



WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE NETWORK NEWS



A REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES OF THE WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE NETWORK OF NCSL

Fall 2007

Vol. 19, No. 2

Note from the President



Allen

In the world of state legislatures, knowledge and intelligence are the coins of the realm. Having the skills to use the coins of knowledge and intelligence is the machinery of the realm. The Women's Legislative Network of NCSL can help you maneuver more effectively in the realm you have chosen—your state legislature.

The Network offers training and information about many important topics that can be our legislative coins. At the NCSL Legislative Summit in Boston, The Honorable Therese Murray, the first female president of the Massachusetts Senate, spoke about her experiences as a leader. Many legislators attended a seminar on conflict resolution and gained important negotiation skills. The Network also cosponsored a workshop about Strong Legislative Caucuses with the NCSL Legislative Effectiveness and State Government Committee.

The Network continues to be involved with NCSL's Annie E. Casey Partnership to promote economic opportunities for working families. By the time you read this, the Network will have hosted the "Women's Health Across the Lifespan: What Legislators Can Do to Improve Women's Health" workshop at the Fall Forum in Phoenix.

Please contact Katie Ziegler at NCSL and become active with the Network. We welcome your participation and insight, as we are considering several additional policy and training initiatives. The Women's Legislative Network of NCSL will only be as successful as the legislators who contribute to and participate in our activities. Please join us and obtain more coins of the realm—knowledge, intelligence and legislative skills.

Sheryl Allen
State Representative, Utah
President, Women's Legislative Network of NCSL

NCSL Fall Forum Events

Phoenix, Ariz. – November 27-30, 2007

To Update You

Women's Health Across the Lifespan: What Legislators Can Do to Improve Women's Health

The latest seminar from NCSL's Women's Health Across the Lifespan Project, a collaboration between the Network and the NCSL Health Program that is supported by a grant from Novartis Pharmaceuticals. Legislators and legislative staff began the meeting on November 27 with a dinner and keynote address from Dr. Wanda Jones, the director of the Office on Women's Health of the Department of Health and Human Services. The morning of November 28 was devoted to sessions about several important women's health-related issues.

- *Women's Health Policy: Coverage and Access to Care* Alina Salganicoff, Ph.D., Vice President and Director, Women's Health Policy, Kaiser Foundation
- *Women and Chronic Disease: Challenges and Victories* Mary B. Kennedy, Senior Vice President, State Initiatives and Medicaid Development, Evercare
- *Promoting Healthy Pregnancies and Ensuring Healthy Futures* Sharron Corle, Senior Program Director, Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs
- *Women's Mental Health: Improving the Lives of Women with Histories of Trauma* Joan Gillice, Ph.D., Program Officer, National Center for Trauma-Informed Care, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors

Visit the program website for more information:
www.ncsl.org/programs/health/womenmain.htm

 The Network executive board met, and the Network also cosponsored the following committee sessions:

- **State Efforts to Provide Rigorous and Relevant CTE Opportunities** (*with the NCSL Education and Human Services and Welfare Committees*)
- **Taking On the Tough Stuff** (*with the NCSL Legislative Effectiveness and State Government Committee*)
- **Legislative Roundtable on Infrastructure Financing** (*with the NCSL Transportation Committee*)

How Do You Resolve Conflict? Are You a Turtle or a Shark?

Former Delaware State Senator and Network President Dr. Myrna Bair, the director of the Women's Leadership Development Program at the University of Delaware, facilitated this workshop. Participants took the Thomas-Kilmann Conflict Mode Instrument, which assesses an individual's behavior in conflict situations and assigns a score based on preferences among the five defined modes of handling conflict.

Dr. Bair emphasized that there is no "correct" score and that, although some people show a strong preference for one mode above all others, many scores show a mix. Participants discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each mode and discussed situations where one mode may be more effective than others. They also discussed ways to recognize and work with another's preferred mode during conflict situations.

Inaugural Reception for Incoming Network President, Representative Sheryl Allen, Utah

The reception was made possible thanks to the generous sponsorship of Avon Products Inc.; The Cosmetic, Toiletry & Fragrance Association; Energy Solutions; Equipment Leasing and Finance Association; General Motors Corporation; Mary Kay Inc.; Novartis Pharmaceuticals; Procter & Gamble Company; SelectHealth; Utah Education Association; and Utah Medical Association.

The Creative Economy Advantage: How States Are Cashing in on Culture

Cosponsored with the NCSL Labor and Economic Development Committee

Panelists from Americans for the Arts and the New England Foundation for the Arts discussed how states can develop their creative economies and entice knowledge-based workers and jobs.

Network Leadership Lunch, Business Meeting and Elections

Cosponsored with the Center for American Women and Politics, the Center for Women Policy Studies, Women in Government and the Women Legislators' Lobby

At the business meeting, Representative Sheryl Allen, Utah, was elected president and Representative Peggy Welch, Indiana, was elected vice president. The proposed change to the Network bylaws, adding the position of president-elect, was approved.



Photo by Bruce DiLoreto

Murray

After lunch, Massachusetts Senate President Therese Murray spoke about her experiences as the first woman to hold that position and her career in politics. Among her proudest accomplishments was passage of the Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund, one of only two such programs in the country. The fund provides financial assistance to Massachusetts families who are faced with expenses beyond their means during a child's illness and recovery.

Senator Murray also played a key role in drafting and passing health care reform, making Massachusetts the first state to mandate health coverage for all residents. The senator admitted that developing an effective leadership style is challenging. She shared this advice: "Keep your drive and determination to succeed. If there's something that you really want to succeed, remember that any roadblock can be overcome. Having a good network of friends and colleagues is critical. We all need a support system, and just by being here today, we are expanding and strengthening our system. It's because of women like you that we'll continue to overcome challenges and achieve new heights of success."



Events at the NCSL Legislative Summit Boston – August 5-9, 2007

Visit the Network Legislative Summit website,
www.ncsl.org/programs/wln/AMevents2007.htm
for extended summaries, PowerPoint slides and more!

Walk for Wellness

More than 125 Legislative Summit attendees gathered at the Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade for the second annual NCSL Walk for Wellness, organized by the National Asian Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators, the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators and the Women's Legislative Network of NCSL.



The walk was dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of eliminating health disparities in minority and underserved populations. All

participants completed the 5-kilometer course and had a great time, despite the late-breaking rain. Special thanks to the Walk for Wellness sponsors: the American Beverage Association; the American Cancer Society; the American Diabetes Association; HIMSS; Kaiser Permanente; Kraft; Mars, Incorporated; Nestle Waters North America; and Novartis.

Strong Legislative Caucuses

Cosponsored with the NCSL Legislative Effectiveness and State Government Committee

Former Kansas State Senator and Network President Lana Oleen moderated a panel discussion about several types of legislative caucuses and what makes them effective. Massachusetts State Representative Marty Walz discussed her role as co-chair of the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators. Other panelists discussed their involvement with a Black Caucus, a Native American Caucus, and majority and minority caucuses. The website has summaries of the panelists' experiences and advice.

continued on page 3

Advisory Council Corner

Representative Babette Josephs Receives Environmental Leadership Award

Pennsylvania State Representative Babette Josephs, Philadelphia, has been named the recipient of the Clean Air Council's 2007 Environmental Leadership Award for her dedication to environmental issues. From her near-perfect lifetime record with the Pennsylvania League of Environmental Voters to her leadership in the House of Representatives to protect bar and restaurant workers from exposure to secondhand smoke, Representative Josephs is widely noted as a champion of Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution. That section guarantees that, "The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment." Throughout her 23-year service in the legislature, Josephs has championed numerous environmental initiatives, from fighting global warming to urging the federal government to ban the sale

and distribution of mercury in the United States. Josephs is the only member of the General Assembly who uses public transportation regularly; she does not drive nor even own a car. She also began a backyard composting program in her neighborhood that has since been expanded citywide. She is frequently involved in her local communities' efforts to improve area parks and expand green space throughout the city. "I am honored to be receiving this award," Josephs said. "Preserving our environment should be important to all people because of what it means for the future of our planet and our quality of life today. It is crucial to spread the message that there are many little things that everyone can do to make our world cleaner and greener."



Josephs

Women Legislators of Maryland Celebrates 35th Anniversary!



The Maryland Caucus of Women Legislators, founded in 1972, will celebrate by hosting the fifth annual Women's Classic on Jan. 8, 2008, in Annapolis. Register online at www.womenlegislatorsmd.org, where you also can read the colorful history of the caucus.

If you're a member of the Board or Advisory Council and would like to share news about interesting legislation in your state, contact Katie Ziegler (303) 856-1514 or katie.ziegler@nctl.org.



Louisiana Women's Caucus

The Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus is pleased to announce creation of the Women of Excellence Awards to recognize and honor extraordinary women of excellence across the state for their achievements and contributions. These women personify excellence in their area of specialty, integrity, character, community service and professionalism. This year's categories are business, education and research, health and medicine, law and justice, volunteerism and civic involvement, and young woman of excellence (ages 16 to 23). Several women have been nominated in each category, and the awards will be presented at a February 2008 gala. For more information about the awards and nominees, visit <http://llwc.louisiana.gov/>.

NCSL Legislative Summit

from page 2

Lessons from End-of-Life Care

Cosponsored with the Center for American Women and Politics
Delaware State Senator Dori Connor moderated this session and shared her thoughts and experiences about the final hospitalization of her late husband, State Senator Robert Connor. Dr. Joanne Lynn, medical officer at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, discussed significant changes in the process of dying over the years. Alan Meisel, professor of bioethics and professor of law at the University of Pittsburgh, presented an overview of some major court cases involving end-of-life decisions. Thomas Murray, president of The Hastings Center, discussed bioethical issues legislators may wish to consider in end-of-life care policies.

Women's Health Across the Lifespan: Your Source for Statistics, Snacks, Souvenirs and the Scoop on this Growing Policy Field

Dr. Wanda Jones, director of the Office of Women's Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, presented a summary of key women's health issues and discussed the importance of taking a holistic view of women's health. Four other panelists discussed how osteoporosis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer affect women and highlighted key points for policymakers to consider. After formal presentations, session attendees met individually with each organization to ask questions and receive information about their states.

Network Board Member Attends Opportunities for Working Families Meeting

Indiana State Representative Peggy Welch, the Network president-elect, represented the board in June at NCSL's "Opportunities for Working Families" meeting. The two-day seminar included a distinguished lineup of speakers and drew teams of legislators from 10 states. Session topics included asset-building strategies, the role of community organizations in family economic success (using the example of the Southern Good Faith Fund in Arkansas), small business development, building a 21st century workforce, the importance of financial education, and the high costs of being poor.

The schedule included structured time for the state teams to discuss strategies to improve family economic success. During those times, Representative Welch met with members from the National Asian Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, and the

National Caucus of Native American State Legislators. Because the legislators represented several different states, they discussed broad issues that affect women and minorities and the common challenges of conveying the importance of those issues to the population as a whole. The group agreed on the necessity of using effective "messaging" strategies as they talk about the issues, one of which is to analyze an issue in terms of the economic benefits of action versus the economic costs of inaction. This approach can build long-term sustainability and support for policies that improve family economic success. The Network will continue to collaborate with NCSL's Annie E. Casey Partnership on Family Economic Success and with the various caucuses to present programming and events that match this strategy. Listen to excerpts from the meeting at http://www.ncsl.org/magazine/working_families.htm.



Welch

THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE OF POLICY AND POLITICS



STATE LEGISLATURES

A NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATORS

State Legislatures Online

Don't forget to check your favorite *State Legislatures* magazine articles online! Next time you're online, bookmark www.ncsl.org/magazine.

Not only can you read this month's articles in *State Legislatures* magazine, you also can link to NCSL's The Buzz, where you can listen to podcasts on the latest issues affecting your state, or catch up on daily news clippings by linking to GrassCatcher.

At www.ncsl.org/magazine, you also can give feedback to our *State Legislatures* articles or post your opinion on our blog at The Thicket.

State Legislatures magazine is your source for the latest policy news, timely features, legislative cyber communities, and articles that could affect your legislature this session.



NEW from NCSL!



Supporting Defense Communities: State and Military Lessons Learned

As a military installation and its surrounding community become more dependent upon one another for support during transitional periods (growth, realignment or closure), a durable partnership of open communication and cooperation is invaluable. Related state legislative trends in the areas of compatible land use, clean energy, and overall partnerships are included. Order online at www.ncsl.org/bookstore.

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Katie Ziegler, Network Policy Associate

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Printed on recycled paper.

We Couldn't Do It Without You!

Alliance members are a vital part of the Network. We value our relationships with Alliance members and appreciate the support they provide to women legislators through the Network.

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Hello from the Alliance Chair

Dear Alliance Members,



Clark

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the NCSL Legislative Summit in Boston! As you are well aware, the Network hosted an excellent series of programs and events, all of which were well-attended by women legislators, Alliance members and other friends. I'd like to thank each of you for your support and dedication that make the Network programming possible.

As we look ahead to 2008, please contact me or Katie Ziegler at any time with questions about the Network or suggestions for improving your experience as an Alliance member. Please remember the Network when planning your budgets—your contributions keep us strong! We hope to see you at a future NCSL meeting—you are always welcome at all Network events. The Spring Forum is April 24-26, 2008, in Washington, D.C., and the 2008 Legislative Summit is July 22-26 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Thank you, again, for your commitment to promoting the participation, empowerment and leadership of women legislators.

Jackie Clark

Jackie Clark
Client Services Director
Polsinelli Shalton Flanigan Suelthaus P.C.
(816) 360-4287 or jclark@polsinelli.com

If you would like to receive future newsletters via e-mail or have a comment about what you would like to see in the *Network News*, contact Katie Ziegler at (303) 856-1514 or katie.ziegler@ncsl.org

Sharing Our Views

Sharing Our Views provides an opportunity for some of our most dedicated Alliance members to express their perspectives. If you would like to see your company's viewpoint included in the next edition, contact Katie Ziegler at (303) 856-1514 or katie.ziegler@ncsl.org

AstraZeneca's Commitment to Clinical Trials Diversity



As America grows more diverse—with nearly 25 percent of Americans expected to be Latino and 15 percent to be African American by 2050¹—it becomes increasingly important that physicians who lead clinical research trials mirror the country's racial and ethnic diversity. Since patients have different needs, more diverse clinical trial investigators can help ensure more personalized treatment options for patients. To address this issue, AstraZeneca, one of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies, has launched a prescription for progress involving African American and Latino physicians.

The country's Latino and African American populations are surging, a trend that the U.S. Census Bureau sees continuing through at least 2050. The number of U.S. Latinos exploded by 58 percent in the 1990s, while the African American population has soared almost 16 percent.² Ethnically diverse physicians continue to be underrepresented in clinical trial management, however.

Health care experts and leaders recognize that, for the nation's medical research system to continue to develop innovative medicines, the clinical trials that examine the efficacy and safety of medicines must represent our county's growing populations. The National Medical Association, which represents more than 30,000 African American physicians, and the Interamerican College of Physicians and Surgeons, a network of more than 39,000 Latino physicians, are leading the way. In partnership with AstraZeneca, they are providing their physicians with information and resources about how they can take an active role in managing clinical-trial studies and recruiting more minority consumers.

1. 2000 U.S. Census. Available from <http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>.

2. 2000 U.S. Census. Available from <http://www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html>.

ExxonMobil

Educating women and girls is a smart investment in development.

Research shows that one of the most beneficial pro-development investments we can make today is funding educational and training opportunities for women and girls.

Such investments serve as a catalyst for societal development, leading to higher wages, more immunizations, better sanitation, and lower transmission and higher survival rates from infectious diseases such as malaria and HIV/AIDS. In Africa, for example, children of mothers who receive five years of primary education are 40 percent more likely to live beyond age five.

According to the World Bank, "Educating girls yields a higher rate of return than almost any other investment available in the developing world."

Partnering with Save the Children USA, the Centre for Development and Population Activities, USAID, UNICEF and other organizations, ExxonMobil launched its "Educating Women and Girls Initiative" in 2005.

This worldwide effort aims to expand educational opportunities for women and girls in the countries in which we operate by funding projects to construct new primary schools and make others safer and cleaner, to train teachers, to raise adult literacy, and to build vocational and management skills for women.

It also includes a comprehensive training and coaching program to strengthen the management skills and leadership abilities of women managers who are working in community organizations in developing countries.

Educating women and girls may seem like an unusual investment for an energy company, but it makes good business sense. By lifting living and health standards in our host communities, we strengthen the partnerships upon which our success and theirs depends.

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the authors; NCSL and the Network do not endorse the views on this page.

Sharing Our Views

NOVARTIS: Heart On!



On October 1, "Heart On!" brought stories of what's on the heart of women today to a stage of Lincoln Center in New York City. Created by the nonprofit organization Events of the Heart, "Heart On!" features outstanding female authors and actresses who tell the stories of women's hearts and heart disease. "Heart On" will tour the country as a nationwide theater tour/awareness event highlighting women's heart disease. It will next grace the stage of The Geffen Theater Playhouse in Los Angeles on Feb. 18, 2008.

Events of the Heart is committed to providing a platform for women to receive the awareness, education and research they deserve about heart disease—their No. 1 health risk. Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation is pleased to be the founding grantor of Events of the Heart.

Founded by inspirational speaker, motivator and marketer Pamela Serure and noted film producer Carole Isenberg, Events of the Heart uses the powerful medium of theater to educate women about every aspect of heart disease, from prevention to recovery.

Events of the Heart was born from the experiences of Pamela, who has survived both triple bypass surgery and a heart attack. In her book, *Take It to Heart: The Real Deal on Women and Heart Disease*, Pamela brings to life her story and those of many other women who have battled heart disease.

To learn more about Events of the Heart and women, visit www.eventsoftheheart.org. For valuable information about women and heart disease, see www.hearthealthywomen.org.

Barbara Tombros
Director, Alliance Development
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

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No States "Satisfactory" on Women's Health Report

The latest in a series of triannual "report cards," *Making the Grade on Women's Health*, by the National Women's Law Center and Oregon Health and Science University on the state of women's health in the United States was released in October. States were ranked in four categories: women's access to health care services; wellness and prevention; key conditions, which include rates of chronic disease and leading causes of death; and living in a healthy community, including poverty rates and educational attainment. The survey's intent was not to pit states against one another, but to comprehensively review the national status of women's health. The publication offers detailed information about areas in which states are lacking and areas where new policies may help improve women's health in each state.



Overall, the United States was "unsatisfactory" in its progress toward meeting the Department of Health and Human Service's Healthy People 2010 goals. Although most policymakers agree that progress must be made toward achieving national health goals, strategies to do so vary. The report's recommendations go too far for some legislators, who may disagree with the authors on topics such as the value of insurance mandates or access to reproductive health services.

Massachusetts, Minnesota and Vermont received top rankings. Although they landed at the top, they received only a "satisfactory minus," highlighting the viewpoint expressed in the report card that the nation still has much ground to cover. No state received a "satisfactory" rank.

For more information, see <http://hrc.nwlc.org/Default.aspx>

Meet YOUR Board



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Utah



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Peggy Welch (D)
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Representative
Elsie Arntzen (R)
Montana



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Representative
Annie Kuether (D)
Kansas

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*Photo
not
available*

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New Hampshire



Senator
Lois Snowe-Mello (R)
Maine

Western Regional Members



Representative
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Wyoming



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Nevada

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More about the Network
Executive Board is available
at [www.ncsl.org/
programs/wln/officers2007-
2008.htm](http://www.ncsl.org/programs/wln/officers2007-2008.htm).

We need you!

The Women's Legislative Network Advisory Council has vacancies in several states (see chart on page 9.) Advisory Council members serve as liaisons between their states and the Network. The Network Advisory Council strives to be politically and geographically balanced. If you are interested in serving on the Advisory Council or you would like to nominate a fellow legislator, please send nominations to wln-info@ncsl.org. For more information, visit the Network Advisory Council website: www.ncsl.org/wln/AdvBoard07.htm.

Women's Legislative Network of NCSL Advisory Council (2007-2008)

State	Title/Name	Party
Alabama	VACANT	R
Alabama	Rep. Laura Hall	D
Alaska	Sen. Bettye Davis	D
Alaska	Sen. Lesil McGuire	R
Arizona	Rep. Lena Saradnik	D
Arizona	VACANT	R
Arkansas	Rep. Betty Pickett	D
Arkansas	Rep. Shirley Walters	R
California	Assy. Betty Karnette	D
California	VACANT	R
Colorado	Rep. Alice Borodkin	D
Colorado	VACANT	R
Connecticut	Sen Andrea Stillman	D
Connecticut	VACANT	R
Delaware	Sen. Patricia Blevins	D
Delaware	Rep. Nancy Wagner	R
Florida	Rep. Joyce Cusack	D
Florida	VACANT	R
Georgia	Rep. Sharon Beasley-Teague	D
Georgia	VACANT	R
Hawaii	Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland	D
Hawaii	Rep. Colleen Meyer	R
Idaho	Rep. Donna Boe	D
Idaho	Rep. Maxine Bell	R
Illinois	Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie (Majority Leader)	D
Illinois	Rep. Elizabeth Coulson	R
Indiana	Rep. Terri Austin	D
Indiana	Sen. Connie Lawson (Majority Leader)	R
Iowa	Rep. Pam Jochum	D
Iowa	VACANT	R
Kansas	Rep. Barbara Ballard	D
Kansas	Sen. Barbara Allen	R
Kentucky	Rep. Joni L. Jenkins	D
Kentucky	Rep. Susan Westrom	D
Kentucky	Sen. Elizabeth Tori	R
Louisiana	VACANT	D
Louisiana	Rep. Kay Kellogg Katz	R
Maine	Rep. Hannah Pingree	D
Maine	VACANT	R
Maryland	Sen. Delores Kelley	D
Maryland	Del. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam	D
Massachusetts	Rep. Marie St. Fleur	D
Massachusetts	Rep. Mary Rogeness	R
Michigan	Sen. Martha G. Scott	D
Michigan	VACANT	R
Minnesota	Rep. Nora Slawik	D
Minnesota	Rep. Kathy Tingelstad	R
Mississippi	Rep. Jessica Upshaw	R
Mississippi	Sen. Alice Harden	D
Missouri	VACANT	D
Missouri	Rep. Kathlyn Fares	R
Montana	Sen. Trudi Schmidt	D
Montana	Rep. Janna Taylor	R

State	Title/Name	Party
Nebraska	Sen. Vickie McDonald	X
Nebraska	Sen. DiAnna Schimek	X
Nevada	VACANT	D
Nevada	VACANT	R
New Hampshire	VACANT	D
New Hampshire	Rep. Phyllis Katsakiones	R
New Jersey	Sen. Nia Gill	D
New Jersey	Assy. Loretta Weinberg	D
New Mexico	Rep. Patricia Lundstrom	D
New Mexico	Rep. Jeannette Wallace	R
New York	Assy. Barbara Clark	D
New York	VACANT	R
North Carolina	Rep. Beverly Earle	D
North Carolina	Rep. Julia Craven Howard	R
North Dakota	Rep. Nancy Johnson	R
North Dakota	Rep. Lois Delmore	D
<i>Ohio</i>	<i>Rep. Tracy Maxwell Heard</i>	<i>D</i>
Ohio	VACANT	R
Oklahoma	Sen. Nancy Riley	D
Oklahoma	VACANT	R
Oregon	Sen. Margaret Carter	D
Oregon	Rep. Donna Nelson	R
Pennsylvania	Rep. Babette Josephs	D
Pennsylvania	VACANT	R
Puerto Rico	Sen. Luz Z Arce-Ferrer	N
Puerto Rico	Sen. Velda Gonzalez-de Modesti	P
Rhode Island	VACANT	R
Rhode Island	VACANT	D
South Carolina	Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter	D
South Carolina	Sen. Linda Short	D
South Dakota	Rep. Margaret Gillespie	D
South Dakota	Rep. Joni Cutler	R
Tennessee	VACANT	D
Tennessee	Rep. Beth Halteman Harwell	R
Texas	Rep. Ruth McClendon	D
Texas	Rep. Linda Harper-Brown	R
Utah	Rep. Karen Morgan	D
Utah	VACANT	R
Vermont	VACANT	D
Vermont	VACANT	R
Virginia	Sen. Yvonne Miller	D
Virginia	Sen. Patricia Ticer	D
Virginia	Sen. Mary Margaret Whipple	D
Washington	Sen. Karen Fraser	D
Washington	VACANT	R
West Virginia	Del. Bonnie Brown	D
West Virginia	Sen. Donna Boley	R
Wisconsin	VACANT	D
Wisconsin	VACANT	R
<i>Wyoming</i>	<i>Rep. Mary Throne</i>	<i>D</i>
Wyoming	VACANT	R

Names that are italicized are legislators who have been nominated to serve on the Network Advisory Council, but have not been confirmed by the Network Executive Board.

WINGS Announcements

Women in Informal Networking Groups (WINGS) is an interactive network of national organizations that serve women legislators in a variety of capacities. These organizations have joined to share information and resources and to work together on leadership, education, training and development to empower legislative women throughout the nation. Participating organizations include:

- Center for American Women and Politics (www.cawp.rutgers.edu)
- Center for Policy Alternatives (www.stateaction.org)
- Center for Women Policy Studies (www.centerwomenpolicy.org)
- National Order of Black Elected Legislative Women (www.nobelwomen.org)
- National Women's Political Caucus (www.nwpc.org)
- Women in Government (www.womeningovernment.org)
- The Women Legislators' Lobby (www.willwand.org)
- Women's Legislative Network of NCSL (www.ncsl.org/wln/)

NOBEL Women Elect New Officers

The National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL/Women) hosted the 2007 inaugural and reception for its newly elected national president, Oregon Senate President Pro Tempore Margaret Carter, and her executive board members on Oct. 26, 2007, in Portland, Ore.

NOBEL/Women's newly elected executive board members are:

- National Vice-President: Louisiana State Senator Sharon Weston Broome
- 2nd National Vice-President: Michigan State Senator Martha G. Scott
- National Secretary: Georgia State Representative Sharon Beasley-Teague
- National Financial Secretary: Wisconsin State Representative Annette "Polly" Williams
- National Treasurer: Alaska State Senator Bettye Davis
- National Parliamentarian: Arkansas State Senator Irma Hunter Brown

- National Chaplain: North Carolina State Representative Earline W. Parmon
- Immediate Past President: Louisiana State Senator Diana E. Bajoie
- President Emeritus: California Congresswoman Diane Watson
- National Regional Coordinator: Kansas State Representative Barbara Ballard
- Region 1: Florida State Senator Arthenia L. Joyner
- Region 2: New Hampshire State Representative Claire Clarke
- Region 3: Illinois State Representative Karen A. Yarbrough
- Region 4: Oregon State Senator Jackie Winters



The national executive director is retired Colorado State Senator Gloria Travis Tanner. Senator Carter and the executive board will serve from 2007-2009, focusing on "engaging our membership" in all of NOBEL/Women activities and moving forward as the new leaders of NOBEL/Women.

CWPS Holds Foreign Policy Institute



The Center for Women Policy Studies convened its seventh annual *Foreign Policy Institute for State Legislators* in September. The Class of 2007 learned about the effects of U.S. foreign policy on women

around the world from a faculty of experts on such issues as international trafficking of women and girls, reproductive rights and health, the women's HIV/AIDS epidemic, women and climate change, women in conflict and post-conflict settings, violence against women as a weapon of war, and much more.

Legislators also met with Senator Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), ranking member of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and with several members of the U.S. House of Representatives—Congresswomen Lynn Woolsey (D-Calif.), Gabrielle Giffords (D-Ariz.), and Kathy Castor (D-Fla.), and Congressmen Ed Pastor (D-Ariz.), G.K. Butterfield (D-N.C.), and Michael Honda (D-Calif.). To learn more, contact LWolfe@centerwomenpolicy.org.

CAWP Asks for Survey Help



We know you receive many questionnaires and surveys, but please take special note of this one! The Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), long the premiere source of nonpartisan research and information about U.S. women's political participation, is conducting a new survey aimed at understanding who legislators are, why they run, and what motivates them. The study is funded by a grant from the Barbara Lee Family Foundation, with additional support from many foundations and individual donors.

Comparing samples of women and men in state legislatures, CAWP will update findings from a similar study conducted in 1982 and shed new light on women's routes to public office.

The survey will take only a few minutes of your time, but your participation is vital to ensuring a complete picture of women's routes to elective office. When you receive that CAWP (a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey) envelope in the mail in mid-January, please respond right away! For more information, contact Debbie Walsh at walsh@rci.rutgers.edu.

Opportunity for Teen Girls

Know a teen girl who's excited about politics? Election Year 2008 is a great time for her to apply for Pathways to Politics, a two-week summer program for 40 girls from across the nation who have completed 10th grade by July 2008. Based at the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP), a unit of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University, the program offers girls the opportunity to meet leaders in politics, government and public policy; learn valuable skills; discover women's political history; and explore the connection between community service and politics. Contact Kathy Kleeman at CAWP for more details (kleeman@rci.rutgers.edu, (732) 932-9384, ext. 231).

WiLL Holds National Conference



The Women Legislators' Lobby convened 250 state legislators and community leaders at its biennial national conference, "Women at the Table of Power." Appropriately, newly elected Congresswoman Laura Richardson welcomed us to Washington, reflecting on her service as a California State Assemblywoman and her commitment to making a difference in the national halls of power.

Women were inspired and uplifted by the studies and stories of those who have "walked the walk." Iraq war veteran Sgt. Carolyn Schapper brought sobering news of the health needs of those who are returning from overseas. Page Gardner of *Women's Voices*. *Women Vote* highlighted the concerns of the nation's growing number of single women. Celinda Lake brought the latest surveys on attitudes among women voters on peace and security issues.

Jane Fonda, honored for "Keeping the Faith," was joined by author Ellen Bravo and newswoman Carole Jenkins in amplifying the voices and concerns of women in the workplace and the media.

The conference concluded on a note of shared commitment to provide greater opportunities for training and equipping women to work effectively and to expand the number and influence of women at the tables of power. Legislators are invited to contact WiLL president, Georgia Senator Nan Orrock; WiLL program director, Trisha Beck; and Christina Cernansky at WiLL (will@wand.org) for information about future opportunities.

CHECK OUT THE NETWORK WEBSITE:

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A REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES OF THE WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE NETWORK OF NCSL