

# The TALLAHASSEE Voter

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

PURPOSE: To Promote Political Responsibility Through Informed and Active Participation of Citizens in Government

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## CALENDAR

- Jan. 20 - 8 p.m., Leon Federal Savings and Loan Association.  
General meeting on Human Resources
- Jan. 26 - 8 p.m., Leon Federal Savings and Loan Association.  
Regular board meeting.
- Feb. 3 - 8 p.m., Leon Federal Savings and Loan Association.  
General meeting.
- Feb. 17 - 8 p.m., Leon Federal Savings and Loan Association.  
General meeting on Human Resources.
- March 3 - 8 p.m., Leon Federal Savings and Loan Association.  
General meeting.

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## IT'S TIME TO SPEAK UP

What do you want to study next year at the local level?

It's time to make your suggestions for local Current Agenda items. You'll vote on your choice at the annual meeting in the spring. Suggestions may be made, in writing, to any board member, prior to the Jan. 26 board session.

A proper item must be in the field of government and must be an area in which study could lead to possible consensus and action by the local League. It should also be a topic, the study of which would benefit both the League and the community.

To stimulate members' thinking, here are a few "possibles":

- 1 - Local taxation.
- 2 - Planning and zoning (it's been on Continuing Responsibility - should we return it to Current Agenda?).
- 3 - Health services (including TMH).
- 4 - Conservation of local water resources (some League members are wondering what is being done locally to plan for this).

Or what do you think?

## FINANCE DRIVE IN PROGRESS

Dot Driggs, finance chairman, is in the midst of the League's annual drive for funds, to help carry out our program of information and education.

Again this year, letters will be sent to prospective donors, asking for their financial support. Something new is added this year - a Voter's Guide is being sent with each letter. This Guide, compiled by Dorothy Mann, will also be available to members.

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## INTERVIEW WITH REP. FUQUA

During the holidays, President Ora Kromhout, along with Bobbie Baker and Dot Driggs, interviewed Rep. Don Fuqua. Their discussion covered four areas:

- 1 - Home rule for Washington, D. C.
- 2 - Water resources
- 3 - Representation in extremely large congressional districts
- 4 - Reapportionment

Ora plans to make a report to the membership, on this interview, at a general meeting.

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## LEAGUE AT AAUW

Ora Kromhout and Bobbie Baker were guest speakers at a meeting of the American Association of University Women on January 11. They discussed, at the request of AAUW, reapportionment and the Dirksen amendment, on the national level; taxes and education, on the state level.

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## MEMBERSHIP LISTS AVAILABLE

Lists of League members, with their addresses and telephone numbers, are available and will be distributed at membership meetings.

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## REAPPORTIONMENT CONSENSUS - TWO VIEWS

League membership reached consensus on reapportionment on December 2, in a spirited meeting at Fran LaSeur's house.

Tallahassee Leaguers feel that the Constitution should be amended to allow each state's voters to choose the basis of membership in one house, the other being based on population. Consensus included that there should be a provision for periodic referendum, after each federal census, and that the amendment should include safeguards against discrimination in regard to race or religion.

Members, for the most part, would vote for population as a basis in both houses of a state legislature. They felt, however, that this restriction should not be imposed on the state by any branch of the federal government, but should be left to the voters.

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## OUR NEXT STEP - CONSENSUS ON DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Tallahassee League's study of this year's National CA, the Development of Human Resources, has been one of the most rewarding we've made to date.

The study committee is in its second year of work, and is ready to report to the membership which must reach consensus on five questions. Two meetings will be devoted to the committee's report and the reaching of consensus. To facilitate greater understanding on the part of each League member, the Board authorized purchase of fact sheets for the membership. These are enclosed, with this issue of the bulletin, for all members.

First meeting on Human Resources is this Thursday, Jan. 20. Second is scheduled for February 17.

Please study the following consensus questions, plus the fact sheets, and bring them to both meetings.

1. The following criteria could be applied to federal programs providing equality of opportunity for education and employment:
  - a. The nationwide effort to achieve equality of opportunity in education and employment should include participation of government at all levels, and private institutions as well.
  - b. Programs should be carefully tailored to the educational or employment needs of the people they are intended to reach.
  - c. People for whom community action programs are designed should be involved in the planning and implementation of those programs.
  - d. Programs should assist people to become self-supporting, contributing members of society.
  - e. The programs should be nondiscriminatory.
  - f. The programs should be administered by qualified personnel.
  - g. Research, pilot projects, and continuing evaluation should be encouraged and, where feasible, built into the program.
  - h. Programs may be closely related but should avoid unnecessary duplication.
  - i. State and local governments should contribute to the extent their resources permit; at the same time, adequate federal funds for the establishment and continuation of programs should be available if necessary.

Does your League approve or disapprove in part or in full of each of these standards? Should any of them be changed or elaborated? Should there be additions to the list?

2. Should the problems of depressed areas which cut across state lines be handled regionally? If so, what kinds of administrative arrangements could or should be established? What kinds of development programs should be established?

3. Should the federal government provide advice and other forms of assistance to communities facing problems of integration in employment and education? If so, what kinds of help should be given?
4. What means should the federal government have at its disposal to enforce nondiscrimination in education and employment?
5. What conclusions has your League reached about the advisability and effectiveness of present federal programs to provide equality of opportunity for education and employment? Which kinds of programs do you support? Oppose? Do you think additional and/or different programs are needed?

That's it! It's a big order, and a big list of questions. Each one deserves the thoughtful attention of every League member.

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#### CONSENSUS REACHED IN STATE CA

Consensus on three parts of State CA: Study of the Legislature, was reached by the membership at a program meeting January 6, when guest speaker was John Parker. Mr. Parker is a government analyst with the Legislative Reference Bureau and is currently on leave, serving as director of the Legislative Committee on Governmental Reorganization.

After study, discussion, and the normal amount of lively argument, consensus was reached as follows:

- 1 - Compensation: that legislators should be paid at least \$3,600 annually and not more than \$4,800 annually and that they should be paid \$25 per diem while the legislature is in session, except during recesses which exceed three days in length. Other provisions for their expenses should remain as they are.
- 2 - Legislative sessions: That these should be annual for 45 legislative days each.
- 3 - Fiscal sessions: that fiscal sessions should be held annually.

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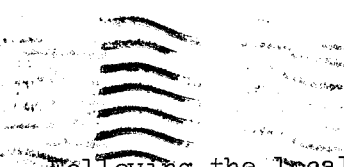
#### BOARD URGES EDUCATION FOR STATE CA

Board members have submitted a State Current Agenda proposal listed as "Florida Education - Adequate Financial Support."

Indicated in the proposal was that a study should be made of financial needs and revenue sources for Florida public schools and that such a study should include immediate and long range planning in:

- 1 - Search for new sources
- 2 - Balance between state and local support
- 3 - Desirability of county millage elections

Board members noted, in their proposal, that the present crisis is evident by accreditation losses throughout the state. Florida has more discredited schools than any other southern state.



Following the local members' consensus, national consensus from League headquarters was announced:

". . . that both houses of state legislatures should be apportioned substantially on population. . . . that the U. S. Constitution should not be amended to allow for consideration of factors other than population in apportioning either or both houses of state legislatures."

Cited as reasons in the National League's consensus were: the conviction that a population standard is the fairest and most equitable way of assuring that each man's vote is of equal value; that the U. S. Constitution should not be amended hastily because of an unpopular court decision; that individual rights now protected by the Constitution should not be weakened or abridged.

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