

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE      JANUARY 15-19, 2007  
FROM **Paulette Vandegriff, Legislative Action Network**

This was a short week for the legislature. Monday, Martin Luther King Day and Friday, no business as legislators return to their districts.

I attended meetings of committees that will take up bills that are LWVIN priorities. This provides an opportunity to place faces with names on the committee and let the committee know the LWVIN has a presence in the State House. The Indiana Chamber of Commerce legislative directory became available this week. It is available from the ICC for \$6 plus postage.

The deadline for filing bills has passed in both the House and Senate. Bills must be assigned to committee within a specified number of days after filing. This will be completed early this coming week.

On Wednesday, I attended the State of the Judiciary address, as well as, a "conversation" of the Public Health and Insurance Committees. Mitch Roob, Family and Social Services, outlined the governor's plan to provide some form of basic health insurance to the uninsured through an increased cigarette tax, credits, transfers, etc. Yes, the devil is in the details. There were many questions from House and Senate committee members. The House Chamber was overflowing with advocates, lobbyists from the health and insurance industries, legislative staff, and the general public. One thing is certain, Mr. Roob will be returning to the legislature many times during the session.

**Upcoming dates of importance:**

**Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>,**

Human Services Coalition Weekly Meeting

Subject: Full Day Kindergarten

**Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>:**

House Education Committee, 8:30 A.M. House Chambers

H.B. 1800 Early Education Programs (Full Day Kindergarten)

**How can you help:**

1. provide a list of your local legislators including:  
name, district number, committee assignments, leadership positions;
2. dates of community legislative meetings that you sponsor, co-sponsor, or attend regularly; let me know what happened;
3. let your legislator know LWVIN has an advocate in the statehouse and the LWVIN legislative priorities for the 2007 session;
4. provide the name of a local newspaper and contact information including, editor name, telephone & e-mail.

