

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NETWORK WEEK #2
JANUARY 12-16, 2009

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Thursday, January 15th, was the last day to file bills for the 2009 session. Members of the Senate introduced 553 bills, including vehicle bills and House members filed 699.

The LWVIN had a busy week, meeting with members of the Indiana Senate.

Tuesday, Jan 13th, President Joanne Evers and Julia Vaughn, Common Cause met with Senate President Pro Tem David Long to discuss the Lobby Reform bills especially SB 0015 authored by Senator Patricia Miller. These bills are currently assigned to Rules & Legislative Procedure which he chairs. The purpose of the meeting was to request that the bills be reassigned to Commerce, Public Policy and Interstate Cooperation where they were assigned in the 2008 session. There was really no answer from Senator Long. We are discussing strategies with coalition partners Common Cause and AARP.

On Thursday, Jan 15th President Joanne Evers, and I met with Senator Sue Errington to discuss SB5, Voter ID. The bill would allow other forms of ID to be used as identification at the polls. Again, we are strategizing to get the bill a hearing.

And on the same day I met with Senator Dennis Kruse at his request to discuss the LWV immigration position. Senator Kruse is the author of one of several immigration bills filed this session. All of the immigration bills will be reviewed for conformity with the LWVUS immigration position.

Tami Barreto supplied information for a website for listening to the sessions, in case people want to participate, but Indy is too far away.
<http://www.in.gov/legislative/session/video.html>.

The legislative calendar will be light next week due to the Martin Luther King holiday on Monday and Inauguration Day Tuesday.