

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NETWORK WEEK #2
JANUARY 11 - 15, 2010

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The LWVIN and the Senate Elections Committee will be well acquainted by the end of the legislative session.

This week in the State House, LWVIN testified in support of SB80-Legislative Redistricting Guidelines. The guidelines are general and LWVIN testified that it was a start, but the language needed to be strengthened. Redistricting Issue Advocate Joanne Evers, President Karen Kay Leonard and myself drafted additional language and submitted it to Senate Elections Committee Chair Sue Landske. The bill is scheduled for Second Reading on Tuesday.

Also, related to redistricting, the "Coalition of the Determined," including LWVIN, AARP, CC and the Secretary of States office met on Friday to strategize ways to bring redistricting to the public's attention. More information as it develops. Any suggestions??? Please send them to me.

On Tuesday, Jan 19, the Senate Elections Committee is scheduled to hear SB136 - Redistricting Study Committee. (Didn't we do that already, 9/29/09).

Senate Elections took up SB 63-Civil penalties for certain disclaimers; this bill addresses candidates election material and SB-64 Display of Political Signs; looks at whether homeowners association rules and subdivision covenants and restrictions can prohibit the display of political signs. SB 64 will be on the Senate floor for second reading.

And, the Senate Elections Committee will hear SB 241 - Local Government Issues related to the reform recommendations in the Kernan-Shepherd Report. This bill would eliminate county commissioners, restrict public employees from holding office in the jurisdiction of their employment, address nepotism, allow county election boards to establish vote centers and provides that school board members selected by election be elected at general elections.

The deadline for filing bills has passed in both the Senate and House. At this time, 419 bills have been filed in the Senate, 34 are vehicle bills, and 390 filed in the House. A few days remain for assigning bills to committee. About 10 days remain in the first half of the session.

Attached is the latest Bill Watch. The LAN Report and Bill watch are posted on the LWVIN website each Monday. The General Assembly is in recess on Monday, Jan 18th for Martin Luther King Day.

