

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NETWORK WEEK #6  
FEBRUARY 9-13, 2009

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Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> was a food day for the LWV in the State House. SB 512, elimination of townships was heard before the Committee on Local Government and Elections in the Senate Chambers. The Chamber was overflowing with supporters and opponents of the bill. Testimony by Deanna Durrett, LWV of Montgomery County, highlighted the LWVMC local study and its position on township government in Montgomery County. Deanna's facts and figures were compelling. Deanna answered many challenging questions from committee members. Also testifying was Suzanne Gaudin, LWV of Brown County. Suzanne testified on behalf of the Brown County Fire District. The fire district was created in part as a result of the local study by the LWV of Brown County. Suzanne's testimony was articulate and candid as she told of the challenges associated with creating a county wide fire district in Brown County. LWVIN President Joanne Evers was not called to testify due to the time limits imposed by the committee chair.

The Indiana Coalition for Human Services (ICHS) of which LWVIN is a member, is concerned about funding cuts that many human service programs may face as the session progresses and the budget is debated. ICHS is also concerned about the continuing problems associated with the roll out of the FSSA automated welfare intake process.

Two Reproductive Health bills, SB 89, Physicians admitting privileges & SB 90, abortion matters, moved out of committee and passed out of the Senate. They will now move on to the House for the second half of the session.