	

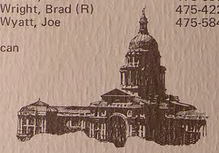
65th LEGISLATURE

BILL CLAYTON
SPEAKER

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

District No.	Representative	Telephone No.	Office No.
5	Adams, Herman, Jr.	475-4213	400E
33R	Agnich, Fred (R)	475-2636	412A
98	Allee, Henry E.	475-5751	354B
78	Allen, Joe	475-3546	G55-C
52	Allred, Dave	475-3941	141B
1	Atkinson, Hamp	475-5887	400D
19B	Baker, Andrew Z.	475-5749	148B
37A	Barrientos, Gonzalo	475-3072	403B
20	Benedict, Jerry Lynn	475-5773	413C
48B	Berlanga, Hugo	475-5743	404F
44	Bigham, John R.	475-5795	148C
57D	Bird, Ronald C.	475-5809	313B
4	Blake, Roy	475-3619	351
33B	Blanton, Wm.W. (R)	475-5843	G59-A
91	Blythe, W.J. "Bill", Jr. (R)	475-2401	313E
38	Bock, Bennie II	475-5987	302-C1
32H	Briscoe, Leonard E.	475-3122	M143-B2
16	Browder, Jim	475-3932	110C
57C	Brown, Albert D., Jr.	475-4673	144A
33L	Bryant, John W.	475-5873	315C
22	Bush, Robert	475-2983	G57-C2
33K	Cain, David H.	475-5807	G10
100	Caraway, Bill	475-3202	G17-A1
57H	Cartwright, Donald	475-3700	G16-B
66	Cates, Phil	475-3883	145B
33P	Ceverha, Bill (R)	475-5951	109E
51	Chavez, Melchor	475-2535	G04-A
12	Clark, Bill	475-3640	313C
99	Clark, Jim	475-3103	143C
74	Clayton, Bill	475-3400	241
64	Close, G.R. "Bob" (R)	475-3127	114D
72B	Coleman, Ronald	475-6279	427A
7C	Collazo, Frank, Jr.	475-3078	G14
42	Coody, W.G. "Bill"	475-5635	G55-B2
68	Craddick, Tom	475-4305	109C
33A	Davis, Robert E. "Bob" (R)	475-4461	G17-B1
37D	Delco, Wilhelmina R.	475-5973	413D
35A	Denton, Betty	475-5775	G04-C
34	Donaldson, Jerry "Nub"	475-2992	G13-A3
18	Edwards, Jimmie C. III	475-5745	360
32G	English, Roy E.	475-5769	411B
32A	Evans, Charles W.	475-5779	151C
63	Ezzell, Michael H. "Mike"	475-2617	108A
53	Finnell, Charles	475-5764	357B
2	Florence, Buck	475-2019	114C
93	Fox, Milton E. (R)	475-4693	G59-B
59B	Garcia, A.C. "Tony"	475-2181	106A
57K	Garcia, Matt	475-6188	106B
33M	Gaston, Frank (R)	475-5921	403E
10	Gilley, Smith E.	475-3882	427B
58	Glossbrenner, Ernestine	475-6197	410A
48A	Gonzales, Arnold	475-3316	G04-B
3	Grant, Ben Z.	475-3097	153A
27	Green, Forrest	475-5757	315B
95	Green, R.E. "Gene"	475-2813	110D
48C	Hale, L. DeWitt	475-5824	113A
85	Hall, Anthony	475-5847	404H
57	Hall, W.N. "Billy", Jr.	475-2077	416B
54	Hanna, Joe C.	475-3864	349
92	Hartung, Frank (R)	475-5797	354A
14	Head, Fred	475-2954	355
101	Heatly, W.S. "Bill"	475-2192	302-D1
94	Henderson, Don (R)	475-3164	400A
24	Hendricks, Bob	475-5885	G61-B
57J	Hernandez, Joe L.	475-5697	147A
67	Hill, Danny	475-3626	316D
37C	Hill, Gerald W.	475-6461	410C
73	Hoestenbach, John	475-5673	G52-B
11	Hollowell, Bill	475-5733	353
21	Hubenak, Joe A.	475-2573	G56-A
33C	Hudson, Samuel W. III	475-3479	154A
33Q	Jackson, Lee F. (R)	475-2791	417A
33-0	Johnson, Eddie Bernice	475-5925	302A
72A	Jones, Luther	475-6289	G16-C
71	Kaster, James J.	475-3885	144B
29	Keese, Bill	475-4517	G57-C4
36	Kubiak, Dan	475-3563	143B
80	Lalor, Lance	475-5625	410B
76	Laney, James E. "Pete"	475-5671	404-C
84	Lauhoff, Herman	475-5916	114E
88	Leland, George "Mickey"	475-3267	417C
32E	Lewis, Gibson "Gib"	475-3878	113B
59A	Looney, Cullen R.	475-2849	407A
57A	Madla, Frank	475-5677	148D
33E	Maloney, Robt. "Bob" (R)	475-5693	109D
13	Mankins, Jimmy	475-3584	413A
61	Martin, Elmer J.	475-6239	108B
47	Martin, Tom	475-5943	154F
60	Massey, Tom	475-6229	151A
33	Mayes, Ed	475-2909	G13-A1
70	McBee, Susan Gurley	475-2763	G55-B1
33I	McDonald, T.H., Sr.	475-5893	315A
32B	McFarland, Bob (R)	475-3601	110B
19A	McLeod, E. Douglas	475-4329	411A
32I	Miller, Chris	475-5814	352B
32C	Millsap, Mike	475-3742	154G
72C	Moreno, Paul	475-2241	403A
55	Nabers, Lynn	475-5941	G13-A2
57F	Nowlin, James R. (R)	475-5869	109B
56	Nugent, James E. "Jim"	475-2005	345
35B	Olson, Lyndon, Jr.	475-5971	102-B1
33H	Orr, Fred	475-4343	M109-A1
25	Parker, Walt	475-3416	104A
9	Patterson, L.P. "Pete"	475-5727	407B
8	Peveto, Wayne	475-4293	412C
96	Polumbo, Anthony L.	475-6647	G55-C4
7B	Powers, Pike	475-4261	403D
28	Presnal, Bill	475-5654	305
7A	Price, Albert J.	475-2930	413B
33N	Ragsdale, Paul B.	475-5923	M416-C1
45	Rains, Don	475-2195	G11-A2
49	Rangel, Irma	475-4732	411C
87	Reyes, Ben T.	475-6249	154D
57G	Ribak, Abraham D.	475-3953	154E
75A	Robbins, Joe (R)	475-2553	417B
77	Rudd, Jim	475-4192	316C
75B	Salinas, Froy	475-5867	154B
32D	Schieffer, Tom	475-5791	G14-A2
43	Schlueter, Stan	475-5641	G57-C3
33F	Semos, Chris Victor	475-2095	145A
65	Simpson, Robert "Bob"	475-3706	G11-A1
69	Slack, Richard C.	475-3434	149
33J	Smith, Carlyle	475-5895	150C
33G	Smothers, Clay	475-5875	425
62	Stubbeman, David	475-3597	109F
23	Sullivant, Bill	475-5753	110F
57E	Sutton, Lou Nelle	475-4152	141A
57B	Tejeda, Frank	475-4506	154C
6	Temple, Arthur "Buddy"	475-4244	316A
89	Thompson, Senfronia	475-3264	154H
50	Torres, Ruben M.	475-2624	110E
31	Uher, D.R. "Tom"	475-3945	106C
83	Untermeyer, Chase (R)	475-5918	416A
57I	Vale, R.L. "Bob"	475-2817	102-A1
72D	Valles, Robert	475-6269	352C
33D	Vaughan, Kenneth	475-5857	150B
39	Von Dohlen, Tim	475-3722	G09
97	Wallace, Ralph	475-2815	313D
86	Washington, Craig A.	475-5828	416-C1
79	Waters, Ron	475-5627	M143-B1
17	Watson, Ed R.	475-2228	G52-A
37B	Weddington, Sarah	475-2975	357A
15	Whitehead, Emmett H.	475-5737	417-D1
82	Whitmire, John H.	475-5931	404E
41	Wieting, Leroy J.	475-4383	140
32F	Willis, Doyle	475-5831	147B
30	Wilson, John	475-2189	109A
81	Wilson, Ron	475-5933	G16-A1
90	Wright, Brad (R)	475-4221	412B
40	Wyatt, Joe	475-5841	304

(R) Republican



HOUSE COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK – Hubenak, Chairman; Kubiak, Vice Chairman; Green (Forrest), Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Coody, Denton, Garcia (A.C. "Tony"), Jones (Luther), Keese, McBee, Martin (Elmer), Patterson.

APPROPRIATIONS – Presnal, Chairman; Parker, Vice Chairman; Agnich, Allen, Barrientos, Blake, Cates, Chavez, Clark (Jim), Fox, Head, Heatly, Hollowell, Kaster, Leland, Powers, Slack, Sutton, Vale, Wieting, Willis.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY – Semos, Chairman; Polumbo, Vice Chairman; Vaughan, Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Finnell, Garcia (A.C. "Tony"), Glossbrenner, Hill (Danny), McLeod, Patterson, Ragsdale, Rangel.

CALENDARS – Blake, Chairman; McBee, Vice Chairman; Adams, Davis, Hall (W.N. "Billy"), Webb, Nugent, Orr, Wilson (Ron), Wyatt.

LOCAL AND CONSENT CALENDARS – Schieffer, Chairman; Maloney, Vice Chairman; Clark (Bill), Hollowell, Looney, Mayes, Nowlin, Schlueter, Thompson.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS – Von Dohlen, Chairman; Jones (Luther), Vice Chairman; Bryant, Clark (Bill) Close, Hendricks, Johnson, Robbins, Schieffer.

CRIMINAL JURISPRUDENCE – Nabers, Chairman; Hendricks, Vice Chairman; Washington, Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Brown, Ceverha, Denton, Hudson, Laney, Looney, McFarland, Robbins.

ELECTIONS – Adams, Chairman; McBee, Vice Chairwoman; Rains, Vice Chairman, Appropriative Matters; Hale, Lalor, Salinas, Smothers, Wallace, Waters, Weddington, Wright.

ENERGY RESOURCES – Hanna, Chairman; Nowlin, Vice Chairman; Mayes, Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Bush, Craddick, Kubiak, Mankins, Martin (Tom), Millsap, Schieffer, Wilson (Ron).

HOUSE COMMITTEES CONTINUED

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS – Sullivant, Chairman; Martin (Elmer), Vi… Chairman; Coody, Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Bird, Collazo, Gasto… Green (Forrest), Laney, Martin (Tom), Smith, Watson.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS – Donaldson, Chairman; Torres, Vice Chairma… Hartung, Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Briscoe, Carthwright, Malone… Nabers, Polumbo, Wilson (Ron).

HEALTH AND WELFARE – Wilson (John), Chairman; Madla, Vice Chairma… Whitehead, Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters for Mental Health and Men… Retardation; Ezzell, Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters for Health and Welfa… Delco, Florence, Glossbrenner, Gonzales, Miller, Orr, Untermeyer, Vaugha… Von Dohlen.

HIGHER EDUCATION – Olson, Chairman; Clark (Bill), Vice Chairman; Rai… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Allred, Caraway, Gaston, Gonzales, H… (W.N. "Billy"), Hoestenbach, Price, Thompson.

HOUSE ADMINISTRATION – Laney, Chairman; Chavez, Vice Chairm… Donaldson, Evans, Ezzell, Green (Forrest), Hendricks, Massey, Nabers.

INSURANCE – Davis, Chairman; Green (R.E. "Gene"), Vice Chairman; Smi… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Adams, Cartwright, Hanna, Hartur… Hernandez, Hill (Gerald), Keese, Salinas.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS – Lewis, Chairman; Whitmire, Vice Cha… man; Stubbeman, Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Edwards, Gilley, H… (Anthony), Lauhoff, Olson, Orr, Ribak, Schlueter, Tejeda, Untermeyer.

JUDICIARY – Grant, Chairman; Hale, Vice Chairman; Maloney, Vice Chairm… Appropriative Matters; Cain, Ezzell, Garcia (Matt), Hill (Danny), Jackson, Moren… Ribak, Rudd.

JUDICIAL AFFAIRS – Evans, Chairman; Thompson, Vice Chairwoman; Nowl… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Baker, Benedict, Blanton, Browder, Dona… son, McLeod, Reyes, Whitmire.

LABOR – Johnson, Chairwoman; Baker, Vice Chairman; Watson, Vice Cha… man Appropriative Matters; Allee, Blythe, Bryant, Collazo, Hernandez, Moren…

LIQUOR REGULATION – Bock, Chairman; Reyes, Vice Chairman; Bigha… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Allee, Millsap, Smothers, Temple, Wate… Wilson (John).

NATURAL RESOURCES – Craddick, Chairman; Peveto, Vice Chairman; Clo… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Berlanga, Cain, Coleman, Looney, Masse… Miller, Rudd, Simpson.

PUBLIC EDUCATION – Massey, Chairman; Delco, Vice Chairwoman; Atkinso… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Blanton, Coleman, Evans, Jackson, Madl… McDonald, Nugent, Torres.

REGIONS, COMPACTS, AND DISTRICTS – Bird, Chairman; Garcia (Mat… Vice Chairman; Briscoe, Gilley, Lalor, Ragsdale, Semos, Sullivant, Valles.

RULES – Reyes, Chairman; Miller, Vice Chairwoman; Delco, Florence, Garc… (Matt), Green (R.E. "Gene"), Henderson, Hubenak, Whitehead.

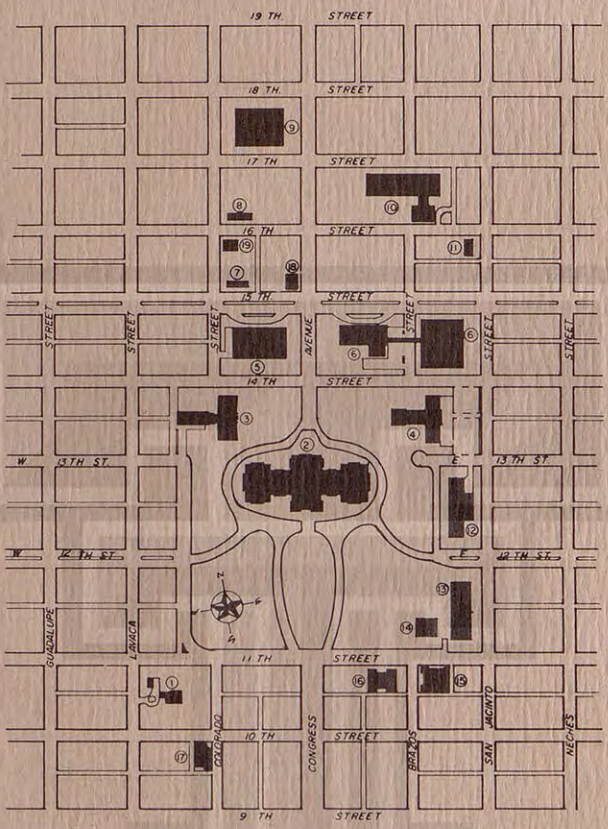
SOCIAL SERVICES – Washington, Chairman; Allred, Vice Chairman; Caraway… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters, Benedict, Bush, Hubenak, McDona… Rangel, Whitehead.

STATE AFFAIRS – Uher, Chairman; Hoestenbach, Vice Chairman; Brow… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Simpson, Vice Chairman Appropriati… Matters; Blythe, Bock, Ceverha, Edwards, Florence, Green (R.E. "Gene"), He… derson, McFarland, Stubbeman, Wallace, Weddington.

TRANSPORTATION – Nugent, Chairman; Henderson, Vice Chairman; Mankin… Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; English, Finnell, Hall (W.N. "Billy"… Hudson, Lauhoff, Mayes, Price, Tejeda, Temple, Valles.

WAYS AND MEANS – Wyatt, Chairman; Atkinson, Vice Chairman; H… (Anthony), Vice Chairman Appropriative Matters; Berlanga, Bigham, Browde… Davis, English, Grant, Hill (Gerald), Peveto, Schlueter, Wright.

CAPITOL COMPLEX



1. GOVERNOR'S MANSION
2. CAPITOL BUILDING
3. SUPREME COURT BUILDING
4. SAM HOUSTON BUILDING
5. JOHN H. REAGAN BUILDING
6. TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION & ANNEX
7. NORMANDIE ARMS APT.
8. EL ROSE APT.
9. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN BUILDING
10. LYNDON B. JOHNSON BUILDING
11. BD. OF CONTROL MAINT. SHOP
12. ARCHIVES BUILDING
13. INSURANCE BUILDING
14. MUSEUM BUILDING
15. T.E.A. BUILDING
16. HIGHWAY BUILDING
17. E. O. THOMPSON BUILDING
18. AMERICAN LEGION BUILDING
19. CARRINGTON COVERT HOUSE

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The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization whose purpose is to encourage citizens to participate actively in government and politics. Membership is open to all citizens 18 years and older. For further information, please contact: League of Women Voters of Texas, 1212 Guadalupe, #109, Austin, Texas 78701. Telephone: 512-472-1100.

LWV of Texas
November, 1976
I. A. 2.
Administration
Action - State

Excerpted from The Majority Wins
(complete citation unavailable)

Bill Analysis

In addition to researching issues, it is necessary to analyze specific bills. This will allow your organization to suggest amendments for weak or inadequate bills, and will help spot the public relations or "PR" bills which are designed to get headlines, but not necessarily to provide a genuine solution to a problem.

In analyzing a bill, consider these questions:

- What problem does the bill address?
- What solution does it propose?
- What are the pros? What are the cons?
- What is the legislative history of this bill?
  --has it been introduced before? If so, how did the words differ?
  --are the sponsors the same?
  --what kinds of amendments were made before?
  --which interest groups supported it and which ones opposed it?
  --how has the legislature, including the key committees, changed since the last introduction?
- What is the potential effect of the proposed legislation?
- What is the feasibility of the bill's passage?
  --which interest groups are in support and which ones are in opposition?
  --what credibility does the sponsor have and how likely is he or she to give active support?
- Is there a companion bill?
  --judging from its sponsor and committee assignment, would it have a better chance?
- What position is recommended?
  a) support the bill
  b) support the bill with amendments:
  perhaps the language is not clear, specific or concise; perhaps the enforcement provisions are weak or non-existent; perhaps the bill misses the key points; perhaps the bill does not amend the proper statute
  c) support the concept but not the bill specifically:
  possibly your members want to go on record in support of an issue, but the chances of the bill passing are so remote that active lobbying would be wast[illegible] resources
  d) oppose the bill
  e) no position

The completed bill analyses will help your members arrive at specific conclusions about a vast range of bills, and will provide a systematic way to sort out the priorities for action. In addition this process will give direction to your state political action coordinator.

If you and your task force members lack the expertise to evaluate a certain type of legislation,interview resources in your community. For example, to determine the pros and cons of a welfare reform bill, interview professionals in the social services field, [illegible]rsons who work in the community centers, and persons actually receiving welfare.

[illegible]alyzing a bill, what you know is not as important as what you are able to find out about the issue....."

LWV of Texas
Dickinson Plaza Center
Dickinson, Texas 77539

LWV Legislative Office
308 West 15th Street #400
Austin, Texas 78701
January 1975

THE CAPITOL CORPS AND THE AUSTIN LEAGUE

The Capitol Corps is an off-Board sub-committee of the League of Women Voters of Texas. The members of the Corps will act as observers, information gatherers, and lobbyists, when necessary, for the State League during the Legislative Session.

Their primary purpose is to keep the State League fully informed of the activities of the Legislature, particularly in those areas in which the League has positions. The State Chairman, Chris Brasher, together with the State Board, will be the ultimate source of all policy decisions. The State Chairman will be their overall supervisor with the Legislative office manager assisting her in carrying out the day-to-day activities of the Corps.

At present the Corps is made up of Austin Leaguers under the Chairmanship of Susan Reid, Austin Legislative Chairman. Corps members are free to lobby (encouraged even) with local legislators, and to undertake all other activities under the direction of their Chairman and the Austin Board.

As the Capitol Corps, their first responsibility will be to the State League and their legislative duties will have to take precedence over all other League activities. The main channel of communications will be through the Legislative Office to Local League Presidents, Legislative Chairmen, and State Resource Chairmen. All communications that go out to all other Leagues will also go to Austin.

Because the Austin Legislative Chairman is also a Corps member, the Austin Board and League will enjoy a decided advantage in getting current reports. Her duties as a Corps member can be adjusted to take into consideration her additional duties as local Chairman. All activities that are normally the function of a local committee will still be the responsibility of the local Legislative Chairman.

All records,reports, and information at the Legislative Office will be available to the local leagues any time they request it. The Legislative Newsletter will be sent to all local presidents and local legislative chairmen free of charge as well as to individuals who are on subscription service. This will also include Action Alerts when necessary. Individual presidents will be contacted as lobbying pressures dictate. The Austin League will have a great advantage here, and any Board member or member who wants to stop in the Office will be most welcome.

The State League is most appreciative for the use of the Austin League equipment for the 64th session of the Legislature, and we hope the Office in turn will serve you.

CAPITOL CORPS DUTIES AND PROCEDURES - 64TH LEGISLATURE 1975

I. Cover assigned Committee meetings
   A. As many of the standing committee meetings as possible should be covered.
   B. Each Observer should have a backup.
   C. The responsibility for covering the meeting when a bill of League interest is being heard rests with the Observer.
   D. When neither the Observer nor the backup can cover the meeting, the office or Susan Reid should be notified.
   E. Where possible, 24 hour notice should be given.

II. Reporting Procedures
   A. The Observer should get the agenda for the meeting.
   B. All meetings should be reported in writing. Forms will be provided.
   C. Forms will cover name of committee, time, place, number attending, who presided, who testified, in brief what was said, Committee response if any, resolutions if any. Forms should be signed by the Observer.
   D. Reports to be delivered to the Office the same day as meeting. If the door is locked, slip it under the door.
   E. If the information is vital and demands an immediate response, Chris Brasher should be called at home. When necessary, the appropriate State Board Chairman will be called by either Brasher or the Observer.

III. Information Exchange
   A. Occasional meetings will be called at the discretion of the Legislative Chairman or the Corps Chairman for Observers to exchange information and plan strategy.
   B. Brief progress reports should be given at this time and decisions made on various bills.

IV. Newsletter
   A. Observers will help supply information for the newsletter.
   B. Observers may contribute commentaries for the newsletter and help determine what information to include in an issue.

V. Additional Duties
   A. Assist with getting out large mailings if necessary.
   B. Cover office during illness or other emergency absence of secretary.

LWVT LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
308 W. 15th Street, Rm. 400
Austin, Texas 78701
512 - 472-2206

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
Dickinson Plaza Center
Dickinson, Texas 77539

CAPITOL CORPS POLICY SHEET

January 1975

Capitol Corps Committee Members

Capitol Corps members will be composed of League members who live in Austin or surrounding areas or neaby members-at-large who are familiar with state program items. The Capitol Corps is an off-Board sub-committee of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

One or two program items shall be assigned each member or "team" of the Corps, including those national items which may be legislated by the state government. Ideally, two members covering an item, working at the capitol together and strategizing together would be more fun, involve more womanpower, utilize different personalities, and form a back-up crew for observing meetings or floor action, as well as breaking in new recruits. The members of the Corps will act as observers and information gatherers.

Capitol Corps members shall be registered as lobbyists, but will testify only when so directed by the Legislative Director, who will be in consultation with the state Board Executive Committee, (see p. 4), which makes all policy decisions. The State Chairman will be the overall supervisor, with the Corps chairman and the office secretary carrying out day-to-day activities of the Corps.

Most important is that the Corps members be well informed. This will be the responsibility of the state Board resource chairman who should prepare a portfolio or kit with all League background, consensus positions, samples of Action Alerts, testimony, and any other pertinent comments or suggestions for lobbying purposes. Each portfolio will be on file in the office so that the appropriate Corps members may refer to any information in her area that she may need. Materials may be added to this file from time to time by Corps members, the resource chairman, or the state office. The resource chairman should also pass on any information she has or anything she knows about the sponsor of a bill on which a position is reached, and what approach to take when lobbying on a specific bill.

Board resource chairmen may also request Corps members to attend and report on interim committee hearings held in Austin or nonLeague meetings when they involve League participation or interest.

Capitol Corps members will need a good knowledge of how the legislature works, how to get around the capitol, where to go for information, and who is on the permanent staff, as well as keeping informed on League issues. With this kind of background, they could help prepare legislative Newsletters, Action Alerts, testimony; could digest or screen bills and amendments; and could substitute for the Legislative Director when needed at hearings. Corps members may also help when needed to prepare for Lobby School and Legislative Day.

Corps members will watch the calendar for bills to appear on her designated subject and respond to notices of committee hearings. She will attend as many of the committee hearings as possible, attempting to establish friendly relationships with committee members, speaking to them about legislation on the League's program and trying to bring about a committee recommendation favorable to the League's position, reporting developments to the Legislative Director. She will also act as a recorder at legislative committee hearings, noting committee members present, their comments on the bill, and those organizations represented speaking for or against the bill.

In cooperation with the Legislative Director, members will meet sponsors of League-supported bills, chairmen of respective committees, and will contact related governmental agencies as a resource person. Corps members shall act as consultants on resource material as well as become familiar with files on legislators, particularly those legislators on committees with bills in her area of interest.

Corps members will assist the office in keeping aware of developments on League issues, such as keeping track of House and Senate votes. When a bill is due for a vote in the Legislature, Corps members may be asked to contact many different legislators, particularly those whom local Leagues have reported as uncommitted or needing additional information or persuasion. She may also be asked to lobby legislators from areas without a League, checking files for all possible items of information on the legislator before contacting him.

Corps members should help maintain the current file of information on legislators, adding to the file when additional information is obtained.

The office secretary will notify Corps members of hearings when she receives this information. Governor's action, committee action, and House or Senate action should be reported on bill status sheets. All votes should be recorded as accurately and completely as possible. If the bill is amended, important facts should be noted. This information should be entered on all appropriate records in the legislative office by the secretary. Pertinent information should be mailed immediately to the state resource chairman. The report to the general membership will be made from that material.

At a time specified by the Legislative Director, the Capitol Corps will meet in strategy sessions to plan strategy, review status of bills, and make a written report for the Legislative Newsletter. The secretary will then type up the material for the Newsletter after it is edited by the Legislative Director. The primary purpose of the Corps is to keep the League fully informed of the activities of the Legislature, particularly in those areas in which the League has positions.

State Board Legislative Executive Committee

The decision to support or oppose a bill that falls within the legislative program and the time for effective action will need to be made by a small committee composed of the President, the Program Vice President, the Legislative Director, and Directors of Program items, with advice and consultation of the Capitol Corps member or members who have been observing the bill under consideration.

Decision-making following full Board discussion is ideal, but sometimes decisions cannot wait for the next Board meeting or time may not allow circularizing the entire Board. Comprehensive material about the question may be sent to the Board members between Board meetings and their reactions asked for. The Board itself has empowered the small committee mentioned above to make decisions that implement board decisions made at a full meeting. This is particularly true when action is indicated on League position. Any action taken between Board meetings must be affirmed by the entire Board at its next meeting. In the time before the Board meeting at which action is affirmed, if a state Board member not involved in a particular decision made by the Executive Committee should question the decision, she should make her questions known in writing to the Executive Committee immediately for clarification.

Discretion will be needed to prevent program from becoming too big to handle. The bulk of the bills must be excluded for purposes of practice as well as policy. Bills so excluded will need no further action.

Bill Procedure - Resource Chairmen

Resource chairmen should work closely with legislative committees and staff before the session begins in order to have input into legislation during the formative period. More emphasis should be placed on influence in formative pre-session stages, as it may be too late for changes after the bill is introduced. Resource chairmen and Capitol Corps members should also be encouraged to work with coalitions whenever possible and feasible.

When a bill is introduced that seems to fall into the area of League consensus positions, the Legislative chairman will obtain and scan a copy of the bill and make the decision to have it reporduced for the executive committee for analysis and ranking.

When copies of the bill are received by the legislative executive committee, an immediate reply will be expected with recommendations for classification of the bill. After the bills are analyzed, priorities on individual bills will be designated as follows: Support will be designated only for top priority items and will call for all out action, i.e., Action Alerts, testimony, and concentrated lobbying. Endorse will designate medium priority, i.e., observe committee meetings, note amendments, and selective action by Leagues if desired and/or necessary. This will include items of long standing that are important but not designated as priority items. FIO (For Information Only) will designate bills of low priority items, i.e., only tracking progress; no action. Since legislative priorities are set before the session begins, it is conceivable that political circumstances may change. So, inevitably, setting priorities must be flexible and changes made as situations change. Other categories will be designated as No Position (where the League has no consensus position) or Oppose (where a proposed bill is in opposition to a League position). If time allows, it may be that the decision might be just to follow the bill action and see what develops before making a firm decision. Copies of comments are sent to other members of the executive committee. The Legislative Director will then decide on the basis of this information what course of action to recommend. The final decision may be delayed until time for concerted action by the lobbying group or the local Leagues is desired and called for. If there is time, the Legislative chairman will discuss this with her committee at the pre-Board sessions or in strategy meetings at the capital before making specific recommendations for Board approval. If there is no time, the decision will be based on the four recommendations. Notice of the decision will be sent to the executive committee as soon as possible.

While the resource chairman's committee doesn't receive the bills or your analysis, they should be kept informed about what is going on. Also, at committee meetings, outline what has been suggested concerning the bills and ask for their comments. Your committee may make suggestions to the legislative committee concerning your item.

Resource chairmen should be thoroughly familiar with the nuances of consensus position. Rarely is there a "pure" bill, and when it is, it sometimes isn't the one which has a chance of passage. Spend a little time looking over what your predecessors recommended on bills that are reintroduced in this session. You are not bound by anything that happened in the past, as long as our concensus covers the point, but a determination of the thinking that went into the decisions in the past can be made.

Decisions concerning method of support will originate with the legislative director; however, suggestions for promotion by local Leagues should be made by the resource chairmen. Since carbon copies of each executive committee member's remarks will circulate the full executive committee, it will be obvious when the decision is unanimous. If the decision is not unanimous, we will then take another caucus after everyone has had a chance to see and reconsider the remarks of the entire executive committee. A poll of the state Board may be made or a decision withheld pending an upcoming state Board meeting, if time allows. In any event, the executive committee will be notified of the decision made before this information is passed on to the local Leagues. If desired, the sponsor of the bill will also be contacted after a decision is reached.

When a decision is made on a bill, the legislative director will notify local Leagues in a legislative Newsletter, telling the League position, the intent of the bill, the League's reason for supporting or opposing it or any other recommendations. Since the resource chairman is the expert in her field, she will play a significant part in this phase. Each new resource chairman will need to become familiar with specific issues and begin drafting a short, concise statement of the League position, attaching any relevant comments or suggestions which will help in giving testimony and answering questions by the committee. Almost immediate use of this material is anticipated in releases to the press and in various letters and statements which the president will make or in testimony presented by the resource chairman.

Once assignments of legislators to standing committees are made, and referrals of bills to committees are known, it may be useful to request further cooperation on the part of a local League. This may be for additional information and/or an alert that a legislator needs some mail or local pressure. Resource chairmen should help make these decisions as well as making decisions on timing for Action Alerts. They may also wish to contribute any pertinent remarks or information for the Legislative Newsletter. Statements of official testimony, reports on hearings, and interesting comments on bills will be included in the Legislative Newsletters or in Action Alerts.

As the legislation progresses, status on each bill with pertinent remarks will be sent to each member of the legislative executive committee. It will be the duty of the secretary to notify the legislative director, Capitol Corps members and the executive committee immediately of any change in status.

In an attempt to utilize the expertise of the program chairmen, every effort should be made by chairmen to come to Austin before and during a legislative session to check with standing committees and bill sponsors on the progress of bills, to make recommendations for the amending process, to attend important committee hearings, to confer with committee staff members, and to testify when possible. Program chairmen should also work with departments of state government related to their portfolios.

For those newcomers to the Board and the Corps, a brief explanation of bill designations follows: H.B. or S.B. stands for House Bill or Senate Bill; HCR or SCR, House or Senate Concurrent Resolutions, all of which require passage of both Houses. HRs or SRs stand for House or Senate simple resolutions which only require consent of the house in which they originate. HJRs and SJRs require not only passage by both houses, but are House or Senate Joint Resolutions, which means they are proposed constitutional amendments which must also be presented to the voters for approval after a two-thirds vote of the Legislature.

Legislative Office Secretary

The secretary for the legislative office in Austin will be employed only during the time specified by the state Board. Her duties will be supervised by the state Legislative Director with the assistance of the Corps chairman. She will not be a lobbyist, but will assist in getting information that will help determine the League's legislative strategy.

She shall keep the Legislative Director and Corps members advised of committee hearings and any pertinent information that comes into the office, such as communicating changes in committee hearing dates and information needed as to anticipated floor action on specific legislation.

Among her duties will be the following:

1. Check daily when Corps chairman is unavailable, scanning the list of bills introduced and ordering those which fall in the areas of League positions.

2. Notify Corps members of time and place of hearings and when floor action is expected, and make assignments for observing when necessary.

3. File bills immediately by number, with copies going to the state Board executive committee when designated by the chairman.

4. Maintain a file on members of the legislature in the legislative office. Each file will contain statistics including name, district, Leagues in the legislator's district, and committee membership. Additional information, if available, should include birthdate, birthplace, spouse's name, children, church affiliation, business experience, political party, political experience, civic activities, hobbies. Most of this information will be contained in the legislative interview forms, a copy of which will be filed along with the legislator's card.

   The file should also include the legislator's votes and comments on issues of interest to the League, plus newspaper clippings, letters, and clippings from Voters Guides sent in by local Leagues.

   Files for leagues, with Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the local League president and legislative chairman, and legislators in district will also be accurately maintained.

5. Keep file on legislative programs of other organizations, with names of individuals to contact.

6. Notify local Leagues of hearings and committee meetings when directed by the Legislative Director.

7. Carry out any other duties commensurate with the normal operation of an office, such as answering letters, keeping records of telephone calls when Director is out of office, notifying Director of important messages, and keeping files up to date.

8. Type stencils, operate the mimeograph machine, and mail copies of the Legislative Newsletter, Action Alerts, and any other memorandum that must go to local Leagues or Board members from the Legislative Office.

9. Keep a record of supplies ordered and postage used.

The secretary will be paid from the state office monthly, after she has turned in a time sheet listing the hours worked. She will be paid $2.50 per hour, and will work those hours when she is most needed. In the absence of the Legislative Director the secretary will consult with the Capitol Corps chairman.

State Legislative Director

Presents the needs of an active lobbying program to the state Board. Coordinates and supervises activities and functioning of the Capitol Corps. Supervises the routine of the Legislative Office, including interviewing and hiring of office secretary.

Keeps local Leagues informed of legislative matters.

Builds personal relationships with legislators and staff.

Presents League testimony in absence of state president or resource chairman if so designated.

Edits and supervises Legislative Newsletters, Action Alerts, and League testimony.

Handles all correspondence and reports to state Board and local Leagues on legislative matters.

Detailed duties of the Legislative Chairman can be found in the permanent files of the Legislative chairman in calendar form.

SEP 2 1975

August 16, 1975

Legisla.

To: Fumi Sugihara cc: Anderson, SO, Titus
From: Brasher

Re: Sugihara memo of July 21 - mixcellany

This does feel like old times! And I have been trying to get notes off to all of you for days, but my house is still being treated like Grand Central Station. Just got rid of my fourth batch of house guests! I have not had a week alone since June 1. But my visit to Louisiana for a couple of weeks was glorious.....

In the meantime, amidst assorted relatives and friends, I have been trying to repair and patch things that have been neglected for five years, making me feel like an all-round handy man, cook, hostess, and even nursemaid, as Tom came down first with an indescribable virus which completely debilitated him to the point that I thought he would have to go to the hospital, but three days of a liquid diet, confined to the bed, and my tender loving care brought him around again. Shortly after that, due to his weakness, he stepped in a low spot in the yard, lost his balance, and ended up with two fractured ribs! He is now out of the tape, but is now complaining of a pain in his neck. (I hope it is not she who has been giving him all of that tender care!) Really! I got home to stay just in time.....I haven't even mentioned that I also had a bout with the plumber... couldn't put tissue in the commodes for about a week. Holy cow! Then we had a siege of ants and I hope you forgive me, Meg, but in desperation I sprayed all around the house with Chlordane, which fortunately wasn't banned until a few days later! I have also regrouted the kitchen and bathroom tiles, repaired the lawn furniture, pulled weeds, antiqued a desk, trimmed shrubs and trees, and have neglected my correspondence terribly!

So I am killing three birds with one letter - to say thanks to all of you for your recent notes. (Will enclose personals to Meg and Betty).

Know you must have had a good time on your visit to Washington, Fumi, and I am really looking forward to your visit to San Marcos next week. Was delighted to hear that you and Jane will be here for our annual membership supper. Frances suggested that you and Jane might want to come over for a refresher before the supper and after you have finished your work with the Board, or after the supper. So I will check with you after your arrival....would love to visit with both of you before you get away!

Thanks for reminding me about the "political committee". I think the confusion has been cleared up. Frances has had the treasurer return the checks received, and they will issue new checks for contributions to the campaign committee. I also mentioned that you had not received a San Marcos Voter since April, and it turns out that no Voter has been sent since then, as that is the last I have in my file also. However, one just came a few days ago.

Thanks also for calling my attention to the fact that HB 316 did not pass. How can we rectify that boo-boo?

It has been fun reading the editorials and write-ups in the Austin-American every day about the Voting Rights bill. I was tickled to death that it passed...and bravo for Lloyd Bentsen (in spite of the presidential primary bill!). Am enclosing a regular scenario of articles which I thought you might enjoy.

Sorry I missed all of you while you were at the office in Austin, but it was just impossible for me to get away to drop in ...and besides I know you all must have been very busy. I sure miss you crazy people. Can hardly wait to see you Thurs.

JAN 17 1975

January 14, 1975

To: Glickman cc: SO, Anderson

From: Brasher

Re: Office and miscellaneous things

Well, I made it to the grand opening today...of the 64th Legislature. The House gallery was so packed that there was not a seat available, so I spent most of the time in the Senate gallery. The only spectacular thing there was the filibuster by Schwartz against doing a way with the filibuster rule!

In the House the big attraction was the election of the Speaker...which was already pre-destined by God Almighty and 112 House members.

I returned from Louisiana on Jan. 7 after driving through a blinding rain-storm in Beaumont, and terrible traffic after dark....slept most of the day Jan. 8....then to Austin on the 9th to make arrangements for the office.

As was anticipated, the price is a little more, but I was surprised it was as cheap as it was....the office is larger, has two exit doors, a special plug for the mimeograph machine, and Mr. Stevens, I think, gave it to us a little cheaper than it should be. He also reserved two parking places for us at $8.00 per place...the usual going rate is $10. It is such a convenient location, and such pleasant surroundings, I think it is a good deal. He is giving us five sets of keys...two for Austin, and one each for me, Susan Reid, and the secretary. I think the secretary is going to be good; she is very anxious. Ann, will you please let her know if there is anything she must send you for deductions, etc. on her salary? She took the job at $2.50 per hour (we're lucky!) and the hours may sometime be erratic, but I am sure she will keep busy.

The Address of the office is: Room 400, Sandlin Bldg.
308 West 15th Street
Austin 78701

The price of the office per month is $107.00 - only $12 more than the Con-Con office. The first check is due now and it will be for half the month, as we move in tomorrow. So one check will be made out to Sandlin and Co. for $53.50 for January and only $8.00 for the parking spaces. (One space will be for the secretary, and the other for me when I am in town, or any Corps member when I am not in town.) The only stipulation Mr. Stevens made is that the checks be separate due to bookkeeping. They lease the parking spaces from someone else. Am enclosing the rental agreement.

Have any subscriptions come in for the Newsletter? We probably won't be set up enough to get one out this first week...but should be ready to go by next week. We tried to get someone to move the furniture from the Methodist church today, but they are all busy and can't get to it until Thursday or Friday. The phone is going in tomorrow. I don't know the number ay yet.

We will be needing some supplies....such as envelopes, etc. from State Office, so if you (SO) know of anyone coming from Houston this-a-way, would you please send anything you think we could use....such as name labels for state board members, etc., as I am planning to come to State Board meeting on the bus as there is no longer anyone from this area and I do not want to drive alone. I could take some things by bus, but not much.

Now for the straw that broke the camel's back! It looks as though we will be scrounging again to get our information the hard way.....I checked into the Texas Legislative Service and almost fainted when Mr. Fish told me how much the service had gone up. IT IS NOW $500 per month! And Constitutional Revision and School Reform bills are EXTRA because of the anticipated load. With a budget of $950, I told him it was impossible for us to even think about taking the service. He then offered the Daily Record only for $200 per month. Even that would take more than our budgeted amount, so I am looking around to find out where we can get all of the information we will need. There is one source I am not at liberty to put down on paper that we can get a copy of the Daily Report that I made arrangements for, but it will entail making a xerox copy each day. With the amount budgeted for the Legislative Service, we can afford to make xerox copies of the Daily Report, and any bills we may need....I am even looking into getting one of the printing places to reduce the bills as the Legislative Service does when it is necessary for mailing bulky bills. I think we will come out ahead, although it will take a little more time and work. I may have to go into Austin more often than I had previously to get things started running smoothly and to find sources that we can plug, but we will still come out cheaper I think. The TLS said that they had hiked the price during the Con-Con and then again for this session. He also said that several organizations, such as the Red Cross, etc. had also dropped their subscriptions due to the price, but that they had been forced to raise the price because of the price of paper doubling in the past year. So, Barbara, I will charge all xeroxing of any bills, daily reports, etc. to the Legislative Service budget....which is under the Texas Education Fund amount. It is for the same purpose.

I will also try to keep a record of what is actually spent on paper, stamps, etc. for the Legislative Newsletter, so that we can have an approximate amount of costs in the event LWV/T wants to pursue the idea of asking for a grant for this purpose from loaded individuals who might be willing to contribute to this cause.

Incidentally, I visited the Secretary of State's office to turn in lobbying reports for myself and for the LWV/Texas...for the period Oct. 1 thru Dec. 31. Since it was the day before the deadline, and I had no other figures available as far as the LWV/T was concerned, I assumed that there had been no lobbying expenses. As an afterthought I remembered ERA and put down the $35 fee for the Coalition for ERA. Now I am wondering if there should not have been more added to that. I told Terry Goodman in that office that I would inquire, and if there is more to be added to the report, I would make an adjusted report. So please let me know if there should have been more expenses reported. She said that reporting these amounts is good publicity for the League as a lobbying force and that we should put all of the expenses we incur for this purpose. Also, we will have to make MONTHLY reports during the session...so all program chairmen should kee p accurate accounts of their lobbying expenditures and turn them in to the Legislative Office SEVEN DAYS before the deadline, which is usually within the first ten days of the month. Are local League expenses also included in the State report, for those who are not incorporated?

Thanks, Barbara, for the check for the office. Will let you know how it should be charged up if other than postage.

The secretary's name is Margaret Roach.....and please no remarks about having a roach in our office!

League of Women Voters of Texas

DICKINSON PLAZA CENTER • DICKINSON, TEXAS 77539 • 713 534-3323

MRS. DARVIN M. WINICK, PRESIDENT

March 4, 1975

Dear Member of the 64th Legislature:

Attached is a list of the priorities of the League of Women Voters of Texas for this session of the legislature. We hope you will not only give this your attention but will file it away for future reference. Please feel free to call on us for any additional information we may be able to furnish you in any of these areas.

Many people have difficulty in realizing the unique procedure which the League of Women Voters has for arriving at its positions on issues. We feel it is very important that our legislators in particular understand that members at the local level, not the League boards of directors, determine LWV positions on issues at all levels of government.

League members read, research, study, and discuss problems and their various solutions. Then each group meeting for discussion in each local League gives its answers to the same question. On topics chosen by the members for nationwide study and action, all these answers are then sent from all parts of the country to the national LWV board of directors. Answers to statewide study questions are from local Leagues to the state board. The boards then determine if the members have reached consensus on that particular topic.

Consensus in the League means agreement among a substantial number of a representative group of members -- not just a simple majority. If there is not this substantial agreement among the members, then there is no consensus--no position from which to take action. No action is taken by state League leaders unless there is substantial agreement by members from local Leagues across the state; no action is taken by national League leaders unless there is member agreement from all the states in the nation.

This is why the League is unique--unlike any other group we know of. The League of Women Voters truly has one voice at the local, state, and national levels because it is the local members who determine the state and national positions.

Consensus, however, is never unanimous. So we feel it is important for you to know that when a local League is not in agreement with a consensus arrived at by the other Leagues in the state, it does not respond to suggestions for action sent to it by the state board. It will not ask you to support or oppose any legislation if it does not agree with the League position. However, individual League members can and do speak for themselves--as individuals--if they disagree with the League position.

We hope this explanation may give more validity to the views expressed by state League leaders.

We look forward to your consideration of the studied views of your League constituents. We want to work with you for continued improvement in our Texas state government.

Sincerely,

Veta Winick

Mrs. Darvin M. Winick
President
Dickinson, Texas 77539

LWV of Texas
Legislative Office
308 W. 15th Street
Austin, Texas

Phone: 472-2206

JAN 1 1975

December 25, 1974

To: Anna Stock cc: SO, Anderson

From: Chris Brasher

Re: Costs of Legislative Newsletter

Anna, I am sorry that I have not had time to answer your note about trying to get our newsletter subsidized, but as you can see from enclosed note I just recently received some figures from Barbara, and they are not what I wanted. I really don't know how to figure the cost of the Newsletter accurately, as everything just came out of "supplies" and "postage" from the office expenses. The figures Barbara sent were for 1973-74, which was not a legislative session. I had given the balance of my account to Betty Conner for use during the Constitutional Convention, and she way overspent what we spent during the legislative session! I usually run a tight ship!

Besides, there was a weekly bulletin out of the con-con office, which is much more expensive due to the postage. But everyone wants a weekly, so we are going to try to do that during the legislative session also, which will take a little more, considering office help, postage, etc. I am not sure this was figured into the new budget, but if it overruns, I will ask Betty to subsidize us!!

The figures I came up with for sending a copy to every member are:

Postage

Figuring 4300 members: 4300 copies at .10 per week = $430-for 24 weeks= $10,330

Supplies:

2 sheets @ 6¢ per sheet = .12 per wk - 2.88 for 24 weeks times 4300 = $12,384

Secretarial help (I figured it would at least two days for this many copies) @ 2.50 per hour for 8 hrs. per day for two days = $40.00

$40.00 for 24 weeks (6 months) = $960

Total: $23,674 for 4300 members once a week for 24 weeks.

I would be ashamed to ask for such a sum!

Without counting the secretary's wages fully $600 - because I would be counted 6 whole months - it's less

Now, if we are figuring only on the freebies to the Local League Presidents and Legislative Chairmen and State Board and Capitol Corps: making a round figure of 130 copies:

Postage - $312 ~~($130~~ for 24 weeks)
Supplies - $ 375
Secretary - $ 720 (six hours - 2 days per week - 24 wks.
Total $ 1407 -- Actually, this is what it costs us how

When we were discussing this, I think it was with the intention that it would be made available to non-League people and would have to include other than League material. Unless it would be an outright contribution to the League, I don't see how we could ask for a contribution, as going only to League members for lobbying purposes, it could not be a tax-deductible item. As far as this session is concerned, I don't think we are set up to make umpteen copies of anything.....we call in volunteer people to help the secretary get out the Newsletter on Fridays, and quarters are so close, nothing much else can be done on that day. So I am not too hot on the subject of trying it this session.

Perhaps, when the permanent office is set up...if it is, we would be in a better position to try something like this, with a wider distribution, including non-League subscribers, and non-League materials which will allow us to escape the lobbying issue on contributions (tax-decuttible). Too, I would like to see it a little more professional if it was subsidized.

I don't know the gentleman you are thinking of asking, but perhaps Veta does, and if you think there is some way to get a contribution, and if you want to try it, I say go ahead. The only reservation I have about doing anything this session, is that it will be a hard, agonizing one for me, and I don't want to have to expend what energy I have left on anything extra.

Thanks for offering your services, and perhaps sometime in the future, when we have more time left for planning such a project, it might be well worth the effort.

Happy New Year!

CB

C
O
P
Y

11 December 1974

Chris: I had to wait for Ann to send me back last year's books before I could answer your note in regard to costs of news letter.

In Budget category I2b for fiscal year 1973-74 which ended March 31, 1974, I find the following entries:

1. 351.18 2. 1187.45 3. 79.73 4. 192.42 5. 164.51 6. 340.71

There is no identification as to what these categories represent. Since it has the heading of Legislative office, I assume that buried somewhere in this is the cost of the newsletter and that you will know which is which. It is possible that they represent the same as this year's budget which would be

1. Rent & Utilities 2. Secretary, 3. Supplies, 4. Postage, 5. Telephone 6. Director's Expense.

Umder the heading of Legislative projects, I2c a total of 534.82 was spent but looks like lobby day, etc. and the checks were to Holmes and the Driskell Hotel.

Hope this helps you.

Barbara B. Glickman, 1613 Beverly Drive, Wichita Falls, Texas 76309 817 + 723-0457

DEC 1 1 1974

Dec. 10, 1974

TO: Brasher, Winick, Anderson
FROM: Leabo
RE: Letter to legislators

I agree with you, Chris, that it would be a good idea to send a letter to all the legislators with the list of our priorities. Inviting them to become members would also be good, I think, but possibly this should be a separate letter (although sent in the same envelope to save postage).

While I would be happy to edit, polish, etc., such a letter, you all know better than I wa what it should contain. However--here is a rewritten version of a letter a while back (really ages ago) by the South Carolina LWV to their U.S. senators and congressmen that would probably be a valuable companion piece to our priorities (if they will just take the time to read it, and hopefully file it too).

Obviously our own opening paragraph needs to be inserted at the top.

Cheers!

TO: BRASHER cc: SO, Anderson
FROM: LEABO
RE: LOBBY SCHOOL/LEGISLATIVE DAY

It all sounds great--including all of your alternative choices, so I really don't think I can be of much help. I do have a couple of preferences, however.

1. I do think we should have a dinner and a speaker on March 4 if a big enough place can be found. (Good for PR purposes, especially if you can get Griffiths x or some other big name.)

2. After dinner alternatives: Can we offer several options--like the election school film (which is a subject dear to some of our hearts, but not necessarily to others) and the ERA tape (if it doesn't cost a lot)and committee hearings and the nearest bar?

3. I definitely think a talk back session should be scheduled for the afternoon of March 5, and it should be a full hour, not just half.

4. I'm of mixed emotions about the tour. If we offer it, it should be as an option to something x governmental. I'd like to have a xx crack at Mark White, but sinee he appears to be a lame duck I guess there wouldn't be much point in that.

DEC 1 1 1974

Many people have difficulty in realizing the unique procedure which the League of Women Voters has for arriving at its positions on issues. We feel it is very important that our legislators in particular understand that members at the local level, not the League boards of directors, determine ~~x~~ ~~xxx~~ LWV positions on issues at all levels of government.

League members read, research, study, and discuss problems and their various solutions. Then each group meeting for discussion in ~~xxxxx~~ each local League gives its answers to the same ~~x~~ question. On topics cosen by the members for nationwide study and action, all these answers are then sent from all parts of the country to the national LWV board of directors. Answers to statewide study qu3stions are sent from local Leagues to the state board. The boards then determine if the members have reached consensus on that particular topic.

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We hope this explanation may give more validity to the views expfessed by state League leaders.

We look forward to your consideration of the studied views of your League constituents. We want to work with you for continued improvement in our Texas state government.

Sincerely

(taken from a February 13, 1973 letter sent by Barbara Moxon, president LWV of South Carolina, to S.C. senators and congressmen)

I think paragraph #6 should be moved up and combined with #4.

November 30, 1974

DEC 4 1974

To: Winick cc: Anderson, Leabo
From: Brasher

Veta: Have letters of congratulations gone to newly elected legislators with a copy of the League's priorities? If not, how about us sending out a letter to all legislators with our priorities sheet and also inviting them to become members of the League....as we discussed at the September Board meeting? Non-League legislators could be invited to be members of the State League...as members-at-large. Legislators who are in League territory could be invited to join their local Leagues. Let me know, and I will help with letter, if you want. (Kathy, perhaps you could help here, too.)

in their boxes

This is one reason we had the priority sheets printed, and I guess we should get these to the legislators before the session starts.

COPY

LEGISLATIVE

Chris Brasher (Mrs. Thomas)
[redacted]

As we shift into high gear for fall activities, we might contemplate that this might have been the last time in Texas history that we were to have a legislative session every other year. With hopes dashed of having some League goals accomplished through constitutional revision, we still must pursue many of the same objectives in the coming 64th session of the legislature.

Not to be daunted by another failure, the board unanimously agreed that Texas Constitutional Revision should again take top priority on our list of legislative goals in the coming session. Second on the priority list will be School Finance, then Environmental Quality (land use, Environmental Protection Agency, and right to sue), and Voting Rights (recodification of the Election Code, absentee voting changes, election authority, etc.).

Keeping in mind our legislative priorities, the questions pertaining to these items are listed first on the legislative interview questionnaires. These should take first priority in your interview with your legislators, with answers to the others if time allows. Deadline for returning the interview forms to state office is December 1, so if you have the opportunity to see your legislative candidates before and after the election, perhaps you can cover all of the questions.

With elections coming up for representive and senatorial districts in November, we will need any pertinent information on candidates for the legislative files as we no longer have access to a "clipping service." This information is vital to those of us who lobby in Austin during a session, so please remember to "clip" for us.

This is also a good time to get acquainted with new candidates to find out how they stand on League issues. If some candidates don't know about League and our legislative program, this is a great opportunity to acquaint them with our positions and the vital issues of the day. In fact, the legislative interview forms will be sent as soon as possible so that you will have an opportunity to report as soon as possible. In the event that you wish to interview candidates before the election, the following questions will be those on the forms you will receive in October.

Texas Constitutional Revision

1. What does this legislator foresee happening to constitutional revision in this next session?
2. What method of constitutional revision will this legislator support?

School Finance

3. What steps should the state take to guarantee equal educational opportunity for all children?
4. What method is advocated for a more equitable property tax structure?

Environmental Quality

5. What does he or she consider to be the most important environmental legislation needed for Texas?
6. How stringent should regulatory controls of the strip mining industry be?

Voting Rights

7. Should the legislature appoint a commission composed of legislators, county officers, and private citizens to revise and recodify the election code? What improvements should be made?

8. If the state continues to carry the major costs of the elections, would this legislator be in favor of a unitary primary conducted by a county officer?

Financing State Government

9. What steps can be taken to improve citizen participation in the budget-making process? Allocation of revenue sharing funds?

Texas Legislature

10. Does the legislator anticipate any revision in reform legislation passed in the last session? (HB 2 and HB 4)

11. Does he or she think that the ethics law or the lobby disclosure and campaign financing laws passed during the last session should be enforced by an existing agency or by a new agency for that purpose?

Questions to be answered by the interviewer

1. What does your legislator regard as the major legislative issues, goals, or responsibilities in the coming session?
2. What is this legislator's primary area of interest?
3. What is his or her attitude toward the League?
4. What other information did you gather from this interview?

If you do interview candidates before the official forms arrive, be sure to write up a report immediately and add any other remarks that may be pertinent.

Also, please refer to your files for the interview packet prepared for the last session, which included Tips for Interviewing and other pertinent material. Those Leagues sharing legislators should be sure to include a representative of each League or at least let the other League(s) involved know of your plans for interviewing. Be sure to take pertinent publications with you to give the candidate after the interview is over, and by all means be diligent in your efforts to get out a letter of congratulations immediately after the election to those candidates having opposition. This can also serve as a way of getting an interview set-up with those legislators who were not contacted before the election.

When you do go on the interview, ask your legislator to put you on the mailing list for the Journal. (The Senate and House Journals are printed separately, so the request must be separate.) You might also ask to be kept informed of any legislation pertaining to League issues that your legislator may introduce. And please let the legislative office know of any information you may receive. It is difficult to learn what 181 legislators are doing, thinking, or talking about in their home districts. Your information may be vital to the lobbying effort.

Reminder to Local League Presidents

Please remember to designate a legislative chairman if you have not already done so or someone responsible for helping you with the official response to Action Alerts and getting members to make an informed response. The name and address of this person, including telephone number, should also be sent to the state legislative chairman if it is not already listed on the form listing all local board positions which was sent in to state office earlier. If your League does not have a legislative chairman, it is preferable that the state program chairman be so designated, as she naturally will be more informed about state program issues. This is important, as this person, along with the president, will receive a copy of the Legislative Newsletter during the session.

Subscriptions to the Newsletter will be $3.00 to all other members and interested non-members. Please ask your publications chairman to promote this service in your local VOTER and at unit meetings. See the November state VOTER for details.

Charles Deaton, editor of the Texas Government Newsletter, is making one-year subscriptions available to the League of Women Voters members at the rate of $12 **plus** sales tax. This is a full 25% discount. Each Monday morning it brings you the latest legislative and political news as well as an indepth article on some person, agency, or problem currently making news--in a **concise** one sheet form perforated for compiling in looseleaf notebooks. The subscription covers 42 issues. Please inform your members who might wish to take advantage of this special rate to identify themselves as LWV members in their requests for billing. Mr. Deaton has also offered at a reduced rate his Voter's Guide to the 63rd Legislature, which is a description of 40 of the most important roll-call votes on the most controversial topics debated by members of the 63rd Legislature with the voting record of each individual legislator shown. He has made a special offer on these booklets to any local Leagues wishing to order them in quantity for their members at a full 50% discount on quantities of at least 20 copies at the price of $1.00 each, postpaid. He is also working on similar publications for both the Con-Con and the Texas congressional delegation. These items may be ordered from: Texas Government Newsletter, Charles Deaton, Editor, P.O. Box 12814, Capitol Station, Austin, TX 78711.

League members may also refer to the Legislative Newsletter from last session and the Con-Con Comments for roll-call votes on specific League issues.

Reminders to Legislative Chairmen:

Are you devising ways to get Action Alert information to local League members? This can be done through your local VOTERs, at action meetings, via telephone trees, letter-writing coffees--you name it. Let your imagination run riot. Who knows what new action techniques you may come up with?

And Now Action is still our best legislative action tool, as it was designed to give you background on League positions in one neat package, with periodic updates when new consensuses are reached or when the "mission is completed." So put those orders in now for legislative briefings. Remind your publications chairman to promote this publication for all-member use. It will always be a valuable tool and one every member should have, particularly new members not yet familiar with League program issues. They may like it so well that they may pressure your local board into getting one patterned after it for local program. Wouldn't that be a lovely way to compile a permanent record of your local program items?

Did you remember to remind your budget committee that there would be a legislative session in 1975, and did they include money for action during the session?

And did you remember to include Lobby Day/Legislative Day--March 4-5--on your local calendar?

JUL 24 1974

July 20 i think

To: Brasher
From: Higgins
Re: Another question for the boys

The Strip mining was is beginning to open up in earnest. How about asking a questions such as "Do you support firm regulatory control of the strip mining industry?" Not well worded, I haven't really given thought to wording. But this is a genuinely important issue.

Bobette

Leg. Interviews

JUL 18 1974

July 16, 1974

To: Chris Brasher CC: Anderson, Hunter, state office
From: Henrietta Cragon
Re: Questions for legislators

If the constitution passes:

1. What powers of fiscal control over statutory state agencies should the governor be authorized to exercise?
2. Would you support non-partisan election of appellate judges?
3. Would you support a mandatory retirement age for appellate judges?

If it fails:

1. Would you support reorganization of the statutory state agencies by consolidating, abolishing or transferring the functions of such agencies?

"Patching" the judiciary is hard; do we just start over with something like:

1. Would you support a state unified judicial system consisting of a supreme court, courts of appeal, district courts and county level courts? If so :
2. Would you support a centrally administered system of statewide courts with a uniform fiscal policy?

Helen, would #2 be workable without #1? Could any patching really be done without major revision by amendment?

JUL 22 1974

July 18, 1974

To: Cragon cc. Brasher, Anderson, SO
From: Hunter
Re Questions for Legislators

I like the questions on the Executive and the ones on the Judicial if the Constitution ~~fxixxx~~ passes
On Judicial if the Constitution fails:
#1. A unified system does <u>not</u> have county level courts--just supreme court, appellate courts, and one level of trial court.
I would think that #2 would not be practical with ~~#1~~ out so the question would be OK the way you have worded it--If so, etc. (Omitting County Courts)
Really only major revision will accomplish any improvement in the judicial Article. Is there a way of wording a question about the possiblity of support for the Constitutional convention proposal Article V as an individual proposal since it would no longer be part of a package?

Helen

TO: CHRIS, ANDERSON, SO
FROM: HIGGINS
RE: QUESTIONS FOR THE BOYS

JUL 22 1974

Chris, do we dare ask another land usey one? How about rewording the last one a bit, and having another go at it? May be redundant. Other suggestions:

1. Would you support the establishment of a state regulatory utilities commission?

2. What do you consider to be the greatest single piece of environmental legisltaion needed for Texas?

July 16, 1974

JUL 23 1974

To: Brasher cc: SO, Anderson
From: Sugihara
Re: Legislative questionnaire

Late last night I happened to glance at my calendar, and lo and behold! There was your deadline. I haven't had much time to do any thinking, but here are some questions for starters just off the top of my head. Let me know if I have time to revise them. Otherwise, you can do whatever you like with them.

1. Should the voter registration function be taken out the tax assessor-collector's office? Who should be in charge of registration of voters? What specific improvements would you make in the registration law?

2. Should the legislature appoint a commission composed of legislators, the public and county officers to revise and recodify the election law?

3. How do you think the campaign financing laws should be enforced? By an existing agency or by a new agency created only for that purpose?

4. Many of the problems at the polling place arise because precinct judges and clerks do not know the law and are confused about procedures. Would you favor mandatory training of all poll workers before they are allowed to serve in elections?

5. Do you think that having an absentee ballot notarized is a hardship for those who are ill or otherwise unable to vote in person? Would you favor imposing other safeguards such as signature comparison and the signing of a statement that the voter is qualified to vote absentee in the election?

6. If registration and polling place procedures were improved so that fraud or any kind of cheating would be difficult, would you favor eliminating the signature on the ballot stub?

7. Would you favor unitary primaries co nducted by a county officer if the state continues to carry the major costs of the elections?

LWV of Texas
State Board Report
May 1974

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Chris Brasher (Mrs. Thomas)
[redacted]

A reminder to local League boards is appropriate at this time. Even though most Leagues have held election of officers and have appointed new members to the board, please do not overlook appointing a legislative chairman to your local board. Not only is this important for the many times this chairman will be responsible for action and responses to Times for Action during the Constitutional Convention, but will be a position of the utmost importance during the upcoming session of the 64th Legislature which convenes in January 1975.

In looking for a brief description of the duties of a legislative chairman, I came across a page taken from the Lamar County Voter of November 1972 which reads:

OUR LEAGUE IS ONLY DOING HALF A JOB!

"The League is not meant to be only coffee and talk. League work and study culminates in legislative action. The foundation for the League's legislative program is provided by conclusions reached by local members after studying governmental issues adopted as League Program at state convention. The legislative committee translates this program into action. This means enthusiastically keeping the membership informed about state legislation and organizing membership response to Times for Action, the notice from local, state or national boards to go "all out" with letters, legislator contacts, and with public information on pending legislation. The legislative chairman also arranges interviews with legislators and inspires members to know their legislators better so that they will know, care, and act on matters in which the League has an interest.

"Sound interesting? It is a nutshell excerpt from the initial installment of the Legislative Handbook. . .Sound complicated? Not really. The Handbook has it down 1, 2, 3, for new chairmen to follow. Sound awe-inspiring? Well, togetherness helps--if you are feeling oh-so-new at all this, volunteer for the legislative action committee. You'll have the opportunity to go along on interviews, lobby school, Legislature Day in Austin, as well as help to organize action. . ."

Lamar County said it well. Reference was being made to the six-page introductory section of a Legislative Handbook published in May 1972, two copies of which went to all local League presidents, with one copy intended for the local legislative chairman. It outlined the role of the legislative chairman, gave a job description, and a legislative calendar. Please refer to your files for this very concise outline of the duties and responsibilities of local League legislative chairmen for the use of your present legislative chairman or for use in selecting a new chairman. Unfortunately, this publication was omitted from the updated publications catalog, but copies may still be available on request from state office.

A second mailing for the Handbook on legislative interviews will be forthcoming sometime this summer. Legislative interview forms will be sent in October so dates can be set up for interviews immediately following the November general election.

Also, please send in the name of your legislative chairman on the local board form which goes to state office so that a current list can be compiled for future use.

Keep up the action and good lobbying for League positions in the proposed Constitution!

LWV of Texas
State Board Report
May 1973

LEGISLATIVE — Mrs. Thomas Brasher [redacted]

We are now in the last lap of the legislative session and it is very frustrating to see all of our bills bogged down hopelessly in a quagmire of delaying tactics, indecisions, and time running out for bills trapped in committees or hung up on lengthy calendars. The rotunda is crawling with lobbyists milling around in a futile attempt to salvage their bills.

At state board meeting, the legislative committee decided that since there was not much to report since the last Newsletter that at this late date there was not much point in publishing a Newsletter so near the end of the session. We will just wait for the re-cap in a Round-Up issue to be published as soon as possible after the close of the session. Sitting in the gallery the last night of the session, I shall no doubt feel like calling the Newsletter issue "the last picture show," except that I am sure that there will probably be a re-run.

As I write this, the House has refused to suspend rules to take up a bill out of order on the calendar. You should see the calendar! House Speaker Daniel says chances of avoiding a special session are getting slimmer or "diminishing." Too many important issues are left unresolved -- redistricting, judicial reform, school finance, election laws, ad infinitum. Senate bills that do not have companion bills in the House are considered dead.

In a spoofing mood when I gave the legislative report at the state board meeting, I jokingly asked permission to announce the closing of our legislatve office, stating that "When all of the horses are dead, there is no use in staying for the seventh race." Most of the board thought I was serious. I wish now I had been, as I am now!

LEGISLATIVE PROJECTS — Mrs. Bill Holmes [redacted]

The Legislative Office will close as scheduled by the end of May. The office equipment loaned to us by the LWV of Austin will be returned to the storage space at the University United Methodist Church and will be available for getting out the final issue of the Legislative Newsletter. Thank you, Austin. The office has served us well. It was in a good location for access to the Capitol and was invaluable as a communication center during the whole session.

Dee Dee Harvey was a tremendous asset and we are indebted to her for all the special attention she gave to the job of secretary. She will be taking a job as director of Christian Education for an Episcopal Church in San Antonio in July. She will put out the last Legislative Newsletter when we need her in June.

The women working in the Capitol Corps have really been busy this session, and there is no way you could possibly know of the number of hours they have spent in covering hearings, showing up for meetings that were recessed,

adjourned for lack of a quorum or postponed for another hour or another day. It takes a special kind of person to cope with these uncertainties almost daily, and we are grateful to them for rendering service above and beyond the call of duty.

I will continue to be available for miscellaneous jobs that need to be done in Austin (the variety is fascinating to me.)

I am giving some thought to what we might want to do when the legislature convenes as a Constitutional Convention in 1974. I would welcome your ideas in this area.

* * * * * *

LWV of Texas
State Board Report
September 1973

LEGISLATIVE

Mrs. Thomas Brasher
1408 Highland Drive
San Marcos, Texas 78666

In reading over legislative report summaries from other states, there was no doubt that the most significant work done for the League legislative program were the contacts and spadework done by the Leagues in the legislators' home districts. The initial interviews and discussions of League positions in the local area made for a good reception when the League lobbyist called on the legislator at the capitol. It was generally agreed that it is hard for the state League to convey to local Leagues how important the local is to the overall success of the League legislative program. Therefore, it bears repeating again--<u>please make contacts with your legislators while they are at home in your local districts</u>. Now is the time for doing that all important groundwork before the constitutional convention.

Check back on record votes in the Legislative Newsletters to see if your legislator needs more information or "persuasion." Extend an invitation to special events or even unit meetings where certain items will be discussed. The most effective lobbying technique is personal contact and even better on a one-to-one basis, so that legislation can be discussed in a relaxing situation.

A voting record on important issues in the 63rd Legislature will be forthcoming. However, this will not be an attempt to rate legislators but will be a basis for thank yous or to use as a guide for future interviews, for information, etc.

Exciting plans are being made for the upcoming constitutional convention, and when they are firmed up, news on this will be coming to you--possible in a preconvention memo or special Newsletter to local League presidents, along with a brief evaluation of the past session and ways for improvement with anticipated action in January in mind.

APR 6 1973

CAPITOL CORPS REPORT
April 2, 1973
7:30 pm

Reason for Visit: House Elections Committee Meeting

Representatives Present: Barnhart, Davis, Denton, Harris, Bailey, Nichols, Finnell, Sherman, Clayton, Green, Nowlin, Foreman, Blake.

Subjects: HB 323 (Pentony) Would limit campaign spending for the media (radio, television, billboards, newspapers, postage) in state races in Texas. Limits spending to 10¢/registered voter/district or 5¢/registered voter/district for low visibility races. The bill does not include printing. The media is required to report to the Sec. of State on political advertising.

Concern expressed over small allottment for state representative races (10¢) which Pentony agreed was a problem. Blake voiced his opinion that bill might be an advantage to incumbant or name-identified candidate. Davis disliked whole premise of bill which he said suggested that all contributions carried strings. (Some discussion of Frank Sharp at this point.)

Dr. Clifton McCleskey testified for the bill, not arguing the specifics of the bill but the general problem. Felt the need to encourage competition for office and the fact that too many people can become contenders with money being their only asset. Bill would shift influence away from mass media.

Action Taken: Davis moved to refer bill to sub-committee.
Denton--Chrmn.
Foreman
Green
Davis
Bailey
Nichols

HB 590(Nowlin) Would change election of county chairman of political parties to odd-numbered years and would provide alternate method of selection of chairman (by vote of executive committee).

Some feeling (Foreman, Clayton) that this system would encourage the favoritism of factions within party.

Action Taken: Referred to Sub-Committee
Clayton--Chrmn
Barnhart
Foreman
?

HB 1545(Denton) Would provide voter information television broadcast, alloting 15 minutes statewide TV time/ candidate. Broadcasts would be in prime time, estimated to cost $30,000(this seems too low a figure to me), and would be paid out of general revenues. The races covered would be U.S. Senator, Governor, and Lt. Governor. Both primary and general elections would be covered.

Fiscal note was requested. Suggested that bill cover runoff rather than primary because of the cost involved with a number of candidates.

Action Taken: Referred to same sub-committee as HB 323.

HB 1529(Denton) Would provide a voter information pamphlet to be printed by the state. Biographical data and a picture of candidates for U.S. Senate, House of Representatives, State Senator, State Representative, and all statewide offices, as well as general voter information would be included. Mailed to all registered voters. Candidates would pay a fee which does not cover the cost of printing (fee ranges from $50-$150 depending on the office).

Fiscal note requested. Witness encouraged a bilingual edition.

Action Taken: Referred to same sub-committee as HB323.

HB 1550(Harris) Regulate amount of money contributed by any one person to a candidate for office. Limit of $1000/person or organization for a candidate and $15,000/candidate's family, and that includes extended family.

Action Taken: Bailey moved that the bill be referred to sub-committee. Sub-committee is same as for HB323.

There was very little discussion of the last three bill, for only about seven representatives remained. A sub-committee report on SB 193 was postponed since a quorum was not present. The meeting was recessed at the call of the chair.

Person Reporting: Linnet Trow

MAR 29 1973

CAPITOL CORPS REPORT

Reason for Visit: House Elections Committee Meeting (Postponed twice previously when House stayed late in session)

Representatives Present: Best described as floating. Many other committees meeting at same time so members traveled from one to the other, with some difficulty in maintaining a quorum.

Subjects:

HB 444 (Coody) Would reveal political contributions of unopposed candidates.

Action Taken: Foreman moved to report favorably. Sherman, however, moved to report to subcommittee which carried by a 6-5 vote.

HB 462 (Cavness) Makes it a misdemeanor to register more than once. There was some feeling in the committee that since there is already a penalty established for double voting, such a fine for double registration is redundant.

Action Taken: Referred to Sub-Committee.
Chrmn: Nichols
Foreman
Davis
Green
Russell

HB 458 (Tupper) Allows 65 and over to vote absentee, either by personal appearance or by mail. No opposition to intent of bill but an expression that all absentee voting bills need to be coordinated in subcommittee.

Action Taken: Referred to Standing Sub-Committee on Absentee Voting.
Chrmn: Finnell
Bailey
Barnhart
Blake

HB 620 (Kubiak) Provides for secrecy of ballot by removing signed stub from ballot. Four amendments added to bill (Chris has the copies of the amendments--provide fine for removing ballot from polling place, changes wording to prevent people from folding computer ballots, etc.). Chris spoke in favor of deleting signature though not necessarily the stub.

Action Taken: Reported favorably to House 13-0.

HB 99 (Salem) Requires affiliation by party as a prerequisite for participation in party affairs. Chris attended the debate and reported that when she left (after 1½ hrs. of debate!), the opponents of the bill (many American Party people disturbed because petition candidates would be required to have their petitions signed by registered members of their designated party) were still in full voice.

Action Taken: Referred to Sub-Committee
Chrmn: Agnich
Geiger
Barnhart
Denton
Lee
Shieffer

Time: 3:00
March 21, 1973

Linnet Trow

MAR 29 1973

CAPITOL CORPS REPORT

Reason for Visit: House Elections Committee Meeting

Representatives Present: Harris, Finnell, Agnich, Bailey, Barnhart, Blake, Clayton, Davis, Denton, Foreman, Green, Nowlin, Schieffer.

Subjects: HB 979 (Allen) Establishes an appointive office of registrar of voters for counties of 1,700,000 population and over. Bill Williams of the Harris County Democrats spoke of the need for such an election authority in large counties. Some discussion on the advisability of the registrar being appointed or elected.

Action Taken: Referred to Sub-Committee
Nichols--Chrmn
Cole
Bailey
Davis
Green
Nowlin
Lee

HB 554 (Sutton) Sets all elections on Saturday except for general elections. Sutton said that he was seeking greater voter participation--many negative questions from Davis on the change. Travis County County Clerk said more facilities and personnel were available on Saturday for elections. Sutton was amenable to suggestions that voting hours could be lengthened on Tuesdays to make it more convenient for the voters.

Action Taken: Davis moved that the bill be referred to sub-committee but Clayton substituted a motion that the bill be reported favorably to the House. The substitute motion was tabled 9-4. The sub-committee is as follows:
Blake--Chrmn
Finnell
Barnhart
Davis
Denton

HB 1077 (Henderson) Permissive legislation to increase the number of poll watchers in absentee polling places. Mr. Lloyd, County Clerk of Upshur County, spoke against bill because he believes any poll watchers are unnecessary. Mrs. Shropshire, County Clerk of Travis County, also voiced some concern as to the possibility of confusion if too many people are in balloting areas. Henderson said the bill is needed in large metropolitan areas.

Action Taken: Referred to Sub-Committee
Foreman--Chrmn
Baiely
Green
Schieffer
Nowlin

HB 1031 (Poff) Allows candidates who change their minds to be removed from the ballot even if the party cannot replace them. Discussion as to the time period needed for the ballots to be printed.

Action Taken: Referred to Sub-Committee
Finnell--Chrmn
Clayton
Green
Barnhart
Davis

HB 861 (Agnich) Exempts Senators and Representatives of Congress from reporting campaign contributions and expenses under state law since there is a separate Federal law now covering such. Agnich explained that the Federal report would be on file with the Sec. of State's office. Denton suggested that since the House will be voting on such a state law(governing campaign expenses and contributions) this week the bill should be held in subcommittee until the two laws (State and Federal) could be compared.

Action Taken: Foreman moved to report the bill favorably. Denton substituted a motion to refer the bill to sub-committee. A motion to table Denton's substitute motion passed by 8-5 with Finnell, Agnich, Bailey, Clayton, Davis, Foreman, Green, Nowlin voting aye, and Harris, Blake, Barnhart, Denton, and Schieffer voting nay. The bill was reported out to the fllor favorably by a 10-2, 1 present vote.

HB 994 (Nowlin) Identical to SB 26. Permissive legislation which establishes a central election authority, appointed by county commissioners, in counties of 100,000 population and over. Frank Vaughn, Commissioner of Bexar County, spoke of the present fragmentation of authorities and urged the passage of the bill. Mrs. Shropshire suggested that it could be applicable to all counties.

Action Taken: Sent to same sub-committee as Allen's HB 979 so that bills may be coordinated. See committee members on page 1.

HB 1360 (Johnson) Identical to Salem's HB 99.

Action Taken: Referred to same sub-committee as HB 99.
Agnich--Chrmn
Geiger
Barnhart
Denton
Lee
Schieffer

HB 208 (Denton) Ends the practice of giving false information while securing political advertising. Blake gave a sub-committee report which included an amendment to change the act from a felony to a misdemeanor. The word "knowingly" was also included by amendment to describe the act.

Action Taken: Unanimously reported favorably to the House as amended.

Time: 7:30 pm

Linnet Trow

S.O.

LWV of Texas
Dickinson Plaza Center
Dickinson, Texas 77539
[redacted]
Secretary - Ann Gallaher

LWV Legislative Office
[redacted]
Secretary - Margaret Roach
[redacted]

LEGISLATIVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
January 1975

State President
Veta Winick (Mrs. Darvin)
[redacted]

Program Vice President
Betty Anderson (Mrs. John)
[redacted]

Legislative Director
Chris B rasher
(Mrs. T. L.)
[redacted]

RESOURCE DIRECTORS

Texas Constitutional Revision
Betty Conner (Mrs. R. E.)
[redacted]

Public School Finance
Jan Wilbur (Mrs. Robert)
[redacted]

Financing State Government
Jan Wilbur (Mrs. Robert)
[redacted]

CAPITOL CORPS MEMBERS

Susan Reid
[redacted]

Barbara Nobles
[redacted]

Jan Albers
[redacted]

Carol Barrett-Prado
[redacted]

Libby Doggett
[redacted]

Linda Avena
[redacted]

Courtney Anderson
[redacted]

Christine Stanford
[redacted]

RESOURCE DIRECTORS

Judy Padden
[redacted]

Judy Parken (Mrs. Edward)
[redacted]

Sandy Godfrey
[redacted]

Environmental Quality
Bobbette Higgins (Mrs. Wilfred)
[redacted]

(Land Use, Strip Mining, Solid Waste,
Coastal Zone Management, Deepwater Ports,
Toxic Waste Disposal, Right to sue)

Environmental Quality (Air & Water)
Meg Titus (Mrs. D. L.)
[redacted]

Margaret Ashworth
[redacted]

Libby Doggett
[redacted]

(Single Environmental Agency,
Groundwater, Natural & Scenic Rivers,
Air Quality, Water Quality, TWP)

Voting Rights
Fumi Sugihara (Mrs. Thomas)
[redacted]

Fran Johnston
[redacted]

Janice May
[redacted]

Charlotte Cranberg (alt.)
[redacted]

Texas Legislature
Chris Brasher
[redacted]

Cora Briggs
[redacted]

Texas Executive
Henrietta Cragon (Mrs. Harvey G.)
[redacted]
Betty Conner

Cora Briggs
[redacted]

Judicial Reform
Henrietta Cragon (Mrs. Harvey G.)
[redacted]
Betty Conner

Susan Reid
[redacted]

Jean Bizzell
[redacted]

Barbara Nobles
[redacted]

RESOURCE DIRECTORS

State-Local Relations
Jo Coker (Mrs. T. R.)
[redacted]

Charlotte Cranberg (alt)

Human Resources
Peggy Farmer (Mrs. E. Lester)
[redacted]

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CAPITOL CORPS MEMBERS

Sandy Godfrey
[redacted]

Rose Lancaster
[redacted]

(ERA) Barbara Vackar
[redacted]

(Day Care) Sally Scott
[redacted]

(Equal Opportunity ERA Education Welfare, etc) Linda Avena
[redacted]

(Housing) Mary Lee Claborn
[redacted]

Lobby School/Legislative Day Committee:

Margaret Ashworth
[redacted]

Diana Tilley
[redacted]

LWVT LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
[redacted]

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS
Dickinson Plaza Center
Dickinson, Texas 77539
January 1975

CAPITOL CORPS POLICY SHEET

Capitol Corps Committee Members

Capitol Corps members will be composed of League members who live in Austin or surrounding areas or neaby members-at-large who are familiar with state program items. The Capitol Corps is an off-Board sub-committee of the League of Women Voters of Texas.

One or two program items shall be assigned each member or "team" of the Corps, including those national items which may be legislated by the state government. Ideally, two members covering an item, working at the capitol together and strategizing together would be more fun, involve more womanpower, utilize different personalities, and form a back-up crew for observing meetings or floor action, as well as breaking in new recruits. The members of the Corps will act as observers and information gatherers.

Capitol Corps members shall be registered as lobbyists, but will testify only when so directed by the Legislative Director, who will be in consultation with the state Board Executive Committee, (see p. 4), which makes all policy decisions. The State Chairman will be the overall supervisor, with the Corps chairman and the office secretary carrying out day-to-day activities of the Corps.

Most important is that the Corps members be well informed. This will be the responsibility of the state Board resource chairman who should prepare a portfolio or kit with all League background, consensus positions, samples of Action Alerts, testimony, and any other pertinent comments or suggestions for lobbying purposes. Each portfolio will be on file in the office so that the appropriate Corps members may refer to any information in her area that she may need. Materials may be added to this file from time to time by Corps members, the resource chairman, or the state office. The resource chairman should also pass on any information she has or anything she knows about the sponsor of a bill on which a position is reached, and what approach to take when lobbying on a specific bill.

Board resource chairmen may also request Corps members to attend and report on interim committee hearings held in Austin or nonLeague meetings when they involve League participation or interest.

Capitol Corps members will need a good knouledge of how the legislature works, how to get around the capitol, where to go for information, and who is on the permanent staff, as well as keeping informed on League issues. With this kind of background, they could help prepare legislative Newsletters, Action Alerts, testimony; could digest or screen bills and amendments; and could substitute for the Legislative Director when needed at hearings. Corps members may also help when needed to prepare for Lobby School and Legislative Day.

Corps members will watch the calendar for bills to appear on her designated subject and respond to notices of committee hearings. She will attend as many of the committee hearings as possible, attempting to establish friendly relationships with committee members, speaking to them about legislation on the League's program and trying to bring about a committee recommendation favorable to the League's position, reporting developments to the Legislative Director. She will also act as a recorder at legislative committee hearings, noting committee members present, their comments on the bill, and those organizations represented speaking for or against the bill.

In cooperation with the Legislative Director, members will meet sponsors of League-supported bills, chairmen of respective committees, and will contact related governmental agencies as a resource person. Corps members shall act as consultants on resource material as well as become familiar with files on legislators, particularly those legislators on committees with bills in her area of interest.

Corps members will assist the office in keeping aware of developments on League issues, such as keeping track of House and Senate votes. When a bill is due for a vote in the Legislature, Corps members may be asked to contact many different legislators, particularly those whom local Leagues have reported as uncommitted or needing additional information or persuasion. She may also be asked to lobby legislators from areas without a League, checking files for all possible items of information on the legislator before contacting him.

Corps members should help maintain the current file of information on legislators, adding to the file when additional information is obtained.

The office secretary will notify Corps members of hearings when she receives this information. Governor's action, committee action, and House or Senate action should be reported on bill status sheets. All votes should be recorded as accurately and completely as possible. If the bill is amended, important facts should be noted. This information should be entered on all appropriate records in the legislative office by the secretary. Pertinent information should be mailed immediately to the state resource chairman. The report to the general membership will be made from that material.

At a time specified by the Legislative Director, the Capitol Corps will meet in strategy sessions to plan strategy, review status of bills, and make a written report for the Legislative Newsletter. The secretary will then type up the material for the Newsletter after it is edited by the Legislative Director. The primary purpose of the Corps is to keep the League fully informed of the activities of the Legislature, particularly in those areas in which the League has positions.

State Board Legislative Executive Committee

The decision to support or oppose a bill that falls within the legislative program and the time for effective action will need to be made by a small committee composed of the President, the Program Vice President, the Legislative Director, and Directors of Program items, with advice and consultation of the Capitol Corps member or members who have been observing the bill under consideration.

Decision-making following full Board discussion is ideal, but sometimes decisions cannot wait for the next Board meeting or time may not allow circularizing the entire Board. Comprehensive material about the question may be sent to the Board members between Board meetings and their reactions asked for. The Board itself has empowered the small committee mentioned above to make decisions that implement board decisions made at a full meeting. This is particularly true when action is indicated on League position. Any action taken between Board meetings must be affirmed by the entire Board at its next meeting. In the time before the Board meeting at which action is affirmed, if a state Board member not involved in a particular decision made by the Executive Committee should question the decision, she should make her questions known in writing to the Executive Committee immediately for clarification.

Discretion will be needed to prevent program from becoming too big to handle. The bulk of the bills must be excluded for purposes of practice as well as policy. Bills so excluded will need no further action.

Bill Procedure - Resource Chairmen

Resource chairmen should work closely with legislative committees and staff before the session begins in order to have input into legislation during the formative period. More emphasis should be placed on influence in formative pre-session stages, as it may be too late for changes after the bill is introduced. Resource chairmen and Capitol Corps members should also be encouraged to work with coalitions whenever possible and feasible.

When a bill is introduced that seems to fall into the area of League consensus positions, the Legislative chairman will obtain and scan a copy of the bill and make the decision to have it reporduced for the executive committee for analysis and ranking.

When copies of the bill are received by the legislative executive committee, an immediate reply will be expected with recommendations for classification of the bill. After the bills are analyzed, priorities on individual bills will be designated as follows: Support will be designated only for top priority items and will call for all out action, i.e., Action Alerts, testimony, and concentrated lobbying. Endorse will designate medium priority, i.e., observe committee meetings, note amendments, and selective action by Leagues if desired and/or necessary. This will include items of long standing that are important but not designated as priority items. FIO (For Information Only) will designate bills of low priority items, i.e., only tracking progress; no action. Since legislative priorities are set before the session begins, it is conceivable that political circumstandes may change. So, inevitably, setting priorities must be flexible and changes made as situations change. Other categories will be designated as No Position (where the League has no consensus position) or Oppose (where a proposed bill is in opposition to a League position). If time allows, it may be that the decision might be just to follow the bill action and see what develops before making a firm decision. Copies of comments are sent to other members of the executive committee. The Legislative Director will then decide on the basis of this information what course of action to recommend. The final decision may be delayed until time for concerted action by the lobbying group or the local Leagues is desired and called for. If there is time, the Legislative chairman will discuss this with her committee at the pre-Board sessions or in strategy meetings at the capital before making specific recommendations for Board approval. If there is no time, the decision will be based on the four recommendations. Notice of the decision will be sent to the executive committee as soon as possible.

While the resource chairman's committee doesn't receive the bills or your analysis, they should be kept informed about what is going on. Also, at committee meetings, outline what has been suggested concerning the bills and ask for their comments. Your committee may make suggestions to the legislative committee concerning your item.

Resource chairmen should be thoroughly familiar with the nuances of consensus position. Rarely is there a "pure" bill, and when it is, it sometimes isn't the one which has a chance of passage. Spend a little time looking over what your predecessors recommended on bills that are reintroduced in this session. You are not bound by anything that happened in the past, as long as our concensus covers the point, but a determination of the thinking that went into the decisions in the past can be made.

Decisions concerning method of support will originate with the legislative director; however, suggestions for promotion by local Leagues should be made by the resource chairmen. Since carbon copies of each executive committee member's remarks will circulate the full executive committee, it will be obvious when the decision is unanimous. If the decision is not unanimous, we will then take another caucus after everyone has had a chance to see and reconsider the remarks of the entire executive committee. A poll of the state Board may be made or a decision withheld pending an upcoming state Board meeting, if time allows. In any event, the executive committee will be notified of the decision made before this information is passed on to the local Leagues. If desired, the sponsor of the bill will also be contacted after a decision is reached.

When a decision is made on a bill, the legislative director will notify local Leagues in a legislative Newsletter, telling the League position, the intent of the bill, the League's reason for supporting or opposing it or any other recommendations. Since the resource chairman is the expert in her field, she will play a significant part in this phase. Each new resource chairman will need to become familiar with specific issues and begin drafting a short, concise statement of the League position, attaching any relevant comments or suggestions which will help in giving testimony and answering questions by the committee. Almost immediate use of this material is anticipated in releases to the press and in various letters and statements which the president will make or in testimony presented by the resource chairman.

Once assignments of legislators to standing committees are made, and referrals of bills to committees are known, it may be useful to request further cooperation on the part of a local League. This may be for additional information and/or an alert that a legislator needs some mail or local pressure. Resource chairmen should help make these decisions as well as making decisions on timing for Action Alerts. They may also wish to contribute any pertinent remarks or information for the Legislative Newsletter. Statements of official testimony, reports on hearings, and interesting comments on bills will be included in the Legislative Newsletters or in Action Alerts.

As the legislation progresses, status on each bill with pertinent remarks will be sent to each member of the legislative executive committee. It will be the duty of the secretary to notify the legislative director, Capitol Corps members and the executive committee immediately of any change in status.

In an attempt to utilize the expertise of the program chairmen, every effort should be made by chairmen to come to Austin before and during a legislative session to check with standing committees and bill sponsors on the progress of bills, to make recommendations for the amending process, to attend important committee hearings, to confer with committee staff members, and to testify when possible. Program chairmen should also work with departments of state government related to their portfolios.

For those newcomers to the Board and the Corps, a brief explanation of bill designations follows: H.B. or S.B. stands for House Bill or Senate Bill; HCR or SCR, House or Senate Concurrent Resolutions, all of which require passage of both Houses. HRs or SRs stand for House or Senate simple resolutions which only require consent of the house in which they originate. HJRs and SJRs require not only passage by both houses, but are House or Senate Joint Resolutions, which means they are proposed constitutional amendments which must also be presented to the voters for approval after a two-thirds vote of the Legislature.

Legislative Office Secretary

The secretary for the legislative office in Austin will be employed only during the time specified by the state Board. Her duties will be supervised by the state Legislative Director with the assistance of the Corps chairman. She will not be a lobbyist, but will assist in getting information that will help determine the League's legislative strategy.

She shall keep the Legislative Director and Corps members advised of committee hearings and any pertinent information that comes into the office, such as communicating changes in committee hearing dates and information needed as to anticipated floor action on specific legislation.

Among her duties will be the following:

1. Check daily when Corps chairman is unavailable, scanning the list of bills introduced and ordering those which fall in the areas of League positions.

2. Notify Corps members of time and place of hearings and when floor action is expected, and make assignments for observing when necessary.

3. File bills immediately by number, with copies going to the state Board executive committee when designated by the chairman.

4. Maintain a file on members of the legislature in the legislative office. Each file will contain statistics including name, district, Leagues in the legislator's district, and committee membership. Additional information, if available, should include birthdate, birthplace, spouse's name, children, church affiliation, business experience, political party, political experience, civic activities, hobbies. Most of this information will be contained in the legislative interview forms, a copy of which will be filed along with the legislator's card.

   The file should also include the legislator's votes and comments on issues of interest to the League, plus newspaper clippings, letters, and clippings from Voters Guides sent in by local Leagues.

   Files for leagues, with Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the local League president and legislative chairman, and legislators in district will also be accurately maintained.

5. Keep file on legislative programs of other organizations, with names of individuals to contact.

6. Notify local Leagues of hearings and committee meetings when directed by the Legislative Director.

7. Carry out any other duties commensurate with the normal operation of an office, such as answering letters, keeping records of telephone calls when Director is out of office, notifying Director of important messages, and keeping files up to date.

8. Type stencils, operate the mimeograph machine, and mail copies of the Legislative Newsletter, Action Alerts, and any other memorandum that must go to local Leagues or Board members from the Legislative Office.

9. Keep a record of supplies ordered and postage used.

The secretary will be paid from the state office monthly, after she has turned in a time sheet listing the hours worked. She will be paid $2.50 per hour, and will work those hours when she is most needed. In the absence of the Legislative Director the secretary will consult with the Capitol Corps chairman.

State Legislative Director

Presents the needs of an active lobbying program to the state Board. Coordinates and supervises activities and functioning of the Capitol Corps. Supervises the routine of the Legislative Office, including interviewing and hiring of office secretary.

Keeps local Leagues informed of legislative matters.

Builds personal relationships with legislators and staff.

Presents League testimony in absence of state president or resource chairman if so designated.

Edits and supervises Legislative Newsletters, Action Alerts, and League testimony.

Handles all correspondence and reports to state Board and local Leagues on legislative matters.

Detailed duties of the Legislative Chairman can be found in the permanent files of the Legislative chairman in calendar form.

January 23, 1975

To: Margaret Roach,
Legislative Office
LWV of Texas

cc: Brasher, Glickman

Dear Margaret:

I promised myself that today I would write you a few lines regardless of what else happened!! So, a very tardy welcome to the exciting land of League. I'm very uncreative, so please forgive my corny phrases! I hope you have as much fun as we have here in the state office, and if we can be of any help to you, please call on us.

I'm enclosing some state board labels, copies of the local League presidents' list and whatever other goodies I might think of before sealing the envelope.

Marge, the national office should be sent three copies of all your mailings, such as Newsletters, Times For Action, etc. We too, need three copies of each for our files. The three national board people who receive mailings are Murphree, Janski, and Walters. Labels are enclosed for them also. Their mail can be sent third class with the exception of Murphree which goes out of the country and therefore must go first class.

You can send all your expense vouchers and bills direct to Barbara Glickman, the state treasurer. Your pay check will come directly from Barbara and I'm sending you the Tax form which you should fill out and send directly to her, She also needs your social security number.

Chris has requested that we send you some envelopes. We will mail some to you today since I cannot find anyone from this area going to Austin soon.

That's all for now, and let us hear from you if we can help.

Fondly,

Ann Gallaher
Executive Secretary

P.S. Excuse the bad typing job--I've had four telephone calls and 2 visitors since I started this letter.

MAR 8 1973

March 5, 1973

To: Chris Brasher

For next year -- that is starting April 1 -- the Legislative Office budget category numbers will be as follows:

I.2.b. Legislative Office
1. Rent & utilities
2. Secretary salary & payroll taxes
3. Supplies
4. Postage
5. Telephone & Telegraph
6. Legislative Chairman expenses

If it is ~~X~~ o.k. with you, Chris, I would like you to have DeeDee keep track of amounts paid from petty cash only for supplies and postage (needn't be exact but as accurate as possible); the other areas will take care of themselves since I'll be paying the bills direct.

If we do it this way, then the next budget committee will know what it costs to run the L.O. and maybe we can get it funded accordingly. Since this year's (1973-74) proposed budget just sets a lump sum for the L.O. it will be easy for me to line item the account. If you can think of any other categories I'll add them on (or change the above if you wish).

Carol Jochim

P.S. I have been charging the L.O. phone bill to the L.O. account. I notice it goes direct to S.O. for payment -- does anyone get a chance to check it out or does anyone need to (or have time to)?

cc: S.O.

LWV of Texas
January 1973
Presidents Mailing
(2 copies)

TO: Local League Presidents
FROM: State Office
RE: Sample Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mrs._____, president of the League of Women Voters of _____ announced today that the League of Women Voters of Texas opened its legislative headquarters in Austin on January 3.

Mrs. Darvin Winick, president of the state organization, reports that League activities will center around the office at 603 West 13th during the 63rd session of the Texas Legislature. Mrs. Thomas Brasher, San Marcos, state legislative director and Mrs. William Holmes, Austin, director of legislative projects, will coordinate the activities of the League's Capitol Corps, a group of volunteers who serve as lobbyists for the organization which represents 43 local Leagues in Texas. The League plans lobbying activities regarding legislative reform, judicial reform, election laws, environmental quality and welfare. Top priority attention will be given Constitutional Revision. Mrs._____said: "It is our hope that many of the changes needed to handle the complex problems of the state will be included in a concise, flexible and well-written document which will be accepted by the citizens of Texas". The League was instrumental in the passage of amendment 4 last November to allow the legislature to sit as a revising body. "The League will attempt to remove the article dealing with legislative salaries from the Texas Constitution. For many years, we have advocated an increase in salaries, We feel that legislators should have adequate compensation for the job they do," Mrs._____ further stated.

The League plans other lobbying activities on financing public schools, lobbying regulations, state-local relations and improvements in the executive branch of Texas government. It is a non-partisan organization which takes positions on issues after consensus of the membership. Mrs. _____serves as legislative chairman in _____.

leg office

LWV of Texas
January, 1973

To: Local League Presidents, local legislative chairmen, state board members
From: Mrs. Thomas Brasher, Legislative Office
Re: Telephone Communications System

Attached you will find a new device called a Telephone Communication Schedule for Times for Action. This system will only be used in times of emergency should immediate action become necessary. It may never be used, but in the event several phone calls need to be made, the set-up will eliminate time-consuming and expersive calls for the legislative office or chairman.

Emergency phone calls will be made directly to the legislative chairman. In the event she cannot be reached, the president will then be called.

Where possible the call is arranged so that the least expense if involved.. Those local Leagues being called will be called collect, so if you wish to rearrange the schedule in any way to lessen the expense, please let us know immediately and a correction will be made.

Thanks to all of the Leagues who sent in the information needed. Please check the schedule and if any names, addresses, or telephone numbers are missing, please send us a postcard with the correct information.

As you know, each local League will receive two complimentary copies of the Legislative Newsletter--one to the local president and one directly to the local legislative chairman. If you have not designated a local legislative chairman, the extra copy of the Newsletter will be sent to the president until we are notified to whom it should be sent. If you do not have a legislative chairman, we strongly recommend that you either appoint one or designate the state program chairman to receive the information.

As we prepare for the next few months of legislative activity, please keep in mind that continuity in office is very important--the legislative chairman should retain this position until at least the end of the legislative session. It would also be wise to include proper budgeting for legislative action in your proposed budgets.

The 63rd Legislature promises to be a "reform minded" Legislature, so we should see many League goals at last within reach. It will take constant awareness of what your legislators are doing, seeing that they are plied with League information on program items, and lobbying for those things we are striving to see implemented. So let's go where the action is--and make it a great League year!

Address of the Legislative Office: State Legislative Office
LWV of Texas
[redacted]

Secretary: Mrs. T.H. Harvey (DeeDee)

LWV of Texas
January, 1973

TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE FOR TIMES FOR ACTION

1. ANDERSON
   1. Lubbock----Odessa----Midland----El Paso
   2. Plainview----Hale----Amarillo----Wichita Falls

2. HOLMES
   1. Austin---~~Brazos County~~
   2. San Antonio----Victoria----Corpus Christi
      Edinburg-McAllen----Harlingen----Brownsville
   3. Waco----Corsicana----Tyler----Longview

3. HIGGINS
   1. Denton----Sherman Provisional
   2. Dallas----Irving----Richardson----Garland----
      Lamar County
   3. Tarrant County----Hunt County

BRASHER
(San Marcos)

4. HUNTER
   1. Houston--Brazos County
   2. Deer Park
   3. LITRAS
      1. Baytown----Montgomery County
      2. Pasadena----Bay Area----South Jefferson
         Beaumont
   4. CONNER
      1. Galveston----Texas City----LaMarque
      2. Dickinson----Pearland
      3. Brazosport

BRASHER	will call	Anderson, Holmes, Higgins, Hunter, San Marcos
ANDERSON	will call	Lubbock, Plainview-Hale
		L ubbock will call Odessa Odessa will call Midland Midland will call El Paso Plainview-Hale will call Amarillo Amarillo will call Wichita Falls
HOLMES	will call	Austin San Antonio, Waco
		Austin will call Brazos County San Antonio will call Victoria Victoria will call Corpus Christi Corpus Christe will call Edinburg-McAllen Ed inburg-McAllen will call Harlingen Harlingen will call Brownsville Waco will call Corsicana Corsicana will call Tyler Tyler will call Longview
HIGGINS	will call	Denton, Dallas, Tarrant County
		Denton will call Sherman Provisional Dallas will call Irving Irving will call Richardson Richardson will call Garland Garland will call Lamar County Tarrant County will call Hunt County
HUNTER	will call	Houston, Deer Park, Litras, Conner
		Houston will call Brazos County
LITRAS	will call	Baytown, Pasadena
		Baytown will call Montgomery County Pasadena will call Bay Area Bay Area will call South Jefferson South Jefferson will call Beaumont
CONNER	will call	Galveston, Brazosport, Dickinson
		Galveston will call Texas City, LaMarque Dickinson will call Pearland

My Office

LWV of Texas
Dickinson Plaza Center
[redacted]

LWV Legislative Office
[redacted]

LEGISLATIVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
JANUARY 1973

State President
Mrs. Darwin Winick (Veta)
[redacted]

Program Vice-president
Mrs. M.S. Braunagle (Lois)
[redacted]

Legislative Director
Mrs. Thomas Brasher (Chris)
[redacted]

Legislative Projects Director
Mrs. Bill Holmes (Nancy)
[redacted]

****

RESOURCE DIRECTORS

Judicial Reform
Mrs. John Hunter (Helen)
[redacted]

Texas Constitutional Revision
Mrs. R.E. Conner (Betty)
[redacted]

Voting Rights
Mrs. John Anderson (Betty)
[redacted]

CAPITOL CORPS MEMBERS

Mrs. Francis B. May (Janice)
[redacted]

Mrs. C.J. Cole
[redacted]

Mrs. Francis B. May (Janice)
[redacted]

Mrs. C.J. Cole (Ricki)
[redacted]

Observer, Mrs. Jack Frucella (Mary Nell)
[redacted]

Mrs. Francis B. May (Janice)
[redacted]

Mrs. Joel Russell (Helen)
[redacted]

Mrs. Joe Rubio (Anne)
[redacted]

RESOURCE DIRECTORS	CAPITOL COPPS MEMBERS
Public School Finance Mrs. Edward Fritz (Genie) [redacted]	Mrs. Kenneth Ashworth [redacted] Mrs. Karl Schmitt (Grace) [redacted] Observer, Mrs. Gene Byrd (Kathy) [redacted]
Human Resources Mrs. Edward Fritz (Genie) [redacted]	Mrs. Jake Billingsley (Pat) [redacted] Mrs. Mary Lee Claborn [redacted] *Observer, Mrs. Bruce Wilkinson (Gretchen) [redacted]
Texas Legislature Mrs. Thomas Litras (Harriet) [redacted]	Mrs. William Holmes (Nancy) [redacted] Mrs. Theron Palmer (Vi) [redacted]
Texas Executive Mrs. John Hunter (Helen) [redacted]	Mrs. William Holmes (Nancy) [redacted] Mrs. Theron Palmer (Vi) [redacted]
State-Local Relations Mrs. John Hunter (Helen) [redacted]	Mrs. James Lancaster [redacted] Mrs. Joe Rubio (Anne) [redacted]

RESOURCE DIRECTORS

CAPITOL CORPS MEMBERS

Environmental Quality

Mrs. Wilfred Higgins (Bobbette)
[redacted]

Mrs. Edward Parker (Judy)
[redacted]

Mrs. Ken Klein (Joyce)
[redacted]

Observer, AQB
Mrs. Joseph Sparks (Marjorie)
[redacted]

Foreign Policy

Mrs. R.E. Conner (Betty)
[redacted]

Mrs. Leon K. Richards (Eleanor)
[redacted]

*Observer,
Mrs. William Gunn (Peggy)
[redacted]

*Rotating Observer

FYI - This will go out of Legislative office.

JAN 15 1973

LWV of Texas
January 1973

TO: Local League Presidents, Local Legislative Chairman, State Board Members

FROM: Mrs. Thomas Brasher, Legislative Office

RE: Telephone Communications System

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COPY

your proposed budgets.

The 63rd Legislature promises to be a "reform-minded" Legislature, so we should see many League goals at last within reach. It will take constant awareness of what your legislators are doing, seeing that they are plied with League information on program items, and lobbying for those things we are striving to see implemented. So let's go where the action is -- and make it a great League year!

Address of the Legislative Office: State Legislative Office
LWV of Texas
[redacted]

Phone Number [redacted]

Secretary: Mrs. T. H. Harvey (Bee Dee)

COPY

file
~~Bobby Lehane~~
Leg. Office

JAN 2 1973

December 28, 1972

To: Baggett, Holmes, Winick, Braunagel
From: Brasher

Enclosed is a sample press release which I thought we could get into the Austin paper. Please edit, make additions, deletions, etc. Do you think the legislative salaries is a good example to use? I thought we'd put a plug in for that instead of going into the myriad of other things we could choose from. What do you think? Also since Jan. 3 is already almost upon us, perhaps we should get it in on the third or after it is opened. Halcyon, you can revise this for the local Leagues with insertions for local people. Since you were not at Board meeting, I thought perhaps you would not yet know what our priorities are, so it was just as easy to write it up like this.

When and how should this release go, and how will we notify the legislators of our address and telephone number after we get the latter? Could we perhaps have calling cards for our use and for members of the Corps? ...this could have the address and phone number of the office, and the Dickinson address and number. We could put our individual addresses and phone numbers in as needed. Many times I could have used something like this when legislators or secretaries wanted us to leave a name and address.

COPY

RELEASE ON OPENING OF LEGISLATIVE OFFICE - for Austin

The League of Women Voters of Texas will open its legislative office here on January 3 in preparation for the opening of the 63rd session of the Legislature.

Mrs. Darvin Winick, state president, says that the office at 603 West 13th, Room 111, will be headquarters for the League's legislative activities and will be staffed with a secretary and the members Capitol Corps, a group of dedicated volunteer League members who will be observers and lobbyists. Mrs. Thomas Brasher of San Marcos, state legislative director, and Mrs. William Holmes, director of legislative projects, will coordinate legislative activities between the state board and the 43 local League units throughout the state.

Legislative priorities for member action during the 1973 session will include items in accordance with member positions on both state and national program. These priorities include positions that the League has maintained for many years involving recommendations for change and improvement in Texas constitutional articles. Besides legislative reforms, specific attention will be given to judicial reform, election laws, and welfare.

Most recently a statewide concerted effort for passage of Amendment 4 on the November ballot climaxed a long-fought attempt to bring about significant action for constitutional revision.

"It is our hope that many of the changes needed to handle the many complex problems of the state will be included in a concise, flexible, and well-written document that will be accepted by the citizens of Texas," said Mrs. Winick. "So many details are in the constitution that should be statutory law. For instance, we have advocated an increase in legislative salaries for many years. We feel that legislators should be compensated adequately for the job they do in a state as large as Texas, and an increase in salary should not be frozen in the constitution with dependence on the whims and attitudes of the voters for amendment."

COPY

League members have recently undertaken a study of public school financing in order to inform themselves and the public on this issue which will be one of the most important in the coming session.

Other legislative issues which the League will be following with interest and taking ~~xxtxm~~ specific action on according to state positions are lobbying regulations, state-local relations, environmental quality, and improvements in the executive department.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization dedicated to the promotion of informed and active participation of citizens in government. Information on League legislative activities or membership may be obtained by contacting the Austin office.

COPY

file
leg. Office

January 4, 1973

To: Brasher, Holmes, Harvey cc: Jochim
From: State Office

Dear Chris, Nancy & DeeDee,

Welcome to the world of running an LWV office. I sincerely hope you have as much fun as we have here in the state office and if we can be of any help to you, please call on us - remember, we're buddies in....whatever you want to call it.

I'm enclosing some state Board labels to help you in your first mailings. Also, DeeDee, the national office should be sent three copies of all your mailings, such as Times For Action, Newsletters, etc. We too, need three copies of such for our files. The three national Board people who receive mailings are Murphree, Fegan and Margerum. Labels are enclosed for them also. Their mail can be sent third class except for Murphree which goes out of the country.

You can send all your expense vouchers and bills direct to Carol Jochim. DeeDee, your pay check will come directly from Carol so send her your hours. Did you advise her of your social security number and status for exemptions on income tax? She will have to send you an official form.

I'm sending you an up-to-date copy of local League presidents and a corrected state Board list. Also, every week you will receive from us a "state Board mailing". This contains copies of everything that we mail to the state Board members. Some of it can be discarded but rather than take a chance of you not getting something you need, we'll send you everything and Chris or Nancy can check it. You will also be kept up-to-date on convention.

Nancy, do you want me to ship via bus the briefcases for the Lobby School? We can do this or bring them to Board meeting if you have any way of getting them back to Austin.

Chris, do you remember if we charged the local Leagues for the Legislative Chairman's copy of the Newsletter? I know the presidents get theirs free but I can't remember about the second copy.

Can't think of anything else except keep your eye on Chris with all those young, new legislators.

One more thing - there are three Leagues who have requested a mailing be sent directly to other people. They are Corpus, Brazosport, and So. Jefferson County. I have listed the people concerned on the bottom of the local League President's List. Just send them a duplicate of whatever you send to the presidents.

LOBBY
by Letter . . .

League of Women Voters of Texas

FYI- no reply expected

POST BOARD REPORT

TEXAS VOTER

Mrs. A. Walker Boyd, editor

[redacted]

Many excellent suggestions were made at the Lobby School for using the VOTER as a legislative action tool. They are included here so that all local VOTER editors might benefit from them.

HOW TO SPARK LEGISLATIVE ACTION

or

USING THE VOTER AS A LOBBYING TOOL

I. Within the Membership

A. Use the VOTER regularly to publish background information re League program. This makes it possible for each member to be well informed and participate effectively in unit discussions, general meetings, consensus and legislative action.

B. Write an occasional editorial expressing League positions.

C. Call for individual member action when a Time For Action arrives.

1. Publish TFA giving the member as much background information as possible.
2. Be sure to supply tips on how to write and when to write. (Each member should have a copy of How to Write Government Officials.)
3. Use your ingenuity to spark member action. Try clever visual aids to draw member attention to a TFA.
4. Be sure to encourage members to follow-up. Say "Thank You" when government officials support League positions.

D. Include an ACTION page in your local VOTER so that members will be aware of steps taken by the president and Board and will be alerted to what types of action they can take as individuals.

Be sure to include the progress of legislation which is sent by the state and national offices during legislative sessions.

It takes continued education for members to be effective lobbyists.

II. In the Community

Taking action in the community simply means developing support of the public for a League position by going to leaders and to the community to persuade them of the merits of a League stand. The local VOTER can be utilized to achieve this end.

A. VOTERs to Contributors

Many Leagues mail every edition of their local VOTER to contributors. Other Leagues prepare special editions of their VOTER containing items of particular interest to send to contributors. This is usually done several times a year. Use of the VOTER in this manner can be an excellent way to spark community support and action for League positions. (Check the Local League Handbook & Tips on Reaching the Public--LWVUS.)

B. VOTERs to the News Media

Send selected copies of your VOTER to the news media. The press, radio, and TV are eager to receive views on current legislation. You might use a highlighter pen to mark portions of your VOTER that would be of special interest to them.

C. VOTERs to Government Officials

Send copies of your VOTER to government officials in your area.

1. Use as a lobbying tool for local program items.

(Example: If you are conducting a School Survey send copies of the study, consensus and related materials to the Board of Trustees and the school administration. The VOTER is an ideal place to summarize this kind of information.)

2. Send VOTERs to your legislators. Do this periodically--not only when lobbying for a TFA.

When favorable action is taken by legislators on League positions a VOTER editorial commending their action will help cement relations.

Something to remember--always use discretion. Successful lobbying requires the skill of knowing

WHEN to lobby (timing),
WHERE to lobby (governmental officials to approach), and
HOW to lobby (best approach for the circumstances involved).

Carefully weigh these factors when considering the use of your local VOTER as a lobbying tool.

ERRATA of ERRATUM?

The following "QUOTABLE" appeared in the June Post Board Report sans the ~~erratum~~ errata which meant that it really didn't make sense. Hope it will be more meaningful to you this time.

The Media Are Not Singular

As sure as the ~~crocus~~ ~~crocuses~~ croci that come up in the spring, Greek and Latin words have always popped up to decorate the ~~incunabulum~~ incunabula of a writer who wanted his ~~memorandum~~ memoranda to sound more important than ~~it~~ ~~is~~ they are. The data ~~is~~ are not complete, but it appears that this ~~phenomena~~ phenomenon occurs most often nowadays within the ~~strata~~ stratum of people concerned with newspapers, magazines, television and radio--in a word, media. Trouble is, the media ~~is~~

are not singular; ~~it~~ ~~is~~ they are plural, as ~~is~~ are candelabra. According to this ~~criteria~~ criterion, the first thing on the ~~agendum~~ agenda should be to call a halt to all of ~~this~~ these errata.

VOTER MAILING

Remember to make these changes on your VOTER mailing list.

State Board:

Texas Legislature
Texas Executive — Mrs. John Hunter [redacted]

S-LR
Voter Registration (Replacement for Mrs. Morehead.) — Mrs. John Anderson [redacted]

Local League Presidents:

Denton — Mrs. Wilfred Higgins
Houston — Mrs. Chapman Cronquist
Montgomery Co. — Mrs. Gerald Dodge

Longview — Mrs. Bill Cromley
Pasadena — Mrs. Joseph Steiner

[redacted]

Be sure to add
Plainview-Hale County — Mrs. James Davenport [redacted]

LWV/T LEGISLATIVE OFFICE [redacted]

February 1975

LOBBY SCHOOL/LEGISLATIVE DAY AGENDA

March 4-5, 1975, Austin, Texas

March 4, 1975

8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Registration - First Methodist Church, 12th and Lavaca, foyer on Lavaca Street entrance. Publications room north of foyer. Coffee and donuts in basement. (No food, drinks, or smoking in sanctuary)
10:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Welcome by Veta Winick, State LWV President Raymond Vowell, Welfare Commissioner - 15 minute film on child abuse
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Ron Jones, Director of Coastal Zone Management, Office of the Land Commissioner: How to Work with State Agencies
11:30 - 12:00 noon	Terry Goodman, Office of the Secretary of State: Lobby Laws Gaines West, Office of the Secretary of State: Campaign Spending Laws
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch. Restaurant sheet in folder. Map of Austin in "Welcome to Austin," (small white book). Dutch treat with your legislator (ask Terry Goodman why!).
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Welcome from Lt. Governor William Hobby and House Speaker Bill Clayton Speakers: Dr. Earl Lewis on Lobbying Aspects of School Finance Rep. Ray Hutchison on Constitutional Revision Mark White, Secretary of State on Proposed Election Laws with Emphasis on Voter Registration
3:30 - 3:45 p.m.	Coffee break in basement
3:45 - 4:00 p.m.	Kathy Leabo, State PR director on lobby techniques
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	PRIORITY ITEMS ACTION SESSION Lobby techniques - current legislation - open discussion Smaller group sessions will be in rooms adjacent to large room in basement.
Happy Hour	Traditionally observed in Austin during the Legislative session. You might enjoy the Cabaret Room in the Driskill Hotel.
7:00	Stephen F. Austin Hotel, Sam Houston Room Speaker - Molly Ivins, co-editor Texas Observer Introduction of Capitol Corps
After dinner:	Committee hearings (see list)--LWV Beer Bust, Bonham Room, SFA Hotel, keg of beer, 50¢ a glass. Why not invite your legislator, but don't buy his beer.

March 5, 1975

8:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Tour of UT Nuclear Center. Bus leaves Stephen F. Austin Hotel at 8:00 a.m. Lecturers: Dr. Peter Riley and Col. Jim Green, UT Physics Dept. Registration and orientation of late arrivals on bus. SFA hotel coffee shop opens at 6:30 a.m. Donuts on bus. Bus will return to the capitol at 11:00 a.m.
8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Registration at the Capitol for those arriving today and not going on tour. Ask at the desk for the number of the room the League will be using as legislative headquarters that day.
10:00 - 10:30	Legislative briefing for those not in attendance at Lobby School or those not going on tour.
10:30 - 12:00 noon	Observation of House and Senate in session and lobbying with legislators.
12:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Lunch (with or without legislators) and afternoon on your own. Those who will have some time before leaving Austin will want to spend this time lobbying, or attending committee hearings. Both the House and Senate chamber balconies for observing are located on the third floor. A list of the day's committee meetings will be in the registration kits. Only those testifying are allowed to speak. For those coming in for the second day only, parking is a problem. There are two parking lots for capitol visitors limited to two hours. One is at 11th and Congress, on your right approaching the capitol from the south, and the other is north of the capitol at Congress and 15th, with entrance off Congress. Capitol tours are available from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. These start in the rotunda. In fair weather the "Dome tour" is also available and starts on the fourth floor every hour on the half-hour beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding at 3:30 p.m. The ground floor or "basement" houses legislative offices, a coffee shop, and restrooms. Tours of the Governor's Mansion are also available between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, and last about 20 minutes.

Have a nice day, and PLEASE LEAVE FEEDBACK SHEET (the blank sheet in your kit) AND EVALUATION SHEET WITH A CAPITOL CORPS MEMBER OR MAIL IMMEDIATELY TO THE LEGISLATIVE OFFICE.

League of Women Voters of Texas
Lobby School

October 6, 1970

TAKING ACTION TO THE PUBLIC USING THE MEMBERSHIP,
RADIO, TELEVISION AND NEWSPAPERS

Let's begin in our own home town. How do we carry action to the community through the Membership, the Speakers Bureau, newspapers, radio, and television?

1. What does taking action in the community mean?

   Answer: a. Developing support of the public for a League position by going to leaders and to the community to persuade them of the merits of a League stand.

   b. Support of specific legislation which will promote a League position. However, local Leagues do not act until they are informed by state of national Times for Action, memos, or Board reports.

2. How do we take action to the community through the membership?

   Answer: The member may inform and persuade her family, neighbors, friends, to support our position. She may also belong to other groups --- civic, church and social --- and may spread the message through them. They may be persuaded to lend legislative support. Through personal acquaintance members may ask community leaders and contributors to join us, either by personal contact or through a letter. During an action campaign members may speak, distribute flyers, make signs or posters, ring doorbells to get-out-the-vote on an issue. Members may join in letter-writing campaigns.

3. How do we take action to the community through the Speakers Bureau?

   Answer: The Speakers Bureau fills community requests for speeches on League topics and therefore helps build a body of citizens informed about government, spreads understanding of the League, and builds support for League legislative positions. So contact your civic clubs for program time, get in touch with groups having similar aims or make new contacts, and provide trained speakers for radio and television spots.

4. How do we take action to the community through newspapers?

   Answer: Letters to the editor by the president, or by members as individuals; furnishing background materials to editorial staff members, but not suggesting what they write; furnish factual story or series about the action topic, based on material from state or national or local study. Do something interesting like having petitions signed or demonstrating a voting machine. Use your previous press contacts. Use your imagination, and remember to say "THANK YOU!"

5. How can radio-TV carry action to the community?

   Answer: Public service announcements if the topic is appropriate, (see TIPS ON REACHING THE PUBLIC); TV slides; visits by League spokesmen to regularly

(continued)

scheduled women's or conversation show; radio and TV news reports -- ask them to cover events just like the press; work with station on a public service panel show illuminating the issue; use educational TV if available. The best time to make your radio and TV contacts is before an action campaign begins. Experienced chairmen keep a card file of people and places available to the League when there is opportunity for action.

(Based on Local League Handbook & Tips on Reaching the Public -- LWVUS)

* * * * * * *

League of Women Voters of Texas ..
Lobby School

October 6, 1970

P. R. POSERS

1. Your local League has been asked to give League testimony before the city council on a local item position which has developed into a controversial issue. What are some of the things you could suggest to help increase the chances of favorable news coverage?

2. Your newspaper has run an editorial supporting one of our positions. How do you follow up on this?

3. The State Board Chairman of Voter Registration has suggested that a contest in the high schools would help spotlight the League position on an amendment in the upcoming election. How would you go about promoting it? How would you cooperate with other Board members?

4. State Bar Association members have come out with an ad in support of Amendment No. 1. What action can you take for interesting your community in supporting this item on the judiciary?

5. You are asked to prepare the best selling points on voter registration for your community without further help from the state office. How would you proceed?

6. You have just received a national "Time for Action" with the suggestion that you publicize it. You feel that from the attitude of the community, the majority would oppose this position. However, your membership is in agreement with the national position. What advice would you give the Board?

7. You feel that your membership does not understand and follow state government activity on League oriented issues. They do not feel secure enough to take action such as writing letters to legislators, interviewing public officials, etc. How can you remedy this?

8. Information about the progress of legislation is sent by state office during the session. What use do you make of this?

* * * * * * * * * * *

League of Women Voters of Texas
Lobby School

October 6, 1970

HOW TO BE EFFECTIVE BY REALLY TRYING

Every project has to have a little of you to be truly successful -- your personality, your ingenuity, your awareness, your devotion to the cause, and your motivation to get others to join the bandwagon.

You must bear in mind that lobbying has many faces, and it is up to you to take advantage of every opportunity to lobby as it presents itself.

Following is a list of suggestions you might try for effective lobbying. Perhaps you will think of other methods suited to your particular League and your area.

1. Attend candidates coffees as individuals. Talk about annual sessions, salary increases for legislators, and limitation of conference committees. Casually bring up voter registration, water pollution, TCR, and other items of League interest. Board members may attend if their local policy sheets permit. But remember to go as individuals and do not mention League.

2. Offer a special speakers bureau on the subject of the legislature for a limited time only (perhaps November through February) basically aimed at informing the public about legislative procedure. "How a Bill Becomes Law", a few lobbying techniques, and the three suggestions above for improvement of the legislature could be incorporated in this speech. The state League has speakers bureau kits on other subjects, too. A community-wide lobby school could be used to kick off the speakers bureau activity.

3. Work with legislators. Ask them how the League can help to accomplish mutual goals. Make LWV available to them as a research group in areas of League interest. You can find out how they feel during pre-session interviews. When you write congratulatory letters after election, be sure to enclose a copy of the State Program folder. Send legislators League materials periodically. Don't contact them only when lobbying on Times for Action.

4. Inform the general public as well as members on how to write legislators and to whom to write. Make League positions better known to the community and more widely understood by members. Work with local media to promote our positions and to help our legislators communicate. Express appreciation for their support.

5. Most Leagues have articles in their VOTERS concerning Times for Action on the national or state Program, but not many VOTERS mention the local items. Remind your president to share the local VOTERS from other Leagues with the entire Board. You just may pick up some good ideas from another League. Also concentrate on ways and means to get local League members to participate in answering Times for Action.

6. Publish an action page as a regular feature in your local VOTER. Members will be aware of action taken by the president and Board and alerted to what types of action they can take as individuals. It takes continued education of members to be more effective lobbyists. It is important that members be informed on League issues and developments also through reports at unit meetings and and subscriptions to Times for Action and Newsletters.

(continued)

How To Be Effective By Really Trying (continued)

7. Urge members to attend more school board, city council, and commissioners court meetings, public hearings and legislative committee meetings in area as well as at the Capitol. Get to know your local councilmen by sponsoring a meeting to discuss local program items and League legislation. Better planning can be done on local program and consensus by knowing what is happening in city meetings.

8. Cultivate the opinion makers in your community. They are the ones who can reach and influence legislators and government officials.

9. Keep files on legislators. This will be helpful in lobbying wisely and effectively. Files should contain information on his district, his organization affiliations, special interests, groups supporting him, his opposition, etc. Also use roll call votes to advantage.

10. Keep a file on other organizations' legislative programs -- who to contact both in the local community and in the state capitol in these organizations so that we can work more effectively in cooperation with them.

Remember - there is no blueprint that can guarantee successful lobbying techniques. Each person and each League has to develop its own techniques by staying alert to what is happening in the area, cultivating the friendship of community leaders, and getting information to members and community. Use interviews, letters, phone calls, letters to editors, and word of mouth as your best lobbying tools.

And don't forget to enjoy yourself! Enthusiasm has a way of spreading -- while you are getting and giving the most.

* * * * * * * *

Watts
Use members-at-large

LWV of Texas
Lobby School
March 4, 1975

WHAT IS A LOBBYIST?

WHAT CAN YOU DO to influence legislation? How can you help to determine League goals?

1. You have POLITICAL STRENGTH because you are a voter and a constituent. You help put your representatives in office, and this gives you political influence. Belonging to an organization such as the League informs you and enables you to act in concert with others, but your real power is your status as a voter. Legislators hear from the LWV as an organization through our official channels. What they should hear from YOU is... "I am a voter in your district, and I seek your support for...." signed simply with your name as an individual.

SUCCESSFUL LEGISLATIVE ACTION IS BUILT ON CAREFUL AND CONTINUING COMMUNITY ACTION in order to achieve the two goals to which all League program is directed: education and action.

2. Remember our basic purpose--"to promote informed and active participation of citizens in government." Specific implementation depends on two things--education of members and the community in ways by which a citizen may participate positively in government and achievement of those goals that League study and consensus have defined as desirable by commitment and action.

   Having informed yourself, you must then be active...and to a Leaguer that means more than just casting a vote. It means knowing your representatives and letting them know what legislation you seek. It means informing other individuals and groups, and converting them into lobbyists for needed legislation. It means understanding that there are problems, knowing that they are seldom insoluble, and accepting compromises.

SUPPORT means taking concerted action to get legislation through when the timing is right.

3. What happens, and what do YOU do, when the State Board gives the "green light" for support of a specific bill when it is in need of membership and local League action?

   First of all, direct contact with the sponsor of the bill is usually made by the state president, the state legislative chairman, or the state item chairman. Further action by the state board might include testimony at a hearing, informal contacts with influential legislators, publicity releases, and contacts with other interested organizations.

   ACTION ALERTS are sent to local League presidents and legislative chairmen who together with the local item chairman prepare the official League letter for the president's signature. Action Alerts are also sent to Newsletter subscribers and include background information and directions on what kind of action is needed.

   League presidents or legislative chairmen should convey the information to the individual members as quickly as possible...via local bulletins, unit announcements, telephone networks, letter-writing coffees, and other methods devised by local Leagues. Each League should make a list of local legislators with addresses and committees they serve one for publication in the local bulletin with a request that members keep this information handy for Action Alerts.

You may be asked to support or oppose a bill or to try to get it out of committee. Action may consist of any of the following: letters or telegrams to your legislators, letters to the editor, personal or telephone visit with your legislators. The local League presidents explain League positions and reasons for our position. Members explain their personal views and reasons. When an Action Alert goes to your League, rather than direct to every member, try to involve as many members as possible. On all Action Alerts, involve as many in your community as you can, as well. For example, get your local officials to express their views on bills affecting local government (e.g. on county zoning or elction law measures). Get local businessman whom you know are interested in certain things to express their views at the appropriate time (contributors are a good source.).

Then, what do YOU as an individual member do? You write or phone your legislators, if time is limited, expressing your interest, and you persuade other citizens in your district to do likewise.

That is how you lobby...by speaking up!

Remember, the legislature passes the laws the voters demand...and that is how to get the laws you want.

LWV of Texas
Lobby School
March 4, 1975

LOBBYING TAKES MANY FORMS

Each League member represents the League of Women Voters. As such, any contacts you have with legislators is for the purpose of building a permanent, friendly relationship for the League.

It should be borne in mind that there are at least three purposes in interviewing or visiting a legislator.

1. To put the League on record in the hope of influencing the legislator's vote.
2. To obtain information or to give information by getting materials to them to promote League positions.
3. To make a friend for the League. Your interview may affect a later vote on some other measure, even if it does not have any apparent effect upon the one under immediate consideration.

When talking to your legislators:

Know your measure thoroughly and be able to answer opposition to it. Plan your approach, but keep it flexible. Give a detailed summary of positions. Have confidence in your knowledge of the subject. You will be respected for what you do know. Do everything you can to convince them of that. Information can be gleaned from Facts and Issues, And Now Action, and other materials published by the League. Don't be afraid to admit ignorance on special points.

Education of legislators is vital. So share your knowledge with them. Keep material flowing to them. Lobbying is the ability to provide information more than persuasive powers.

Let your representative talk and present his side fully. It is helpful to learn his point of view. Show a sense of humor. Do not be aggressive. Political policy should be "Love the sinner even if you hate the sin," i.e., get along with people even if you do not agree with them; these are the elected representatives with whom you must work. And thank him when he has backed something you approve. Please note and report to the state League any NEW ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE MEASURE or measures presented during the interview.

Have fun! Lobbying for the League can be a fascinating experience!

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Legislative Director's Note to LLPs: Official local League response to an Action Alert by the local League president or someone designated by here is mandatory (exception: provisional League, who do not participate in Action as a League except by permission of the State Board. Action Alerts are sent to provisional Leagues for their information only. Members of provisional Leagues may, of course, take action as individuals). We would like to know what action you have taken - send the Legislative Office a copy of your letters; tell us what the replies were, too; summarize personal contacts, phone calls, and telegrams. Tell us also what you did to stimulate action in your community. If you take no action, we must know that also, as well as the reasons for your not taking action. Good reports from you regarding the extent of your action will be of help to the State Board in evaluating League effectiveness, in shaping future action, and in overall program health. See the Local League Handbook for more information on Action.

When visiting the Capitol: Don't be careless with your remarks in the galleries, elevators or other places in the Capitol. Don't talk personalities--you may be sitting alongside that Senator's wife in the gallery. On the other hand, don't be afraid to be friendly. Sometimes a contact in the gallery can reveal lots of information. Simply exercise caution or common sense in your conversations.

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STAND BY FOR

A -- Answer the Action Alerts
C -- Cultivate the interest of your community, members, legislators
T -- Time your releases to the local Voter and local newspapers
I -- Interview your legislators when possible, involve members
O -- Offer background material to members, community legislators
N -- Now is the time to plan

League of Women Voters of Texas

DICKINSON PLAZA CENTER • DICKINSON, TEXAS 77539 • 713 534-3323

MRS. DARVIN M. WINICK, PRESIDENT

March 4, 1975

Dear Member of the 64th Legislature:

Attached is a list of the priorities of the League of Women Voters of Texas for this session of the legislature. We hope you will not only give this your attention but will file it away for future reference. Please feel free to call on us for any additional information we may be able to furnish you in any of these areas.

Many people have difficulty in realizing the unique procedure which the League of Women Voters has for arriving at its positions on issues. We feel it is very important that our legislators in particular understand that members at the local level, not the League boards of directors, determine LWV positions on issues at all levels of government.

League members read, research, study, and discuss problems and their various solutions. Then each group meeting for discussion in each local League gives its answers to the same question. On topics chosen by the members for nationwide study and action, all these answers are then sent from all parts of the country to the national LWV board of directors. Answers to statewide study questions are from local Leagues to the state board. The boards then determine if the members have reached consensus on that particular topic.

Consensus in the League means agreement among a substantial number of a representative group of members -- not just a simple majority. If there is not this substantial agreement among the members, then there is no consensus--no position from which to take action. No action is taken by state League leaders unless there is substantial agreement by members from local Leagues across the state; no action is taken by national League leaders unless there is member agreement from all the states in the nation.

This is why the League is unique--unlike any other group we know of. The League of Women Voters truly has one voice at the local, state, and national levels because it is the local members who determine the state and national positions.

Consensus, however, is never unanimous. So we feel it is important for you to know that when a local League is not in agreement with a consensus arrived at by the other Leagues in the state, it does not respond to suggestions for action sent to it by the state board. It will not ask you to support or oppose any legislation if it does not agree with the League position. However, individual League members can and do speak for themselves--as individuals--if they disagree with the League position.

We hope this explanation may give more validity to the views expressed by state League leaders.

We look forward to your consideration of the studied views of your League constituents. We want to work with you for continued improvement in our Texas state government.

Sincerely,

Veta Winick

Mrs. Darvin M. Winick
President
Dickinson, Texas 77539

LWV of Texas
Legislative Office
308 W. 15th Street
Austin, Texas

Phone: 472-2206

League Legislative Priorities

64th Session, Texas State Legislature
January – May 1975

NOTE: Priorities listed do not include all state League positions. This list includes those positions that appear timely, to which the League will actively devote its energy and lobbying efforts during this session. Other League positions will be acted upon when the opportunity arises. Major bills will be highlighted in issues of the **Legislative Newsletter**. For a more detailed account of League priority positions and other program positions, refer to **AND NOW ACTION**, March 1973, and **STUDY AND ACTION**, 1971-73 Program, LWV of Texas.

TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

We support:

- Revision of the Texas Constitution within League principles and standards, preferably by constitutional convention, although alternate methods can be supported.
- During the 1975 legislative session, the League will support a citizens' convention, to be convened as soon as possible.

PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCING

We support:

- Measures to equalize educational opportunity in the state.
- Local enrichment funding limited to 10% of the state program.
- Raising of revenue by a state supervised property tax, a state income tax, a state corporate profits tax, or any combination thereof.
- Assessment of taxable property at full market value with state supervision to insure equitable and uniform assessment and taxing procedures and professional training for tax assessor-collectors.
- Allocation of funds to local school districts on the basis of weighted pupil needs.
- Supplementing local district capital outlay by the state to equalize facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

We support:

- Conservation and development of water resources and improvement of water and air quality.
- Measures to achieve and maintain a physical environment beneficial to life.
- Creation of a single agency for environmental protection.
- Citizens right to sue.
- A comprehensive state land use policy which would provide for the orderly development of the state and which would assure adequate protection of the quality of life, and wise use of our natural resources.

VOTING RIGHTS

We support:

- Uniformly enforced election procedures, clearly stated election laws, and the right to a secret ballot.
- Revision of the election laws to ensure enforcement.
- Recodification of the election laws to eliminate obsolete matter and clarify ambiguous provisions.
- A single county election authority responsible to a central state authority.
- Requirement of uniform training for all election personnel.
- Provision for unitary primaries.
- Automatic restoration of voting rights to felons upon completion of sentence and/or probationary period.
- Making absentee voting more convenient and accessible, with sufficient safeguards to protect the integrity of the ballot.

Vol. 3 No. 4
February 28, 1975

Mrs. Thomas Brasher
Legislative Director

TEXAS CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION

Unfortunately, bills for a constitutional convention are on the back burner for the moment. Rep. Hutchison, chairman of the House Committee on Constitutional Revision, is following his own schedule which calls for reviewing all of the single article revisions, the revisions of the entire constitution, and revisions of portions of articles before considering a new convention. Rep. Waters and Rep. Denson protested this plan, but to no avail. The Senate Committee seems to be taking up this schedule also.

On Feb. 18 the House committee had a hearing on all resolutions revising articles 2 (Separation of Powers), 3 (Legislature), and 4(Executive), and all resolutions which would amend any of these articles. No formal action was taken. In the course of testimony, Rep. Pentony said that if article-by-article revision is followed, articles 7 (Education) and 10 (General Provisions) will probably be defeated by the legislature. He predicted that article 8 (Finance) might also go down in defeat. He felt that the other seven articles could be passed and sent out to the voters.

On Feb 24 the House committee took testimony on articles 6 (Voter Qualifications), 7 (Education), and 8 (Finance), and on those resolutions amending those articles. Article 5 (Judiciary) has been sent to the Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Judicial Affairs for informal review. William H. Abington of Texas Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Assn., and Eugene Robbins of the Texas Good Roads Assn. were present to oppose portions of the Finance Article, Section 7(a) pertaining to the petroleum refinery tax as an exception in the Highway Fund. Ed McKay of the Texas Farm Bureau was against market value assessment on land actually used for agriculture. Again, no formal action was taken.

The Senate Committee on the Texas Constitution took testimony Feb. 24 on articles 2,3, and 4 in SJR 1 by Patman and SJR 11 by Gammage. SJR 1 is a single amendment that submits the entire constitution as proposed in Resolution #32 of the 1974 convention. SJR 11 is a single resolution proposing ten amendments to the Constitution for an article-by-article revision as proposed in Resolution #1. Articles 2 and 3 are identical in the two resolutions. In Article 4, Section 24(b), SJR 1 contains additional language limiting mandatory consideration of bills of renewal of agencies to those agencies with less than two years remaining from the legislative session in which the bill is introduced. SJR 11 mandates consideration of any bill renewing the life of an agency. No action taken.

SCHOOL FINANCE

A school plan backed by the Texas State Teachers Assn. has been introduced in the Senate by Aikin, Schwartz, and six other senators (SB 37). Hale sponsored the House bill (HB 420). The bill revises and expands our current foundation program and would require an estimated $2.1 to $2.2 billion in new state money during the next biennium.

Rep. Kubiak introduced his school finance bill (HB 946) Feb 24. His bill would increase the state's share of total state finance costs from the current 52% to 80%. Kubiak says the biennial increase in state monies would be between $1.1 to $1.3 billion.

Gov. Briscoe called a news conference Feb. 26 to announce that his bill, developed by Richard Hooker, would be intorduced in the Senate by Mauzy and in the House by Massey, both of whom are chairmen of the education committees. His bill would result in a biennial increase in state spending of $589.9 million over and above the $330 million increase mandated under existing law.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

SB 66 by Doggett - Support

At a hearing of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources on Feb. 26, the room was crowded with people eager to testify, and the hearing will be continued on March 5. SB 66 seemed favored over SB 55 by Sherman by most people attending. A major difference in the two bills is that SB 66 calls for administration by the General Land Office and SB 55 would have the Railroad Commission oversee surface mining regulation. LWV testimony for SB 66, which will be given at the next meeting, concentrates on three points:

1. Knowing of the intense search for energy resources, there can be little doubt that Texas lignite will be stripmined extensively. And this probability makes obvious the need for adequate safeguards to assure that Texas land is not unduly abused in the process.
2. The LWV approves the choice of the administering agency as set forth in this bill. The General Land Office has demonstrated both expertise and commitment to care for land, and is, we think, a logical choice.
3. Being strong advocates of citizen participation in the governmental process, the LWV is pleased to note that provisions for such participation are included in this bill.

SB 20 by Doggett - Support

G rants right to any resident of the State to file suit in a district court for injunctive relief or civil penalties or both. The right to sue will be granted against violations of any provision of the Texas Clean Air Act, the Solid Waste Disposal Act, the Texas Water Quality Control Act, the Water Code or any other statute, rule, regulation, order, or ordinance for the protection of the air, water, and other natural resources from pollution, impairment or destruction.

HB 436 and HB 437 by Waters also deal with suits for the protection of air, water, and natural resources and will be reported on later.

The League has supported bills giving this right in the past, and we will support again this session. SB 20 has been referred to the Judiciary Committee and a hearing has not been scheduled yet. We will notify you when action is anticipated.

HB 51 by Hall of Harris, Blythe, et al - Endorse

Creation of single or multi-county rapid transit authorities in counties with a population of more than 1,200,000. Only those Leagues having a consensus position on Mass Transit may take action.

HB 242 by Bigham - Support

Texas Environmental Protection Agency Act. Establishes a single environmental agency headed by a commissioner (appointed by Gov.) who can instigate suits established on appeals board. Includes TWQB, TACB, Dept. of Health, Dept. of Agriculture, Parks and Wildlife, and the Railroad Commission. Effective 9-1-75. (State Affairs) Wait for Action Alert.

SB 291 by Braecklein - FYI

Management Act. This bill relates to the powers, duties, and functions of certain state agencies; establishes a state policy on the environment and also creates an Office of Environmental Quality headed by a commissioner appointed by the governor. However, it is an extra agency and will probably not be acceptable to the legislature because of the expense involved. Also requires an Environmental Impact statement.

HB 251 by Truan - FYI

Relates to the membership of the Texas Water Quality Board. Increases membership of the Board from 7 to 9 members but does not include agency heads. (Natural Resources Com.)

HB 267 by Allen - Endorse

Gives attorney-general power to intervene on behalf of public to prevent environmental degradation. (Natural Resources Committee)

HB 271 by Allen - FYI

Creates the Bays and Estuaries Protection Agency as an autonomous division of the Parks and Wildlife Dept. Composed of 6 members: Chairmen of PWC, TWRC, TWQB, TWDB, Commissioner of the Land Office, and chairman of the Council of Marine Related Affairs, or a designated representative. Provides for applications and permits dealing with estuarine areas, appeals and penalties. (Natural Resources Committee)

HB 274 by Salem - FYI

This bill also relates to the membership of the Texas Water Quality Board and is similar to HB 251 by Truan in that it has 9 members appointed by the governor. However the makeup of the Board is more specific. One of the members shall be a physician knowledgeable in the health aspects of water pollution; one a sanitary engineer knowledgeable in the area of solid waste disposal; one a licensed petroleum engineer knowledgeable about water pollution problems associated with oil production; and the ramaining six knowledgeable about the state's water pollution problems and interested in protecting the quality of water in the state. Members serve staggered terms of six years. (Environmental Affairs Committee)

HB 590 by Denton, Bigham - Endorse

Requires that all pollution complaints be made public record and agencies required to make monthly reports. This bill is identical to SB 21 by Doggett reported in last Newsletter, except that it includes the Gulf Coast Waste Disposal Authority among the agencies. Other agencies included for the requirements are TWQB, TACB, Dept. of Health, Parks and Wildlife, Railroad Commission, and the attorney general.

HSR 40 by Blythe - FYI

Creates a special interim study committee to study all facets of the state's environmental programs. (State Affairs Committee)

HJR 67 by Massey

This is the Texas Water Plan again. An analysis will be included next week.

HCR 54 by Newton - FYI

Creates a special interim committee to study the feasibility of employing solid waste to generate energy and to augment the reserves of various natural resources; to study ways to promote the development of solid waste recovery procedures. Introduced Feb. 19 and referred to Committee on Energy Resources.

HUMAN RESOURCES

FYI HB 350 by Miller, et al - Creating a Texas Commission on the Status of Women. Introduced
SB 125 by Andujar Jan. 29 and referred to Committee on State Affairs.

Purpose: To collect and distribute information and study subjects relating to the opportunities, needs, problems, and contributions of women in Texas.
Membership: Nine members appointed by the governor; 3 members appointed by the Lt. Gov.; 3 members appointed by the Speaker of the House. Must include homemakers, persons in business and the professions, and persons not employed outside their homes. Must have exhibited an interest in areas of concern to women.
Office terms: Six-year staggered terms.
Members will serve without compensation but will be entitled to reimbursement by the state for all actual expenses incurred in performance of their duties. Will meet quarterly and shall prepare a report to the governor and the legislature for each regular legislative session. The commission shall appoint an advisory panel composed of representatives of public and private groups that administer laws or programs of interest in the opportunities, needs, or contributions of women, to meet at least twice each year.

Housing

FYI SJR 32 by Lombardino Proposed constitutional amendment which would allow the state to provide housing assistance to senior citizens by making grants or loans for that purpose to individuals or political subdivision s of the state. The legislature by general law may provide for the issuance of general obligation bonds not to exceed $75 million to provide funds to finance assistance programs authorized by the bill.

SB 136 by Meier Creating a Housing Finance Agency to issue revenue bonds, like the GI land program, and finance low-interest loans for homes for low-income people.

HB 663 by Allen Creating Housing Finance Agency for low-income home loans and
HB 664 by Jones neighborhood preservations loans.

Human Relations Commission

FY I HB 635 by Truan Creating a Human Relations Commission.

For the past two sessions, the League has actively supported a Human Relations Commission with enforcement powers at the state level, based on a position which came out of a 1970 study. So far the bill has had little success in maneuvering through the legislature. Again this session Truan has introduced a bill similar to his HB 184 in 1973, which was substituted by Brooks' SB 558, which passed the Senate, but never came out of House committee.

Briefly, HB 635 of this session has the same commission makeup - 9 commissioners appointed by the governor with the advice of the Senate, apportioned so that no more than 1/3 of the total membership represents any major ethnic group and so each major ethnic group in the state is represented - apportionment to be determined by the latest federal population census. Each Commissioner serves a six-year staggered term. Members are eligible for re-appointment, and the governor may remove a commissioner for inefficiency, misconduct, malfeasance in office, etc., after a written statement of the charges and an opportunity to be

Under the terms of the bill, an individual aggrieved by an alleged discriminatory act, or his agent, a commissioner, the attorney general, or a civil rights organization may file a charge complaining of that act within one year. When a charge is filed, the commission shall investigate the charge, after a copy of the charge is furnished each party.

The bill covers lengthy procedures for filing, temporary judicial restraining orders, judicial review, enforcement, injunction, appropriate affirmative action, and appeals.

One of the major changes in this bill from the one last session is that the commissioners receive no salary for their service on the commission--only compensation for expenses incurred in attending meetings of the commission.

A more detailed account of what the bill contains and testimony given on HB 184 from the last session is contained in Newsletter #3 of March 1973.

HB 635 was introduced Feb. 12 and was referred to the Committee on State Affairs.

Child Abuse

In January the state board passed the following resolution:

> The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Texas resolves that the problem of child abuse in the state of Texas is of such magnitude as to merit immediate and adequately funded action by the state government. The widest possible dissemination of information about and discussion of this problem is encouraged.

Two bills - HB 597 by Semos and HB 524 by Nowlin - relating to the failure to report child abuse or neglect were heard in the Judiciary Committee at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18. HB 597 was referred to subcommittee. Following is a report by Sally Scott, Capitol Corps observer:

HB 524 is a curious bill designed to take a law passed in the 1973 legislative session concerning failure to report child abuse and include it in the present family code. So basically it is a housekeeping procedure and does not affect the current legality of the bill. The law states that persons who know of child abuse or neglect and fail to report it are committing a misdemeanor offense subject to a maximum fine of $500 and a possible jail term.

There was mixed reaction when this bill was read before the Judiciary committee. One legislator said, "You mean to say we already passed this bill out of this committee last session? Where was I? I must have been asleep to let this get by me."

Up until now the constitutional legality of this bill has not been tested. However,at the end of January a child was admitted to a Texas hospital having been beaten to death (according to the testimony of Raymond Vowell, Department of Public Welfare Commissioner). The father was jailed immediately under charges of manslaughter. They might have put the mother in jail as an accessory except she was pregnant and there were two additional children in the home. One of these was removed by the welfare department because of evidence of numerous bruises. It was discovered that there were four neighbors who were aware of the conditions of the children, and Vowell has authorized serving them with misdemeanor charges for failure to report the abuse. We are not sure w hen these cases will come to court, but they should be interesting to follow.

It may be difficult to prove a person's neglect in reporting child abuse, but as Vowell said, "For the life and safety of our children it is necessary to have such a bill." The bill was reported favorably from committee and passed to engrossment as amended.

SB 32 by Adams, also dealing with child abuse and failure to report was introduced and referred to subcommitte on Civil Matters Jan. 28.

STATE-LOCAL RELATIONS

Endorse

HJR 11 by Reynolds - County Home Rule. Amending Article IX of the Texas Constitution by adding a new Section 3, which was repealed in 1969, allowing (a) the legislature to provide by general law that a county may adopt, amend, or repeal a home-rule charter with the approval of a majority of the qualified voters of the county voting on the question;(b) the legislature to provide by general law for a county to make provision in its charter for the consolidation or elimination of constitutional or statutory offices and for the reassignment of the functions of those offices; (c) a county that adopts a charter to perform all functions of government required of counties by the constitution or laws of the state. No charter or ordinance may be inconsistent with the laws of the state. If a county charter or ordinance conflicts with a charter or ordinance of an incorporated city or town, the municipal ordinance prevails within the municipality's jurisdiction as defined by law.

This joint resolution would be submitted to the voters at the November 1976 election.

This proposed amendment is in keeping with our position on State-Local Relations: Support of more flexible structures and adequate powers at the local level. Therefore, we endorse this proposal.

Over-view of the S-LR/Land use legislation now pending in various committees. We are watching and will probably endorse at a later date some of the following bills:

Paired Bills: HB 60 and SB 57 by Kaster of El Paso and Longoria of Edinburg

County Development Standards Act. This legislation provides counties with regulatory powers to sub-divide unincorporated areas and to regulate construction and require performance bonds. This provides counties with enforcement capabilities, including waste disposal facilities. Also provides power to establish on-sight inspection including appropriate fees.

Enforcement includes right to refuse to issue construction permits, and to classify any violation as a class "C" misdemeanor.

HB 61 by Kaster of El Paso

County Land Management Act. Allows adoption of a comprehensive plan to regulate the use of land in unincorporated areas. May divide into districts with uniform use regulations in each district but uses may vary from district to district. Required no election.

HB 63 by Kaster of El Paso

Same as HB 61 but subject to acceptance of the plan by a majority of the qualified voters in the unincorporated areas of the county.

HB 14 by Coleman

County Land Use Management Act. Roughly this one combines the measures in HBs 60, 61, and 63. Grant counties of 100,000 population to regulate land development outside the limits of incorporated towns and cities.

HJR 12 by Reynolds -- Committee on Constitutional Revision

Amendment to grant ordinance making powers to counties.

HB 496 by Kaster of El Paso -- Committee on State Affairs

Establishes a statewide land use management program. The state sets minimum guidelines in "areas of State interest." Local governments designate the areas of state interest within their jurisdiction and administers the program. The areas of State interest are mineral resources areas, natural hazards areas (including floodplains, wildfire, geological hazards), historic areas, areas around key facilities (airport, major utility facilities, highway interchanges, and mass transit terminals). Would not use the comprehensive land use plan but would allow the agencies most appropriate (i.e., Water Development Board for floodplains) to establish guidelines and for the local governments to decide where to apply.

HB 555 by Dramberger, Nowlin -- Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

Also cited as County Land Management Act. County court to have authority to regulate and restrict construction and development in unincorporated areas. Commissioners shall formulate a county zoning plan and hold hearings. This plan to be submitted to the qualified voters of the county. Otherwise similar to HB 61 including method of appeal of grievance and enforcement penalties.

HB 45 Amending the Municipal Annexation Act -- Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

This amendment is designed to put some teeth into the existing powers of the cities over their ETJs. This deletes the section saying that the violation of the restrictions over Extraterritorial Jurisdictions by cities in no way constitutes a misdemeanor and grants to the cities the right to pursue injunctive relief.

SJR 19 Local Government Section of the Constitution -- Committee on Constitutional Revision

Same article as the Convention produced.

E R A

HB 666 by Preston -

Hearing on this bill was held on Feb. 26 on the house floor. League President Veta Winick testified for the league along with other opponents of the bill. Only one witness testified in favor of the bill, which proposes a non-binding referendum on ERA on the April 22 ballot. The bill was sent to subcommittee. The subcommittee is chaired by Munson and includes Short of Tahoka, Spurlock of Ft. Worth, Vale of San Antonio, and Ronnie Earle of Austin, and is a group which we feel will be sympathetic to our position.

ELECTION LAWS

HB 58 by Kaster - Support

Changes date of primaries and conventions. Primary election day: 1st Tues. in Aug, beginning in 1976. Second primary (runoff): 1st Tues. in Sept. Filing date: not later than 6:00 p.m. on the 3rd Monday in May. In gubernatorial election years, the county and senatorial district conventions will be held on the 2nd Saturday after the general primary (precinct elections continue to be held on election day). The state convention will be on the 3rd Tuesday in Sept.

In Presidential election years, precinct conventions would be held on the second Saturday in May, county and senatorial district conventions will be held on the third Saturday in May, and the state convention would be on the 3rd Tuesday after the first Monday in June.

For parties which do not hold primary elections: For parties which polled 2% to 20% for governor in the last election, the precinct, county, and state conventions will be held in May and June. Parties which polled less than 2% or new parties must file a list of participants in precinct conventions totalling 1% of the vote for governor by August 10, following its state convention.

Independent or nopartisan candidates must apply within 10 days after the 2nd primary with the requisite number of names on the application.

HB 133 by Hilliard - Support

Eliminates requirement for voting absentee in the presence of a notary or a person authorized to administer oaths.

A voter who gives false information in his application for an absentee ballot is guilty of a misdemeanor.

HB 812 by Harris - Support

Permits creation of office of county elections administrator in counties with a population of 100,000 or more by order of the commissioners court, establishes a county elections commission to appoint the administrator.

The county elections commission will be composed of: county judge (chairman), county clerk (vice-chairman), tax assessor-collector (clerk), chairman of county executive committee of each political party entitled to hold primary elections and two additional members of the executive committee (selected by the committee).

The Commissioners court fixes the amount of the administrators salary, and the number, grade, and salaries of paid deputies, assistants, and other employees in the office. It must also provide for furnishing the administrator with office space and with the necessary equipment and operating expenses.

Term of office of the administrator is two years beginning Feb. 1 in each Odd-numbered year. Between Jan 1 and Jan. 15 preceding the expiration of the term, the commission must meet to make an appointment for the succeeding term.

Duties of administrator: (1) Registration of voters (2) Conduct of elections (3) Selection of presiding judge and alternate judge for each precinct. The selections, if approved by the commission, are submitted to the commissioners court which appoints the officials "unless good cause exists for rejecting the election commission's recommendations." The administrator may require "that all persons considered for appointment as a presiding judge or alternate presiding judge be trained in election procedures and laws prior to their appointment and may bar from consideration for such appointment all those who are not so schooled or trained." (4) Selection of polling places for designation by the commissioners court (5) Administrator may contract with other governmental bodies and political parties to conduct training schools for election workers and conduct elections held by those bodies, subject to approval by the county elections commission and the county commissioners court.

HB 152 by Massey - FYI

Consolidates election duties of county clerks and voter registration duties of tax assessor-collector. County clerk is designated as registrar of voters unless the county commissioners court designates the tax assessor-collector as registrar or, in counties with more than 200,000 inhabitants, a county elections administrator is appointed.

If the commissioners court appoints a county elections administrator, he will be in charge of registration of voters and the conduct of elections. The administrator must be a resident of this state, but need not be a resident of the county at the time of his appointment. He must reside in the county during his tenue in office.

Salary should not exceed salary paid to the county clerk of that county. Appointed for 2 years beginning Feb. 1 in each odd-numbered year. Must be bonded for the faithful performance of his duties.

Office of county elections administrator may be abolished at any time after two years have elapsed from the date of the order creating it, effective at the expiration of the current term of the administrator. If the office is abolished, the duties of the office are to be performed by the county clerk.

HB 523 by Nowlin - FYI

Changes distance within which electioneering and loitering are prohibited from 100 feet to 200 feet of any outside door through which a voter may enter the building in which a polling place is located.

HB 363 by Fox, Harris, et al - FYI

Eliminates the provision of law permitting a person to be a candidate for the office of President or Vice President of the U. S. and also of an office requiring a state vote for election on the same ballot. (This is the so-called Johnson law.)

HB 143 by Geiger - FYI

Tabled by House Elections Committee at Geiger's request on Feb. 24. (Description of bill in Newsletter No. 3)

HB 118 by Reynolds - FYI

This bill provides for annual purging. On Feb. 24 it was sent to the same subcommittee that is hearing HB 849 (see below).

SB 300 by Snelson - See Newsletter No. 3

Reported favorably by State Affairs Committee on Feb. 24. Ten amendments were added in committee. The most important was that the (1) law would go into effect immediately, (2) there is an apellate procedure that may be started within ten days of notice cancellation and cancellation is not in effect during the appeal process, and (3) persons may vote in their old precinct up to six months after they have moved (was 30 days).

HB 849 by Geiger - (Same as SB 300 by Snelson)

Sent to a friendly subcommittee composed of Atkinson (chairman), Nichols, and Powers to study the effects of the amendments already placed on SB 300.

VOTING RIGHTS

SB 165 by Ogg - FYI

Requiring use of bilingual election materials and voter registration materials in English and Spanish in certain areas, and permitting use of bilingual materials in others.

In 1973 there were federal court rulings in Pennsylvanis, New Jersey, Illinois, and New York, ordering states to provide materials in both English and Spanish. In New Jersey, the court ordered that two additional District Board of Elections members bilingual in Spanish and English, one Democrat and one Republican, be appointed to assist the Spanish-speaking voter, the sample ballot be printed in Spanish and be posted conspicuously in the polling place, and that signs be posted asserting that a Spanish translation of the English sample ballot is available and bilingual officials are also available for assistance. The New York ruling also orders signs at polling places and bilingual personnel available in election districts with 5% or more "Puerto Rican or other Hispanic persons."

Provisions: Bilingual materials must be provided in counties in which 5% or more of people are "persons of Spanish Language", according to the last decennial federal census. Precincts within the county can be exempted from the requirement if "persons of Spanish language comprise less than 5% of the inhabitants of the precinct." Instruction cards, instructions on use of voting devices, ballots and ballot labels, affidavit forms, materials for absentee voting, and voter registration application forms must be in bilingual form.

The bill does not provide for bilingual personnel at the polling place or at the registrar's office. It also does not provide for bilingual sample ballots although it provides for translations posted if printing of the ballot in both languages is not feasible.

Legislative Office
308 W 15th Street, Rm. 400
Austin, Tx 78701
512 - 472-2206

LWV of Texas
January 1975
President's Mailing (2)

TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

In order to eliminate time-consuming and expensive calls for the legislative office or le gislative chairman, this system will be used in times of emergency should immediate action become necessary. All calls will be made collect to the president of the local league. In the event that the president cannot be reached, then the legislative chairman or person designated on the attached list should be contacted. Two copies of this memo are going to the local president, one which should be passed on to the designated person. Those Leagues who have not designated a person to receive communications or New sletters should send this information in to the Legislative office immediately with a copy to the League listed who will make calls to you.

Where possible, the call is arranged so that the least expense is incurred. If you wish to rearrange the schedule in any way to lessen the expense, please let us know immediately and a correction will be made.

Continuity in office is of the utmost importance during a legislative session, but inevitably there are unavoidable changes. We only ask that you notify the Legislative Office whenever a change should be made on the mailing list. It is also important that a legislative portfolio be retained and passed on to the next chairman.

Thanks to all of the Leagues for sending in legislative interviews in time for us to scan them before the session started. Since it will take constant awareness of what your legislators are doing, we hope you will go over the interview forms to check the areas that your legislators need more information on and get this to them. We are depending on your doing a good lobbying job if we hope to see our goals reached.

PLEASE KEEP THIS MEMO READILY AVAILABLE

Legislative Office will call:	Austin	-- San Antonio -- Victoria -- Corpus Christi -- Edinburg-McAllen -- Harlingen -- Brownsville.
:	Gainesville	-- Denton -- Sherman -- Lamar County -- Hunt County -- Tyler -- Dallas -- Richardson -- Plano -- Garland -- Irving -- Tarrant County -- Waco.
:	Houston	-- Brazos County -- Huntsville -- Montgomery County -- Deer Park -- Pasadena -- Baytown -- Beaumont -- Orange area -- So. Jefferson Co. Unit.
:	Galveston	-- Brazosport -- Pearland -- Bay area.
:	Lubbock	-- Midland -- Odessa -- El Paso.
:	Abilene	-- Amarillo -- Wichita Falls.

Brasher will call San Marcos.

The lines are arrow indicators. In other words, Austin will call San Antonio, San Antonio will call Victoria, etc. The Legislative Office will make six calls. We will also make selective calls (ones that don't go to all Leagues), in which case we usually make these calls direct. League officers should have the President's List on file. Attached is the list for Legislative Chairmen.

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Legislative Office

[redacted]

February 1975
Presidents' Mailing (2)

LEGISLATIVE CHAIRMEN

League of Women Voters of Texas

Abilene	Faye Anton (Mrs Abe)
Austin	Pat Oakes (Mrs Melvin)
Amarillo	Gwen Reese
Bay Area	
Baytown	
Beaumont	JoAnne Stiles (Mrs D.M.)
Brazos Co.	
Brazosport	Marcia Ambs
Brownsville	Margaret Aziz
Corpus Christi	Chris DuBoise (Mrs Donald)
Dallas	Adena Jarvis (Mrs H.D.)
Deer Park	Betty Doebbler (Mrs Tom)
Denton	Sally Houk (Mrs Wallace)
Edinburg - McAllen	
El Paso	Helen Tullis (Mrs J.H.)
Gainesville Prov.	
Galveston	Leslie Goolishian (Mrs H.)
Garland	Jane Brewer (Mrs J.)
Harlingen	
Houston	Dorothy Lockwood (Mrs J.)
Huntsville Prov.	
Irving	Mary Reynolds (Mrs R.)

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Lamar Co. Prov.	Lillian Hickman (Mrs Charlie)
Lubbock	Mrs. Darrell Vines
Midland	Betty Sheeler
Montgomery Co.	
Odessa	Mary Crymes
Orange Co.	Karen Druliner (Mrs J.D.)
Pasadena	Wilma Green Hines
Pearland area	
Plano	
Richardson	
San Antonio	June Kachtik (Mrs E.E.)
San Marcos	Mrs. James A. Wilson
Sherman	
Tarrant Co.	Peg Terry (Mrs. Gerald)
Tyler	Dora Wynn (Mrs M.A.)
Victoria	Betty Hazelwood
Waco	Lucy Caperton
Wichita Falls	Margaret Sims (Mrs R.)

[redacted]

[redacted]

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