



The League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark, Union City

VOTER

Voting

Democracy

Civic Engagement

WHERE DID THE LOCAL STIMULUS MONEY GO?

HEAR FROM REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE CITIES OF FREMONT & UNION CITY
& ABODE SERVICES



Monday, March 28

7:00 pm

Fremont Congregational Church

38255 Blacow Rd., Fremont
(between Mattos and Eggers)





President's Message

This year finances are on everyone's mind, yours, our cities' the League's and of course California's. The state League is closely watching Sacramento's financial dilemmas. We are closely watching local councils, school boards and other elected and appointed bodies to see how they cope with trying to provide continued services with less money. It is similar to a three ring circus, but not nearly as much fun. One outcome may be a special election in the Spring. Stay tuned for further developments.

In the meantime we continue to observe and react to local issues like affordable housing, transportation, the environment and open government. There is never a dull moment if you are a policy wonk. I asked for more observers in the last VOTER. I repeat my request. WE NEED YOU!! As I stated before, many of these meetings can be viewed at home on cable or on streaming video.

May 13-15 LWV California will hold its convention in Ventura. The hotel is right on the beach, had wi-fi and great views. **The League pays for registration and hotel fees along with travel reimbursement.** One of our own, Syeda Inamdar is nominated for the state board. I hope to convince a couple of you to attend and support her election. I may not be able to go, but I hope to send a roar of support for Syeda from all of us.

Alex Starr

Board Briefs

- received a refund check from LWVC for insurance overcharges
- voted to donate \$800 to Smart Voter, doubling our previous donation
- worked through topics for general meetings through June
- received an update from Action Committee on legislative interviews & concerns about follow up on anti-bullying implementation

Looking for convention delegates

Did you know that LWVFNUC pays for registration fees, hotel room and travel expenses for our delegates to the state convention?

Did you know that delegates from around California have a lot of fun while they are planning the next two years for LWVC?

Check out some of the convention details below and on LWVC's web site. Let Alex Starr know if you are interested in going.

LWVC Convention May 13-15, 2011 in Ventura (May 12 Pre-Convention) "Grow the Future"

We are pleased to announce that LWVUS President Elizabeth MacNamara will speak at our convention this year. Elisabeth MacNamara is the 18th president of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and chair of the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF). Ms. MacNamara was elected national League president in Atlanta during the League of Women Voters' 49th Biennial Convention and celebration of the organization's 90th anniversary.

The blog will be updated daily as new information becomes available, so please check back often. We have changed the format, which we hope will make it easier to find information. For example, under Schedule you will find information on workshops, caucuses, pre-convention activities and speakers. There are detailed travel suggestions under Hotel and Local Attractions.

The central coast of California is beautiful, and you are encouraged to come a day or two early or stay a day or two later to enjoy its beautiful beaches, take a wine country tour, visit Hearst Castle, or bike from Ojai to the beach on a safe off-road bicycle path. The possibilities are endless. Be A Central Coast Tourist has information for you on the blog.



Interview with Sarabjit Cheema, newly elected New Haven School Board.

Interview conducted by League members Barbara Friedrich and Joyce Mueller.

Gangs:

New Haven is already working with Union City's Youth Violence Prevention Program. Multiple outreach workers have been hired and will work with the parents. They will be paid by the city's Measure UU funds

Dropout Rates:

Dropout rates are below the state average. Logan has approximately 4000 students and last year 978 graduated.

Kid's Zone is a program where children and families can get extra help. Decoto's site is in the planning stage. It is a safety net to help families which are identified through truancy records. There will be one or two coordinators who will send representatives to the families. A change in the dropout rate in the target area will change the rate for the whole school district.

Who she represents: Herself or Constituents

She represents the people who elected her. However, on voting matters she also considers how the whole community is affected and the budget.

Budget:

A preliminary budget was proposed in December. The final budget will come in March. By then they will know the state contribution.

The district is cutting middle school busing and increasing the students in the classes. They are exploring a parcel tax for May or June, possibly a mail-in vote. The deadline to decide on this is February.

The New Haven Foundation is separate from the school district in decision-making.

Logan Boosters is an organization of outreach in the community for funding. All these groups work together. Money raised by the Foundation or the Boosters cannot be used for the classroom.

Parent Participation:

Goal is for a parent research center in each school where parents have a place to share ideas, get support, and get engaged with the school. One has recently begun in Hillview Crest School.

Anti-Bullying

Students are reporting bullying. The district has policies. The effectiveness varies from school to school. People need to know more about those who are different from them. There are cultural differ-

ences as to what constitutes bullying as opposed to normal behavior.

Hi/Low Achieving Gap:

New haven has the same problems as other areas. There should be intervention programs getting help at 3rd or 4th grade. After-school programs are needed but there is no funding and students can't be required to stay after school. No funding for summer school. Suggested that school building could be used in the summer and get volunteers for remedial help.

Interview with Linda Canlas, newly elected New Haven trustee

Interview conducted by League members Barbara Friedrich and Miriam Keller

Budget: The preliminary budget has been approved. The District is putting forth a proposed parcel tax to be voted on at a special election in May.

Barnard-White: There is no support from the entire city to re-open the school.

Public Relations: I share information I have for 5 minutes at each meeting. We have time to study the agenda items ahead of time, not just on the spot.

Gang Activity: In the past the city was considered unsafe. This is no longer true. Gang activity has not increased it's just getting more attention. I have no statistics to prove this. If there is a problem the District should work with the City Council. We need data first. We need more activities for youth and more supervision. This is hard with both parents working.

Bullying: We need to define the word, "personally planned to bully" is different from impulsive action. I haven't seen any data on this.

Adult abuse: New Haven is teaching children how to avoid adult abuse. I have not heard of any abuse pertaining to the school district. Children are taught how to behave to be safe, to sense danger and about inappropriate touching.

High and Low Achievers: How to close gaps regardless of ethnicities. Teachers need to have intervention-find out what is the exact problem. Staff should collaborate and plan intervention. There is state intervention money for after school and Saturday interventions. May not have as many intervention times next year. Parents have to send the children. By law the children cannot be required to attend.

Parental participation: Many parents want to help but don't know how. Teachers often don't know how to use them. There needs to be a team effort. The parents need to feel valued.

SMART VOTER COUNTY COORDINATOR JOB DESCRIPTION

Work with 7 local Smart Voter Coordinators (at least one from each local League in Alameda County) to make Smart Voter a rich source of information about candidates, ballot measures, and election events before every election.

Act as Smart Voter Alameda County's contact person with the office of the Registrar of Voters, obtaining the certified candidates list and wording for measures as they will appear in the ballot booklets.

Work with Smart Voter Central to make sure the basic candidate and measure info is uploaded to the Smart Voter system

Assign the races and measures that will be on the ballot to each of the local coordinators.

Monitor the work of the local coordinators as they

- extend invitations and instructions to the candidates to participate in Smart Voter,
- enter information about the ballot measures review and approve the candidates' submission of information
- add nonpartisan information about the races, ballot measures and election events, such as links to news articles, TV and radio Web sites, League Web sites, and post information about candidate forums and Pros & Cons presentations
- work with their local League's Voter Service team to remind them to publicize Smart Voter at forums and Pros & Cons presentations and in their League's VOTER and on their League's Web site

Working with Smart Voter Central and the Northern California Smart Voter liaison, support the local coordinators when they have questions about how to find information they need or instructions for working with Smart Voter.

Relay messages from Smart Voter Central to the local Coordinators during the election season.

Respond to Smart Voter email from users and candidates and/or forward these to the appropriate local coordinator

Post election results when available after an election

JOB DESCRIPTION

Opening for League Member on A.C. Measure A Oversight Committee

In 2004, voters in Alameda County approved Measure A to ensure essential funding for health care services for indigent, low income, and uninsured county residents. Measure A raised the county sales tax by one-half cent and established a Citizen's Oversight Committee to ensure that funds are spent according to what the voters approved.

The Board of Supervisors established a Citizen's Oversight Committee of 15 members—two of those from the League. One member recently resigned because of health reasons, so there is now an opening. The other position is held by Suzanne Barba from the Eden Area League who was just appointed for a three-year term.

The Measure A Oversight Committee meets on the fourth Friday of each month from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the AC Health Care Service Office at 1000 San Leandro Blvd, San Leandro,

Members review the activities of the preceding year of the many providers who receive Measure A funding to ensure the funds are spent according to Measure A requirements. The committee also hears verbal reports from some of the groups funded, and the chair of the committee reports yearly to the Board of Supervisors. The committee also has work assignments in writing the annual report for the Board of Supervisors and the public on how Measure A funds were spent.

The committee has a staff provided by the Health Care Services Agency to assist it in completing its duties.

If you are interested, email Seyda Inamdar, Chair of the LWV Alameda County Council that approves and forwards its nomination for the position to the Board of Supervisors for final approval. Anyone interested may attend the meeting as an Observer. For further information about the work of the committee or attending as an Observer, email Suzanne at suzbarba@comcast.net.

To review past reports, go to www.acgov.org/health/

Losing That Excess Baggage

By Chris Ingraham

From the Bay Area Monitor

This year, Papa 's got a brand new bag. A reusable bag.

At the start of 2011, several Bay Area jurisdictions are pressing forward with legislation intended to reduce or ban the distribution of single-use plastic bags by grocers and other stores. Statewide, it 's estimated that Californians use 19 billion such bags per year: 600 per second, according to BYOBAG Marin, just one of the groups advocating for the elimination of the environmentally harmful single-use bags. Unfortunately, most of the state 's annual 19 billion bags end up in landfills or polluting our land, waterways, and oceans. Attempts to resolve the problem have focused on legally mandated bag bans that the plastic bag industry has stalled and sometimes killed in litigation. Recently, however, new thinking has addressed some of the earlier bans ' shortcomings, suggesting that 2011 could see more sweeping legislation about plastic bag use in this region and beyond.

The latest generation of ordinances follows the lead of San Francisco 's pioneering legislation from 2007. San Francisco 's ordinance, signed into law in March 2007, found that plastic shopping bags are responsible each year for "the felling of over 14 million trees, and [the] use of over 12 million barrels of oil for bags in the U.S., as well as the death of over 100,000 marine animals from plastic entanglement." The San Francisco law — The Plastic Bag Reduction Ordinance — applies only to large supermarkets and retail pharmacies, requiring that, if they use plastic bags, they have them certified compostable by the Biodegradable Products Institute and then labeled accordingly. Under the ordinance, paper bags must be 100 percent recycled and made with at least 40 percent post-consumer content. Widely regarded as innovative and operational, the San Francisco ordinance has made subsequent and more comprehensive

proposals possible around the state by establishing a successful template for large-scale plastic bag legislation.

Not long after the San Francisco ordinance, the small Bay Area town of Fairfax moved to implement one of its own. The town council first proposed a ban in July 2007, but under threat of lawsuit by two plastic bag manufacturers, amended the measure to make it voluntary. Although many supermarkets willingly complied, the revision appeared a victory for those in favor of plastic bags. In the November 2008 election, however, Fairfax residents passed a mandatory anti-bag ballot measure with 79 percent of the vote.

The City of Oakland passed its own bag ban in July 2007, but met with the litigious protestations of the Coalition to Support Plastic Bag Recycling, a Sacramento-based affiliate of the Progressive Bag Alliance, whose other members include the four largest plastic bag manufacturers in the country. The coalition argued that banning plastic bags is biased or even environmentally irresponsible because such bans make a tacit endorsement of paper bags, which are hazardous to the environment in their own right. Unlike Fairfax, Oakland saw the case through court, but lost in April 2008 after a judge sided with the plastic bag industry, ruling that the city had indeed neglected to consider the environmental repercussions of tacitly forcing people to rely on paper bags as the only provided alternative to plastic.

To some, that the plastic bag industry or its supporters can sue to overturn bag ban ordinances on environmental grounds is, perhaps, a clever irony given the environmental concerns that motivate the bans to begin with. Industry advocates, however, insist that paper is at least as much a problem as plastic. Besides, they say, banning isn 't the alternative; recycling is.

While recycling is, of course, better than *not* recycling, unfortunately, it 's also notoriously difficult to recycle plastic, costing great expenditure of energy

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even if you can motivate people to recycle in the first place — and good luck with that. Conservative estimates suggest only 5 percent of plastic bags are, in fact, recycled, though it's possible that the reality is even lower. To address this problem, a California state law already requires all grocery stores provide customers a place to recycle plastic bags. But the “if you offer it, they will recycle” plan hasn't made a major impact, which means plastic ends up where it shouldn't — disrupting both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and their wildlife because it takes years to degrade — and bans on the most pernicious kind of plastic bags are becoming a common solution.

Still, plastic bag manufacturers and like-minded coalitions remain formidable obstacles. After all, there's a lot of money at stake. Compostable plastic bags — the kind required by San Francisco and other city bans — cost six to ten cents per bag to produce, compared with only one to two cents per bag for the thinner, traditional single-use plastic bags. At 19 billion bags a year across the state, that extra expense adds up quickly. Accordingly, pro-plastic bag groups are doing what they can to stifle legislation.

Their approach has been to challenge cities proposing ordinances for failing to undertake a sufficiently full-scale Environmental Impact Report (EIR). EIRs do just what their name suggests: they evaluate the impact that certain policy decisions will have on the environment. California state law — specifically, the California Environmental Quality Act, or CEQA — requires cities to consider possible environmental impacts of every discretionary action they take. In demanding more thorough EIRs, industry supporters seem both to be siding with more environmental caution, and implying that plastic bags aren't as threatening to the environment as these ordinances would have us believe. But it's not lost to the plastic bag industry that conducting a full-scale EIR can cost tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars for each municipality under scrutiny — certainly an expense hefty enough to be a deterrent — and industry opponents are wise to choose the EIR argument as one of their tac-

tics. Exemptions exist to CEQA regulations, but if an EIR can be deemed requisite, that jeopardizes the ease with which bag bans can be proposed and passed.

Mounting evidence showing the environmental hazard of plastic bags and the corresponding momentum of anti-plastic bag movements have nevertheless helped carry legislation forward. In November, Los Angeles banned plastic grocery bags in unincorporated areas of the county — an area that doesn't include L.A.'s major cities, but still affects 1.1 million residents. Plainly, the measure states: “No store shall provide to any customer a plastic carryout bag.” It doesn't get much clearer than that. Despite not covering 88 of the largest and most populated cities in L.A. County, the Los Angeles ban is among the most aggressive of its kind in the United States. By comparison, the San Francisco ban still allows stores to distribute bioplastic bags made from corn starch; such bags are better than some, but still leave the environment, and the ocean in particular, vulnerable to plastic pollution. The L.A. ban takes a more stringent stand on plastic, making an exception only for those plastic bags found in a supermarket's produce section, as well as the bags that hold raw meat in an effort to avoid contaminating other grocery items.

Perhaps most significantly, the ban requires that grocers charge 10 cents per paper bag, should they choose to provide paper as an alternative at all. Although seemingly inconsequential, it's thought that coupling a ban on plastic bags with a surcharge on paper ones will diminish the argument that a plastic bag ban forces customers to rely on the equally environmentally detrimental paper. Under the rules of CEQA, such a strategy also legitimizes a claim to exemption from conducting an EIR, greatly mitigating the opposition's most effective points of argument.

But complications remain. Proposition 26, which California voters passed in November 2010, redefined regulatory fees as taxes. In light of this new law, cities

Nominating Committee

It time to start thinking about our League and how you can be part of setting our direction in our new fiscal year and moving forward. One of our bylines is "Democracy is not a spectator sport". And, truly, it is not. Your league needs you to participate; please consider joining our Board. This is an opportunity to work with other highly motivated individuals and to use and develop your leadership skills. Don't think you are qualified? No worries, I can personally attest to this Board's willingness to help new members. Don't think you have time? Many of the positions require as little as 5 to 10 hours a month. If you have questions please contact Sam Neeman, your Nominating Committee Chair via email – samneeman@comcast.net. And, as many of you may remember, one of the Nominating Committee will be contacting you soon!

Long Time Member Robert Wieckowski Heads Up Environmental Committee

After being elected to the California State Assembly in November 2010, I was honored that Assembly Speaker John A. Perez gave me the opportunity to help guide environmental policy by appointing me chair of the Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee. As a board member of the Tri-City Ecology Center, I feel a special responsibility to roll up my sleeves and get to work on key environmental issues.

This appointment comes at a critical time as the state considers and reviews new controversial regulations covering green chemistry and pesticides. I will be holding a series of oversight hearings to investigate the state's efforts to enforce laws requiring healthy, safe alternatives to toxic consumer products, and the environmental hazards of methyl iodides fumigants. A third hearing will focus on improving the handling of electronic waste of our country's waste stream. The final hearing in the series will examine regulations covering the negative impacts over the lifecycle of a product and whether shared responsibility among those who make, sell, use and dispose the products

(with an emphasis on the producers) is more effective at protecting our environment than current government regulations.

These hearings will take place at the state Capitol from 1:30-4 p.m., on the following Tuesdays — Feb. 15, Feb. 22, March 1 and March 8. The first two are joint hearings with the Assembly Health Committee and the last two are joint hearings with the Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

As you may know, the California Green Chemistry Initiative was launched in 2007 to provide a way to inform the public about toxins in products and to set up regulations to reduce the use of toxic chemicals. Regulations were to be adopted by Jan. 1 of this year, but those regulations, highly controversial, have yet to be adopted. My first hearing will investigate the current status of the regulations.

The public expects us to vigorously strive to ensure that the chemicals, materials, and substances we use in our homes, our workplaces and consume in our bodies maintain are health with no harmful side effects. These hearings will help us improve our oversight responsibilities and eliminate gaps in prevention.

Besides an ambitious committee agenda, I am also creating my legislative package that will streamline barriers to hazardous waste disposal, provide better enforcement action by regional water quality control boards, improve hazardous waste reporting, and expand energy efficiency. I am working to promote more bicycle-friendly livable communities, and my top priority is putting people back to work by investing in biotech research and removing obstacles to manufacturing.

Our state faces many serious challenges, the most daunting being our budget deficit. But by pursuing policies that share the sacrifices during these tough times, we can begin to restore California to its role as a leader in environmental stewardship, clean technology, biosciences, economic growth and good government. I look forward to pursuing these goals with the help of all of my friends.

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will now need to restructure the details of their paper bag charge. It's believed, though, that the hiccup can be removed by giving the proceeds from the charge on paper bags to the retailer instead of the government, and by assuring the price charged to customers more directly corresponds to the price of providing the bag. All signs indicate that, at least on the local level, recent bag ordinances are keen to these and other legal minutiae and objections that have hobbled plastic-banning legislation in the past.

That's certainly true in the Bay Area. In December, following the success of Los Angeles County, San Jose banned plastic bags in an even more sweeping ordinance, effecting more people than any ban in the nation. San Jose's ordinance applies to nearly all retailers, not only pharmacies and grocery stores, and not only "large" pharmacies and grocery stores as is the case in San Francisco. The San Jose ban also charges consumers a fee for paper bag use in addition to prohibiting the distribution of plastic bags altogether. When the ordinance becomes effective at the start of 2012, retailers in violation will face fines from \$500 to \$1,000.

Elsewhere, Fremont, Sunnyvale, Marin County, and Santa Clara County are working to implement and sustain ordinances of their own. The Marin County Board of Supervisors approved a single-use plastic bag ordinance on January 25, after postponing the vote nearly three weeks so the board could evaluate last minute objections submitted by the Save the Plastic Bag Coalition and a law firm representing a company that manufactures plastic bags. Although acting cautiously by considering these objections, Marin's ordinance boldly relies on a categorical exemption to CEQA and does not include an EIR. The City of Oakland was the last California municipality to

rely on the same exemption, and its ordinance, remember, was defeated in court. Should Marin's ordinance successfully withstand potential litigation contesting the exemption, then it will establish legal precedent for such an exemption and clear an easier path for future bag bans around the state.

A statewide ban is the next step. Last August, Assembly Bill 1998 — the "Plastic Bag Ban" — failed on the Senate floor with a 14-21 vote. If passed, the bill would have phased out the use and distribution of single-use plastic bags by stores statewide. The bill met fierce opposition from the American Chemistry Council, a pro-plastic bag interest group based in Virginia. Despite the bill's failure, anti-plastic proponents have not been discouraged. On November 29, a rally on the State Capitol steps tried to reinvigorate the bill and create awareness about the importance of trying again to ban plastic bags across the state. Green Cities California and the Clean Seas Coalition organized the event, which then-Governor Schwarzenegger attended. Schwarzenegger reiterated the need to "terminate" plastic bags and try to pass the statewide ban in 2011. "We'll be back," the lame-duck Governor actually said. His successor Jerry Brown has not yet broached the topic of plastic bag legislation.

Worldwide, other countries have taken measures to address the plastic proliferation in their environs. Denmark charges retailers a plastic bag tax twice that of paper bags. Ireland charges retail customers a 15-cent fee per bag. Switzerland ups that fee to 20 cents per bag. South Africa outright banned all plastic bags thinner than 30 microns, and Taiwan, not to be outdone, has banned the free distribution of plastic bags by schools, restaurants, supermarkets, and all government agencies. Similar restrictions have been ap-

New Member Gail Edwards-Bryan

Was originally from Texas and moved to Fremont 2 years ago. She has been in the communications/IT industry for over 20 years. Currently she spends her time taking care of her husband and 2 boys. Her first voting experience was as a 12 yr old when her mom took her to the polls with her. She has always been

an advocate of the democratic process including registering voters and driving them to the polls while in college. Her primary focus these days is education. She regularly attends Fremont School Board meetings; is the Washington High Schools representative to FUSD's Financial Advisory Committee and Nile PTA Vice President for programs, safety and parent education.

Join the LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Any person, man or woman, who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League may join.

To be a voting member, one must be at least 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen.

Annual dues includes membership in Local, Bay Area, California and National Leagues.

Make your check payable to: LWVFNUC and mail it with this form to:

LWVFNUC-MEMBERSHIP, P. O. Box 3218, Fremont, CA 94539

Individual Membership—\$60

Household—\$90

Donate to LWVFNUC \$ _____ Donate to Ed. Fund \$ _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

Name (s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____ New Member _____ Renewal _____

TransferFrom _____

Dues and contributions to the League are not tax deductible. Contributions to the LWV Ed Fund are deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more information or for confidential dues assistance, please contact: Andrea Schacter—schacter@pacbell.net.

Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark, and Union City, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Diversity Policy

LWVFNUC affirms its commitment to reflect the diversity of our communities in our membership and actions. We believe diverse views are important for responsible decision making and seek to work with all people and groups who reflect our community diversity.

LWVFNUC Voter

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3375 Country Drive, Fremont, CA

LWVC Legislative Priorities

Adopted by the LWVC Board on March 14, 2010

Priority Issues for Action in the Legislature

• **State and Local Finances/State Budget**

Support reform of the state budgeting process

Support equitable and adequate generation and

Distribution of tax revenues

Other Legislative Issues, As Time and Resources Permit

- Support requests from local Leagues and inter-League organizations (ILOs) for advocacy on bills of specific interest to their jurisdictions
- Take action as appropriate on core issues: Redistricting, Elections, Voting Rights, Campaign Finance Reform and Reproductive Choices
- Consider Program Director recommendations for action on the highest priority bills in their program areas. We anticipate action in the areas of Health Care, Education, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Statewide Ballot Measures

- Review all statewide ballot measures and recommend a position or neutrality on each one to the LWVC Board of Directors

The Education Study: The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education

Scope of the Study:

The study on the federal role in pre-K through grade 12 public education is to be limited to issues of equity, funding and standards/assessment.

Information will be provided to Local and State Leagues in the Spring of 2011.

In the Fall of 2011 Leagues are encouraged to participate in the study of the Role of Federal Government in Public Education by scheduling meetings to educate members and communities about the issue and come to consensus.

The Committee consists of Peggy Hill, Co-Chair, Texas; Joanne Leavitt, Co-Chair, California; Pat Aaron, Illinois; Gail Glick, Massachusetts; Carolyn Jefferson-Jenkins, Colorado; Patricia Libutti, New Jersey; Jean Pierce, Illinois; and Janelle Rives, South Carolina.

Across the country many others have asked to be involved and the committee encourages everyone interested to send us information and documents that will help with the study.

Organization: The committee will begin with an overview of the history of the federal role and where it is today. They will then focus on the components of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act which speak to the equity issues. Finally, the committee will address the Common Core Standards and the subsequent assessment issues.

CALENDAR

Thurs. Mar. 3	Action Committee	12:00 pm Brown bag lunch	Kay Emanuele's home
Thurs., Mar. 10	Education Committee	9:30 am	Miriam Keller's home
Mon., Mar. 14	Board Meeting	1:00 pm	League Office 3375 Country Dr.
Sat., Mar 19	Voter Deadline	Midnight	
Mon., Mar. 28	General Meeting <i>"Local Stimulus Money"</i>	7:00 pm	Fremont Congregational Church