



WOMEN'S LEGISLATIVE NETWORK NEWS



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

Fall 2010

Vol. 22, No. 2

Note from the President

Hello!

I want to welcome all the women who have just been elected to the legislature for the first time. Congratulations! I hope to meet many of you in the future and ask that you call on me or the other Network board members if we can be of assistance. Women in office play an important role in shaping the future of the country, but we still are a minority. About 23 percent of state legislators in 2011 will be women. That is the reason the Network was founded: to provide a forum for women from different states to learn from and support one another. It's been more than 25 years, and we are still going strong!



Berger

The Network has had a great year. At the NCSL Legislative Summit in Louisville, we took a closer look at initiatives to encourage savings habits, and we heard from a local women's organization about its successful financial mentoring program. We also laced up our sneakers for the fifth annual Walk for Wellness. We are already looking ahead to another financial stability meeting at the 2011 Summit. We would love your suggestions about topics to address.

As the pace of life quickens and the demands on your time grow more insistent, we would like to know how the Network and NCSL can best work for you. Is there an aspect of governing in the 21st century that we have not addressed? We know that, to stay strong, we must evolve, and the political landscape has changed in many states. Please share your ideas!

Rosie Berger
State Representative, Wyoming
President, Women's Legislative Network of NCSL

To Update You

NCSL Fall Forum in Phoenix, Arizona

December 8-10, 2010

Visit www.ncsl.org/?tabid=21683 for complete session information, presentations, audio recordings and more.



Policy Options to Improve the Health of Women of All Ages

More than 25 legislators and legislative staff attended this preconference about women's health policy. The first session, "Women and Healthy Aging," featured Alixe McNeill from the National Council on Aging. She discussed the most common chronic conditions among older women and evidence-based approaches that states can follow to help women live longer, healthier lives. Ramona Rusinak from the Arizona Department of Health Services then talked about the Healthy Aging Arizona program, which provides a framework for building healthy aging capacity in a purposeful and coordinated manner statewide. Senator Betty Boyd of Colorado briefly discussed Colorado's Senior Source program.

Yvonne Green, director of the Office of Women's Health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, was the keynote speaker for the session, "Investing in the Next Generation of Women." She discussed recent women's health research and state and national programs to improve younger women's health. The session also included information from the Younger Women's Task Force of the National Council of Women's Organizations.

Tracey Hyams, with the Connors Center for Women's Health and Gender Biology at Brigham and Women's Hospital, was the keynote dinner speaker. She discussed opportunities within the Affordable Care Act to improve women's health and the role of state legislators.

The last session of the seminar was a time for discussion and reflection. Participants reviewed a draft of a "checklist" of women's health policy options and suggested other items to include in the final version. The checklist, to be published by NCSL, will be distributed to all women legislators and health

continued on page 2

To Update You

committee members and posted on the NCSL website.

Teen Pregnancy: Strategies for Prevention

Sarah Brown, from the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy, discussed strategies policy-makers can use to reduce teen pregnancy rates. Teen moms and their children are more likely to struggle with poverty, health and educational attainment as a result of being thrust into adult lives too soon. State governments' increased costs associated with early childbearing reach into the billions each year.

Moving from Campaigning to Legislating

Cosponsored with the NCSL Legislative Effectiveness Committee

Legislators often have a tough time putting a contentious campaign behind them after the session starts. Staff can be deeply affected as well. This session examined ways to move forward and work across the aisle.

Network Board Meet and Greet

Board members and other friends of the Network gathered to share experiences from the past year and the campaign trail and to discuss Network plans for 2011.

Visit the website for information from sessions about child sex trafficking, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, jobs and the economy, and heart health.

were elected to new positions on the board. Following the election, Margo Waddell discussed Women 4 Women, a Louisville organization dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls. Finance 4 Her is its financial education program that teaches women basic money management—including budgeting, saving and planning ahead.

Boosting Savings in Troubled Times

Americans who develop a savings habit create a cushion in case of emergency and strengthen the country's financial foundation. Research shows even the poorest Americans will save money if relevant incentives and access to savings opportunities are available. This session highlighted innovative public/private approaches—from outreach campaigns by banks to video games—that engage more people in traditional financial services.

Highlights from the NCSL Legislative Summit in Louisville, Kentucky

July 25-28, 2010

Visit www.ncsl.org/?tabid=20320 for complete information.

Human Trafficking in the Spotlight

NCSL Human Services and Welfare and Law and Criminal Justice Committees, NCSL Task Force on Immigration and the States

Human trafficking is criminal activity that often involves immigrant women and children, forced slavery and sexual exploitation—often for profit. The session addressed various state initiatives and discussion of how states can strengthen laws that address human trafficking.

Credit vs. Debit

NCSL Communications, Financial Services and Interstate Commerce Committee

Differences exist between debit and credit cards and how each is used as a payment instrument. Panelists discussed how the recent credit card reform and the financial regulatory reform legislation affect debit cards, liability and unauthorized transactions, overdraft fees and other fees for the privilege of using a debit card.

Network 25th Anniversary Reception

Legislators and friends gathered to celebrate the 25th year since the Network's formal incorporation and to honor the 2010-2011 Executive Board.

Walk for Wellness

More than 75 people laced up their shoes early one morning for the fifth Walk for Wellness, starting this year in Waterfront Park.



2010 Walk for Wellness

Changing the Course of Delinquency

National experts shared innovative and cost-saving ways to improve the lives of young people through prevention and early intervention, with a focus on collaboration across systems such as juvenile justice and child welfare.

Women's Legislative Network Luncheon and Business Meeting

The session began with the annual Network business meeting and elections. Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger was elected president, and several other legislators

Announcements



Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus

The Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation held its 2010 leadership retreat in November at L'Auberge du Lac Resort in Lake Charles. The retreat provided an opportunity for Women's Caucus members to exchange ideas with colleagues, key leaders and policy stakeholders on important issues that affect Louisiana and women. During the retreat, the Caucus held a forum in partnership with AstraZeneca on "Closing the Gap on Health Disparities for Louisiana Women and Their Families." The purpose of the forum was to promote understanding and awareness of the state of women's health in Louisiana and to discuss what can be done to address the health care needs of women in Louisiana and their families.

The Caucus is pleased to announce creation of the Educational Advancement Opportunity Scholarship, which will be awarded to female students who are attending any licensed higher education program in the fall of 2011. The scholarship is intended to broaden educational opportunities available to young women in Louisiana. The Caucus also will grant Women of Excellence Awards in 2011 to honor the exemplary achievements and contributions of extraordinary Louisiana women who personify excellence in their leadership, profession, academics, community service, character and integrity. Award categories include business, education, health and medicine, media and public relations, volunteerism, high school woman of excellence (for graduating seniors) and college woman of excellence (ages 18 to 25). Award and scholarship recipients will be announced at the Caucus gala in May 2011.

Representative Valerie Longhurst, Delaware

Delaware has made important strides in increasing the role of women in government recently. This progress was evident in the House of Representatives, where three of the seven newly elected representatives are women.



Longhurst

After the 2008 election, the number of women in the 41-member House dropped from 12 to seven. As a female legislator who had just been elected House Majority Whip, I created the Delaware Democratic Women's Leadership Council, a political action committee designed to recruit and assist women who are running for political office. The PAC provided funds to boost the campaigns of a few candidates this year, and I'm proud to say that three of the four newly elected members of our caucus are women—Stephanie Bolden, Debra Heffernan and Rebecca Walker.

We will continue to break down the obstacles to women running for office and recruit more female candidates to provide a balanced perspective in our state government.

Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators

The Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators Women's Suffrage commemoration efforts were highlighted by their September 12 bus trip across the state in recognition of the historic 90th anniversary in August. Stops were made in support of fellow women legislators along the way.

As Representative Patricia Haddad (D-Somerset), Assistant Majority Whip of the House, said to *The Boston Globe* regarding the push, "The whole point of supporting other

women is to make sure that they feel they are supported and that they can run for office." Priti Rao, executive director of the Massachusetts Political Caucus, added, "Women supporting women is how we get to equal representation."

From left, Representatives Kathi-Anne Reinstein (D-Revere), Ann-Margaret Ferrante (D-Gloucester), Alice K. Wolf (D-Cambridge) and Patricia Haddad (D-Somerset) traveled by van September 12 to support freshman women representatives. With the legislators are Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus Executive Director Priti Rao and Office Manager Jessica Gibbons. (Photo by Rose Lincoln for The Boston Globe)



continued on page 4

Announcements (continued)**Representative Gloria Fox, Massachusetts**

Fox

I would like to offer my reflections on the Massachusetts state election results and what they mean for women in elected office. I have been honored to serve as state representative of the 7th Suffolk District of Massachusetts for the last 25 years. In that time, I have borne witness to some amazing transformations in the Massachusetts Legislature. When I came into office, the

State House was not very diverse; there were few women or people of color in decision-making positions, as staff or elected officials. In spite of our small numbers, however, we banded together and not only promoted women-, family-, and diversity-friendly policies for the commonwealth, but ensured basic rights and services for all employees—there were no women’s restrooms on the House or Senate floor level, and neither women nor men of color were promoted to leadership positions within the Legislature.

I am proud of the results I and my colleagues were able to garner over the years, and I believe our early struggles have helped to make the Legislature a more inviting place of employment for women and people of color, as staff and elected officials. This makes the results from our recent state elections all the more disheartening, as the Massachusetts Legislature stands to have the lowest number of female elected officials in 12 years, and our already small ranks of six women of color shrinks to four.

From personal experience, I know most female candidates are “tapped” to run by their friends, family and community. As women and people of color, we tend to undervalue the various community-, school-, and volunteer-related activities we engage in daily as being nothing more than acting as good neighbors and good citizenship. To the contrary, these activities are exactly the kind of grassroots, community organizing and involvement that make for an excellent, engaged and informed elected official. Because of these activities, we have the support networks, we know the community, and we know the issues that affect our neighborhoods.

So what do we need to work on to realize more women and people of color in elected office? Ideologically, we need to work on recognizing that our power and experience are valuable assets in running for office. We are ready, we are qualified, and we are what we’ve been waiting for.

In practice, we need to work on two things—fundraising and asking for the vote. Too often, we dance around these issues. Rather than risk inconveniencing someone’s busy schedule or putting a strain on people’s already stressed bank accounts, we self-sabotage our campaigns by underfunding and underpromoting ourselves. This needs to stop; our opponents have no problem with these activities, and I have seen too many wonderful elected officials and candidates lose because of reservations about fundraising and asking for the vote.

We need to create a pipeline for women and people of color who are interested in elected office and mentor them in their personal, academic and professional careers. We must ensure that the next generation is prepared and empowered to run for elected office, and that we work to support them throughout the process. This support must continue after the candidate is elected; it’s difficult being the first, and as a newly elected official, it’s important to feel supported as you make difficult decisions and test the waters early in your career. Thankfully, at the local and national levels, some great leadership programs are available that specifically target women and people of color; they can help us unlearn the unhealthy habits that keep us from achieving success.

And we need to share our stories. I am thankful to have the support of my sisters and brothers in office, and I look forward to working with each of you, especially my fellow Women’s Legislative Network Executive Board members, on realizing our mission of empowering women and people of color to run for office.

Representative Babette Josephs, Pennsylvania

In the recent legislative session, state Representative Babette Josephs, Philadelphia, was instrumental in enacting two new Pennsylvania laws. The first requires the state to divest its pension investments from companies that do business in the energy and military sectors with Iran and Sudan, state sponsors of terrorism and genocide. Josephs first introduced the idea in 2007 and worked with her colleagues in both chambers to secure enactment of the proposal this year.



Josephs

“I’m glad that Pennsylvania has taken a stand and is actively working to prevent these kinds of atrocities, and that I was able to help make it happen,” Josephs said. “I’m happy to be part of a government that agrees genocide should never happen again and terrorism must never be encouraged. Divesting from terror and genocide is the morally and fiscally right thing to do.”

The second law ends the practice of shackling inmates during childbirth in state correctional facilities, county jails and youth development centers. Federal prisons and the U.S. Marshals Service already ban this practice, but the law outlaws in Pennsylvania the use of restraints during any stage of labor, pregnancy-related medical distress, delivery or postpartum.

“A correctional institution should not apply restraints to an inmate known to be pregnant during any stage of labor,” Josephs said. “Many risk factors are involved, which include the health of an innocent baby who should be brought into this world with tenderness and care, not barbarism; it is torture that is unfair to both the woman and the child.”

Announcements (continued)**The Institute for Elected Women: California**

Newly elected women in California had the opportunity to hit the ground running and attend the newly created Institute for Elected Women just a few days after the election. Former California Assemblywoman Patty Berg and former Senator Sheila Kuehl launched the Institute in partnership with the NCSL Foundation for State Legislatures and the Center for American Women and Politics. The program gives new female lawmakers in-depth training on issues such as living in the capital city, work-life balance, hiring staff, serving on committees, media relations, working with lobbyists, and the realities of a term-limited environment. The institute also connects new legislators with current or former California state legislators who serve as mentors. The former legislators also are the training faculty. The institute will hold another session in January to address additional topics and provide more opportunities for freshmen legislators to learn from the veterans.

The Network will be watching and applauding the institute's success. If you would like to learn more about starting a similar program in your state, please contact Katie Ziegler, (303) 856-1514 or katie.ziegler@ncsl.org; she will put you in touch with the institute's founders.

**New From NCSL!****States Implementing Health Reform**

Webinar Series. Visit the website for complete archives and announcements of future meetings on topics including exchanges, consumer assistance, primary care providers, nursing and Medicaid; www.ncsl.org/?tabid=21590.

State Cyberstalking, Cyberharassment and

Cyberbullying Laws. Newly updated for 2010, this database includes enacted legislation that specifically references electronic communication and links to additional NCSL resources; www.ncsl.org/?tabid=13495.

State Budget and Tax Update: December 2010.

How does the state fiscal situation look as 2010 draws to a close, and how are states reacting to the economy? Visit www.ncsl.org/?tabid=21829 for complete information.

Redistricting. NCSL is the go-to source of information on the task that awaits most state legislatures after the census data is released. Visit <http://www.ncsl.org/Default.aspx?TabID=746&tabs=1116,115,786#786> for materials from recent meetings, publications, and more.

Women in State Legislatures: 2011

The 2010 elections marked the first time in decades that the number of women serving in state legislatures decreased. Women will make up approximately 23.4 percent of all state legislators in 2011, a full percentage point less than in 2010, which amounts to a loss of about 80 seats. Republican women gained more than 100 seats nationwide, narrowing the gap between Democratic and Republican women that had widened over the past several election cycles. During the 2010 session, 70 percent of all female legislators were Democrats, and 30 percent were Republicans. The split is closer to 62 percent Democrats, 38 percent Republicans in 2011.

Women in State Legislatures 2011

State	Women in the House	Women in the Senate	Total Women	Percentage of Female Legislators
Alabama	14	5	19	13.6%
Alaska	10	4	14	23.3%
Arizona	20	11	31	34.4%
Arkansas	22	8	30	22.2%
California	21	12	33	27.5%
Colorado	24	16	40	40.0%
Connecticut	47	8	55	29.4%
Delaware	9	7	16	25.8%
Florida	26	15	41	25.6%
Georgia	47	8	55	23.3%
Hawaii	17	9	26	34.2%
Idaho	19	9	28	26.7%
Illinois	37	13	50	28.2%
Indiana	21	11	32	21.3%
Iowa	24	8	32	21.3%
Kansas	32	14	46	27.9%
Kentucky	19	6	25	18.1%
Louisiana	15	8	23	16.0%
Maine	45	7	52	28.0%
Maryland	47	11	58	30.9%
Massachusetts	36	11	47	23.5%
Michigan	27	4	31	20.9%
Minnesota	43	21	64	31.8%
Mississippi	21	4	25	14.4%
Missouri	41	5	46	23.4%
Montana	28	7	35	23.3%
Nebraska	NA	11	11	22.4%
Nevada	12	6	18	28.6%
New Hampshire	98	6	104	24.5%
New Jersey	26	8	34	28.3%
New Mexico	21	11	32	28.6%
New York	37	11	48	22.6%
North Carolina	32	6	38	22.4%
North Dakota	15	6	21	14.9%
Ohio	20	8	28	21.2%
Oklahoma	15	4	19	12.8%
Oregon	14	9	23	25.6%
Pennsylvania	34	10	44	17.4%
Rhode Island	19	10	29	25.7%
South Carolina	15	0	15	8.8%
South Dakota	14	7	21	20.0%
Tennessee	16	7	23	17.4%
Texas	32	6	38	21.0%
Utah	14	5	19	18.3%
Vermont	58	11	69	38.3%
Virginia	19	8	27	19.3%
Washington	29	17	46	31.3%
West Virginia	19	2	21	15.7%
Wisconsin	23	8	31	23.5%
Wyoming	13	1	14	15.6%
TOTAL	1,307	420	1,727	23.4%

Note from the Alliance Chair

Dear Alliance Members:

Thanks to your support the Network had a great year. We celebrated our 25th anniversary at the Legislative Summit this summer and enjoyed seeing old and new friends at the reception. NCSL and the Women's Legislative Network are forums for the private sector and legislators to discuss the challenges faced by the states. 2011 will, I'm sure, bring some surprises and I hope you will communicate with me to share ideas about how to address them. The Network is made stronger by the active participation of its sponsors. Please stay involved in the years to come.

Thank you, again, for your contributions.



Dennis Brown
Vice President, State Government Relations
Equipment Leasing & Finance Association
(202) 238-3411
dbrown@elfaonline.org



Brown

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.

The Equipment Leasing & Finance Association (ELFA) represents the \$521 billion commercial equipment finance sector.



More than 500 members include many of the nation's largest financial services companies and manufacturers, as well as regional and community banks and independent medium and small finance companies throughout the country. ELFA members' clients range from Fortune 100 companies to small and medium-sized enterprises to governments and nonprofits. Issues of concern include commercial contract law, electronic recycling, and sales and income taxes. If you have questions about this business-to-business marketplace, contact ELFA Vice President Dennis Brown at dbrown@elfaonline.org or (202) 238-3411.

Thank You to Alliance Members!

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.

* Sponsor (\$5,000)

- AARP
- Intuit
- Novartis

* Partner (\$2,500)

- Coca-Cola
- Equipment Leasing and Finance Association
- Exxon Mobil
- Pfizer

* Contributor (\$1,000)

- Abbott Laboratories
- Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers
- Alticor
- American Beverage Association
- Ash Grove Cement Company
- BMI
- Hallmark Cards Inc.
- Mary Kay Inc.
- State & Federal Communications

* Friend (\$500)

- Avon
- Center for Responsible Lending
- International Council of Shopping Centers
- Pepco Holdings Inc.
- Personal Care Products Council
- Procter & Gamble



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
THE HEART TRUTH

The Heart Truth[®]

campaign is a national awareness campaign

for women about heart disease, sponsored by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). It is embraced by millions of people who share the goal of better heart health for women.

Diet Coke is a passionate partner of *The Heart Truth*[®]. In February 2011, Diet Coke will continue to raise awareness by launching limited-edition cans and bottles. We will also tap into our loyal fan base to help raise funds for the Foundations for the National Institutes of Health in support of *The Heart Truth*[®] and women's heart health education and research.

The Heart Truth[®] campaign is just one way Coca-Cola brings its Live Positively philosophy to life. Everything we do is guided by this idea of positive living—from our people-focused programs to our products and packaging to our efforts to help the planet.

For more information, visit DietCoke.com/HeartTruth. Diet Coke is a trademark of The Coca-Cola Company.[®], TM *The Heart Truth*, its logo and The Red Dress are trademarks of HHS. Participation by Coca-Cola does not imply endorsement by HHS/NIH/NHLBI.

Meet The Network Board



President
Representative
Rosie Berger (R)
Wyoming



President-Elect
Representative
Marilyn Lee (D)
Hawaii



Vice President
Senator
Dori Connor (R)
Delaware



Past President
Representative
Elsie Arntzen (R)
Montana

Eastern Regional Members



Representative
Gloria Fox (D)
Massachusetts



Senator
Diane Allen (R)
New Jersey

Western Regional Members



Representative
Amy Stephens (R)
Colorado



Senator
Bettye Davis (D)
Alaska

Midwestern Regional Members



Senator
Jean Leising (R)
Indiana



Senator
Amanda McGill (X)
Nebraska

At-Large Members



Senator
Nellie Rivera-
O'Reilly (I)
U.S. Virgin Islands



Representative
Brenda Gilmore (D)
Tennessee

Southern Regional Members



Representative
Linda Harper-Brown (R)
Texas



Representative
Johnnie Roebuck (D)
Arkansas

NOBEL Women Representative



Senator
Sharon Weston Broome (D)
Louisiana

Become an Advisory Council member!

The Advisory Council consists of two members from each state and is politically balanced. Advisory Council members serve as liaisons between their states and the Network to fulfill the Network's purpose: to promote the participation, empowerment and leadership of women legislators. Advisory Council members work with the Network on activities and events within their state, provide information to the Network regarding organizations and activities involving women legislators, and assist with program and fundraising efforts as determined by the Executive Board.

Review the list of members on the following page, and consider applying to represent your state. Contact Katie Ziegler at katie.ziegler@ncsl.org or (303) 856-1514 for more information..

Women's Legislative Network of NCSL Advisory Council (2010-2011)

State/Jurisdiction	Title/Name	Party
Alabama	VACANT	R
Alabama	Rep. Laura Hall	D
Alaska	VACANT	D
Alaska	Sen. Lesil McGuire	R
Arizona	Rep. Kyrsten Sinema	D
Arizona	VACANT	R
Arkansas	VACANT	D
Arkansas	VACANT	R
California	VACANT	D
California	VACANT	R
Colorado	Sen. Suzanne Williams	D
Colorado	VACANT	R
Connecticut	Sen Andrea Stillman	D
Connecticut	VACANT	R
Delaware	Sen. Patricia Blevins	D
Delaware	Rep. Valerie Longhurst	R
Dist. of Columbia	VACANT	D
Florida	Sen. Arthenia Joyner	D
Florida	Sen. Evelyn Lynn	R
Georgia	Rep. Sharon Beasley-Teague	D
Georgia	VACANT	R
Hawaii	Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland	D
Hawaii	Rep. Corinne Ching	R
Idaho	VACANT	D
Idaho	Rep. Maxine Bell	R
Illinois	Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie (Majority Leader)	D
Illinois	VACANT	R
Indiana	Rep. Terri Austin	D
Indiana	Sen. Connie Lawson	R
Iowa	Rep. Pam Jochum	D
Iowa	VACANT	R
Kansas	Rep. Barbara Ballard	D
Kansas	Sen. Vicki Schmidt	R
Kentucky	Rep. Joni L. Jenkins	D
Kentucky	Rep. Susan Westrom	D
Kentucky	Sen. Elizabeth Tori	R
Louisiana	Rep. Jean Doerge	D
Louisiana	Rep. Kay Kellogg Katz	R
Maine	VACANT	D
Maine	Sen. Debra Plowman	R
Maryland	Sen. Delores Kelley	D
Maryland	Del. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam	D
Maryland	Del. Donna Stifler	R
Massachusetts	VACANT	D
Massachusetts	Rep. Anne Gobi	R
Michigan	VACANT	D
Michigan	VACANT	R
Minnesota	Rep. Nora Slawik	D
Minnesota	VACANT	R
Mississippi	Rep. Jessica Upshaw	R
Mississippi	Sen. Alice Harden	D
Missouri	VACANT	D
Missouri	VACANT	R
Montana	Sen. Trudi Schmidt	D

State/Jurisdiction	Title/Name	Party
Montana	Rep. Janna Taylor	R
Nebraska	Sen. Kate Sullivan	X
Nebraska	Sen. Kathy Campbell	X
Nevada	Assy. Debbie Smith	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. Shirley Blackburn Randleman	R
North Dakota	Rep. Nancy Johnson	R
North Dakota	Rep. Lois Delmore	D
Ohio	Rep. Tracy Maxwell Heard	D
Ohio	VACANT	R
Oklahoma	Rep. Lee Denney	R
Oklahoma	Rep. Leslie Osborn	R
Oregon	Rep. Sherrie Sprenger	D
Oregon	Rep. Sara Gelsler	R
Pennsylvania	Rep. Babette Josephs	D
Pennsylvania	Rep. Marguerite Quinn	R
Puerto Rico	Sen. Luz Z. Arce-Ferrer	N
Puerto Rico	Rep. Jenniffer González Colón	N
Rhode Island	Sen. Elizabeth Crowley	R
Rhode Island	Sen. Rhoda Perry	D
South Carolina	Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter	D
South Carolina	Rep. Jenny Anderson Horne	R
South Dakota	VACANT	D
South Dakota	Rep. Joni Cutler	R
Tennessee	Rep. Karen Camper	D
Tennessee	Rep. Beth Halteman Harwell	R
Texas	Rep. Dawnna Dukes	D
Texas	VACANT	R
Utah	Sen. Karen Morgan	D
Utah	Rep. Merlynn Newbold	R
Vermont	Rep. Anne O'Brien	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	D
West Virginia	Del. Bonnie Brown	D
West Virginia	Sen. Donna Boley	R
Wisconsin	Rep. Donna Seidel	D
Wisconsin	VACANT	R
Wyoming	Rep. Mary Throne	D
Wyoming	Rep. Sue Wallis	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 various 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:

- Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics (www.las.iastate.edu/CattCenter/)
- Center for American Women and Politics (www.cawp.rutgers.edu)
- Center for Women Policy Studies (www.centerwomenpolicy.org)
- National Order of Black Elected Legislative Women
- 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/)

Election 2010: How Women Fared

The 2012 Project—a national, non-partisan campaign of the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) to increase the number of women in legislative office—is even more urgently needed after the 2010 elections. November's races marked the first drop in the number of women in Congress since 1979. Preliminary estimates show the number of women in state legislatures took its biggest dip since CAWP started counting in 1971. The number of women governors will hold steady at six, well below the record of nine.

The 2010 congressional and gubernatorial election results for women mirrored the national swing to Republicans. One new woman won a U.S. Senate seat, and at least seven new Republican women, one a woman of color, will join the U.S. House of Representatives. They will be joined by four Democratic newcomers, all women of color. All three new women governors are Republicans, including two who won woman vs. woman races. Two of the new governors are women of color, the first to head state governments.

"This was a winning year for Republican women, as it was for Republicans in general," noted CAWP director Debbie Walsh. Walsh observed that Republican women could have done even better if more of the record number who ran in primaries had won. "With a powerful Republican tide, more women could have been swept in, had there been more candidates."

The significant drop in the number of women in state legislatures, combined with decreases or standstills at higher levels, suggest a stall in the slow but steady progress of women in gaining elective offices. That makes The 2012 Project, CAWP's national, nonpartisan campaign more important than ever. Want to find out more about The 2012 Project? Visit the 2012 website at www.the2012project.us.



Women in Government

This fall, Women In Government (WIG) convened its Second Annual Energy Summit on September 9-11, at the Hotel Za Za in Houston, Texas. Women state legislators from across the United States met to discuss cutting-edge energy policies, including traditional and renewable energy production, best practices, transmission challenges, smart grid technology, energy efficiency, and hot topics in energy legislation from each of WIG's four regions. More than 25 legislators from Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Utah attended the summit.

Women In Government also hosted its First Annual Healthcare Summit at the Sofitel Lafayette Square in Washington, D.C., on November 17-20. This comprehensive, three-day event covered a wide range of issues, including women's health, chronic diseases, health care IT, health care reform and more. The panels included nationally known expert speakers who discussed the issues with an emphasis on what state policymakers can do to improve the lives of their constituents. More than 60 directors of Offices of Women's Health and state legislators from across the country participated, with a total attendance of 100.

On Jan. 6-8, 2011, WIG will host its 17th Annual State Directors' Conference and its Ninth Biennial First Term Legislators' Conference at the Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel, in Dana Point, Calif. This year, WIG will present a forecast of state activity on various topics such as health care, energy, leadership, state budgets and other cutting-edge state policy issues. Speakers include national experts on a variety of topics and veteran women legislators.

Continuing its success in health care policy initiatives, WIG developed policy recommendations for state legislators at its Diabetes Task Force meeting in June, and the board of directors approved them at its July 2010 meeting. Issues addressed by the task force include diabetes treatment and prevention efforts, the long-term costs of diabetes to states, emerging and experimental treatments, barriers to care, and the unique challenges faced by disparate populations. Women In Government will host a second Diabetes Task Force in spring 2011 to launch a three-year campaign on diabetes.



Women In Government serves all women who are elected to state legislatures from across the country. We hope you will be able to join us at one of our 2011 meetings! For more information, please visit our website, www.womenin-government.org.

Center for Women Policy Studies Convenes Women Elected Officials, Global Parliamentarians and Southwest State Legislators

During autumn 2010, the Center for Women Policy Studies convened two of its unique GlobalPOWER® programs in Washington, D.C. for women members of parliament and ministers from around the world. Through their GlobalPOWER® participation, these stellar women leaders build sustainable, long-term partnerships to address such global human rights crises as the women's HIV/AIDS epidemic and international trafficking of women and girls. In September, 18 visionary women parliamentarians and ministers representing 12 African nations met under the auspices of the Center for Women Policy Studies and UNAIDS for its first-ever GlobalPOWER® Africa program. The parliamentarians/ministers created a new structure for their further work together—the GlobalPOWER® Women Network in Africa. With the center and UNAIDS, the network will work to implement the *UNAIDS Agenda for Women and Girls* throughout the continent during 2011. To learn more about GlobalPOWER® Africa and the future plans of the GlobalPOWER® Women Network in Africa, please contact center president Leslie R. Wolfe at lwolfe@centerwomenpolicy.org and read our November ENEWS from the center at http://www.centerwomenpolicy.org/news/newsletter/EnewsNovember03_2010.asp.



In October, the Center convened its fourth GlobalPOWER® program to address international trafficking of women and girls and its “root causes” as a global women's human rights crisis that requires national leadership in all countries. The 2010 GlobalPOWER® participants were women members of parliament from Barbados, Canada, Georgia, Greece, Kenya, New Zealand, Switzerland, Uganda and the United Kingdom. During their week together in Washington, they produced a powerful GlobalPOWER® 2010 Statement to “...remind Heads of State, Parliamentarians and the United Nations of the primacy of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 regarding women, peace and security” and to urge them to fully implement it. The statement outlines in detail some of the steps necessary to fulfill the promise of SRC 1325. To learn more about the annual GlobalPOWER® program, contact center president Leslie R. Wolfe at lwolfe@centerwomenpolicy.org.

In November, the Center convened its first-ever *Regional Summit for State Legislators* in Denver for a small group of legislators from Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada and Utah. This *Southwest Summit for State Legislators on Reproductive Rights, Health and Justice* was hosted by Colorado state Senator Betty Boyd and co-chaired by Arizona state

Senator Linda Lopez and center president Leslie R. Wolfe. Participants had the rare opportunity to discuss the challenges they face in their legislatures in promoting reproductive rights and justice and to develop strategies to ensure reproductive health for the women and girls in their states.

WILL/WAND

We had a great time at NCSL's legislative Summit in Louisville, Ky.! Thanks to the generous hospitality of Representatives Joni Jenkins and Mary Lou Marzian, we held a dessert reception overlooking the Ohio River. It was a great chance to reconnect with long-time members and get better acquainted with new friends in a beautiful setting!



This summer and fall, much of our work has focused on the New START Treaty, engaging and educating state legislators about this compact, and asking them to raise awareness about it in their communities and with their U.S. senators. By reducing the number of nuclear weapons in U.S. and Russian stockpiles and allowing us to continue to inspect Russia's weapons, this treaty lessens the risk that nuclear materials will fall into terrorist hands. The treaty has bipartisan support from our nation's most respected national security leaders and all of our military leaders. Will members across the country have published opinion pieces and letters to the editor in support of the treaty. Others have met with their senators to express support for the treaty. Senator Nan Orrock has traveled all over the country to raise awareness about this critical national security issue. We are grateful for all the work our members have done!

We are thrilled to congratulate Will member Florida state Senator Frederica Wilson on her ascent to Congress! She will represent Florida's 17th district in the U.S. House of Representatives. She joins 18 other former Will members in the 112th Congress. In the upcoming year, we will continue our work to encourage Congress to shift its spending priorities from unnecessary military spending to unmet human and environmental needs. We will work to build new partnerships with an array of leaders who are concerned about federal spending in these troubled economic times.

We held a media and messaging training in Atlanta on December 5-6. Highly regarded trainers from Truman National Security Project and ReThink Media helped legislators hone their skills in connecting with diverse audiences, crafting op-eds and preparing for on-air interviews.

We will be recruiting new members and reconnecting with current members in January as legislators return to their capitols. Please spread the word about all Will has to offer! For more information about Will's work, contact Will president Georgia Senator Nan Orrock (404) 524-5999, willpres@wand.org or Maureen Campbell (202) 544-5055, mcampbell@wand.org.