

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NETWORK WEEK #10
MARCH 8 -12, 2010

Paulette Vandegriff, LAN Coordinator

Friday, March 12th was a great day in the State House. Representative John Barnes, Indianapolis, sponsor of Resolution 29, presented the resolution honoring the League of Women Voters of Indiana on the occasion of their 90th Birthday. The ceremony was held in the House of Representatives. I had the privilege of accepting the certificate on behalf of thousands of local league members across Indiana. Thank you to Representative Barnes for recognizing the work of the LWVIN. And.....

the 2nd session of the 116th General Assembly adjourned. Lawmakers completed work early in the morning of Saturday, March 13th.

How did the LWVIN priorities fare?

Ethics reform: passed

HB1001 - a committee hearing was held in December 2009. The LWVIN testified in support of portions of the bill, a "cooling off" period of one year after leaving office before a legislator can become a lobbyist and lowering the threshold for reporting by lobbyist's of the meals and gifts to legislators from \$100 per day to \$50 per day. The LWVIN testified that gifts should be zero and the cooling off period should be 2 years to coincide with election cycles.

Redistricting: failed

Although the "coalition of the determined" failed to achieve redistricting standards or a redistricting commission, we were there until the last weeks meeting with legislators hoping to get language inserted into other bills. Hope died when the author of HB1030, dissented. Conferees were not appointed. Thank you Paul Chase, AARP and Julia Vaughn, Common Cause/IN for your work with the LWVIN to bring about change in Indiana's elections.

Other bills of interest:

HB1106-Election matters: failed

This bill would have established the use of vote centers as an option for all counties.

HB1109-Voters with disabilities: passed

HB1181-Township government: failed

View the governor's action on 2010 bills at www.in.gov/gov/billwatch.htm

This is the final update of the 2010 General Assembly. Once again it has been my honor to represent the LWVIN in the State House. Remember....

Democracy is not a spectator sport