



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BUTTE COUNTY

Voter

May 2009

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Dear Friends,

I want to personally say Thank You to our many League members and friends who worked on and supported our **36th Annual Wine Tasting** event! Although the final accounting won't be complete until we meet again at our **May 21st Annual Business Meeting**, I can share with you right now that we believe this year's proceeds may have exceeded all previous years' records! And this is very good news indeed, considering the omnipresent bad news that we hear about the state of our economy and governmental finances.

With this positive experience just behind us, I am looking forward to the future with renewed hope for what can and is being done on the home front — at least locally, if not statewide or nationally. And it is with this renewed hope and sense of community that I encourage you to attend our **Annual Business Meeting on Thursday, May 21st** at the First Baptist Church in Chico.

See you there!

Sincerely,

Sharon Wallace

Our Mission...

Founded in 1920, the League of Women Voters is a non-partisan political organization that encourages citizens to play an informed and active role in government. At the local, state and national levels, the League works to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Any person of voting age, male or female, may become a League member.

Propositions on the May 19 Special Statewide Election Ballot:

Prop 1A — Stabilizes State Budget. Reforms California Budget Process. Limits State Spending. Increases "Rainy Day" Budget Stabilization Fund.

Prop 1B — Election Funding. Payment Plan.

Prop 1C — Lottery Modernization Act.

Prop 1D — Protects Children's Services Funding. Helps Balance State Budget.

Prop 1E — Ensures Funding for Children's Mental Health Services. Helps Balance State Budget.

Prop 1F — Elected Officials' Salaries. Prevents Pay Increases During Budget Deficit Years.

NOTE: The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of California voted at its March meeting to "Oppose" Propositions 1A, 1C, 1D and 1E. They have taken a "Neutral" stand on Prop 1B, and have taken "no position" or stand on 1F. For more detailed information about the Special Election and the League's recommendations, please visit our local League website at: www.lwvbuttecounty.org

LWV of Butte County

ANNUAL BUSINESS
MEETING

Thursday, May 21st

First Baptist Church
850 Palmetto Ave, Chico

6 pm Potluck

7-8:30 pm Meeting

**Please bring the meeting's
Agenda & information that
has been inserted in this *Voter***

Saturday, May 9th

You are invited to
A Conference to Educate,
Organize and Mobilize
For Single-Payer

A Health Care System for
Every American!

CSU, Chico
Holt Hall, Rm. 170
8:45 am—5 pm

Pre-registration encouraged
healthcaresecuritynow.org

The League of Women Voters' Fight for Universal Health Care

In 1992 the League of Women Voters of US published its position advocating universal health care. This plan, the League determined, should be a publicly-funded/privately-delivered healthcare system commonly known as the "single-payer" approach. The League accepted, within this published position, a mixed public/private employer-based system as a "step" toward a national health insurance plan.

The League determined that this national health insurance plan should include: affordable, quality health care for every US resident; strong mechanisms to control costs but never the denial of health care for that purpose; equitable distribution of services that increased resources to underserved areas; reduction of administrative costs; and the reforming of the malpractice system. This was the beginning.

In less than two years, the California League of Women Voters became a fundamental sponsor to Proposition 186, the single-payer healthcare plan known as the California Healthcare Assurance Act on the 1994 November ballot. Proposition 186 included dental, optical, pharmaceutical, and mental health care, plus health education and disease prevention, and more.

Although Proposition 186 didn't win, it did become the League of Women Voters' model for future universal healthcare campaigns. Proposition 186 was so well formulated, with the help of physicians, economists, lawyers, social workers, and citizen groups, that the League was satisfied that single-payer health care in this form upheld the goals the League had established in 1992, and improved the League's original standards.

For a single-payer health care bill to make its way to the California ballot was a monumental achievement for single-payer healthcare. The floodgates were opened. The efforts of a grassroots movement that involved thousands and thousands of people, the California League of Women Voters, Labor Unions of all persuasions, the California Council of Churches, and many other highly respected organizations had paid off.

California's legislature has twice brought Sheila Kuehl's single-payer health care bill (SB 840) to the governor's desk, only to have it vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger both times. It's a new watermark for single-payer, though.

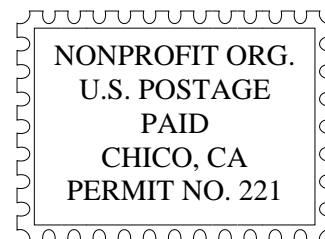
Recently, the League of Women Voters has joined forces US Representatives John Conyers, Dennis Kucinich, and 93 (and still counting) other United States Congressmen/women to support House Resolution 676, a single-payer health-care bill for all residents of the United States.

We are finally learning that it's much more economical, compassionate and medically sound to give health care to everyone, than it is to construct elaborate, costly schemes to deny people health care. This has been the tragic flaw in the for-profit healthcare system we've been living with far too long....

We hope you join the League and our other co-sponsors in attending **the May 9th Single-Payer Health Care Conference** in Chico to learn more about this hopeful opportunity!

Linda Furr
Social Policy Chair

League of Women Voters of Butte County
P.O. Box 965
Chico, CA 95927
530-895-VOTE



CURRENT RESIDENT OR:

IMPORTANT information enclosed
 for use at our **Thursday, May 21st**
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING!

Printed on Recycled Paper

LEAGUE LEADERS

Officers:

President	Sharon Wallace	342-0910
1 st Vice President	Jim Gregg	343-0841
2 nd Vice President	Pattie McDevitt	895-1802
Secretary	Marba Hazzard	345-1895
Treasurer	Lucy Sperlin	879-9369

Directors:

Membership	Linda Lunsford	342-2081
Voter Service	Carol Burr	343-1117
Hospitality	Sandi Shand	343-8115
Natural Resources	Barbara Hennigan	893-8492
Observers	Betsy Kruger	345-7563
Social Policy	Linda Furr	893-1291
Action	Janis Chisholm	892-0213
Wine Tasting	Alexandra Trent	521-3134
Southside Liaison	Eileen Burke-Trent	846-4444
leave-of-absence	Beulah Robinson	

League Office: 635 Flume Street, Chico
 www.lwvbuttecounty.org
530 895-VOTE (8683)

May 2009 League Calendar

Saturday, May 9 — Single-Payer Health Care Conference, CSU Chico, Holt Hall Rm. 170
 8 a.m. registration, 8:45 a.m.—5 p.m. Program

Tues, May 19 — Special Statewide Election

Thurs, May 21 - LWV Annual Business Meeting
6 p.m. Potluck, 7-8:30 p.m. Business Meeting
 First Baptist Church, 850 Palmetto Ave, Chico
(please bring enclosed meeting packet)

LWV Board Meetings:

Tues, May 12 - 5:30 p.m.
 @ the League office, 635 Flume Street, Chico

*All League meetings are open to ALL League members.
 Forums and Panel Discussions open to the public, as well.*