

Dear Leaguers,

It's hard to believe it's time for the end of the year wrap- up, but December is just a few days away.

We offer rounds of applause to League spokespersons who stepped up to give testimony to the 208 Commission at 10 hearings held around the state in October. LWVCO President Marjory Beal, accompanied by LWVUS President Mary Wilson, spoke in Denver. Press coverage on the LWV was positive at the first hearing in Boulder and we heard good reports from others around the state. What a team effort and great way to spread the League's position on comprehensive, affordable, quality health care for all.

Although the 208 Commission no longer is accepting public input, Governor Ritter is holding meetings in Pueblo, Colorado Springs, Denver, Fort Collins and Sterling in the next few weeks. We're aware League members have been invited to participate in Pueblo and Fort Collins. Hearings are open to observers and you are encouraged to attend as individuals. Time is provided for public comment for 30" at the end.

Dec 5th, 7:30 -10:00 am Colorado History Museum , Boettcher Auditorium, Denver

Dec 5th, 4:00 -6:30 pm Aurora Community College Rotunda, Aurora

Dec 6th, 7:30 -10:00 am, The MAC, 3295 West 72nd Avenue, Community Rm, Westminster

Dec 12th , 4:00 - 6:30 pm CSU Lory Student Center, Fort Collins

Looking ahead to 2008

Mark your calendar for the LWVCO Legislative Conference, Monday, January 7. Bill Lindsey, Chair of the 208 Commission will speak about the work of the Commission. Bring your fellow Leaguers and questions!

Local and national program planning for the coming year will soon take place. Promote health care as a recommended item for both the national agenda and your local unit.

Keep up the education of members and advocacy in the community.

- * Hold a member update using materials contained in the President's packet distributed at League Day.
- * Send a letter to the editor of your newspaper from your League's Board in support of comprehensive, affordable, quality health care for everyone. Including statements drawn from the recent testimony to the 208 Commission would be an easy way to let your community know our position.
- * Sponsor a community forum. Pueblo has scheduled two public screenings of SiCKO followed by discussion in December. JeffCo plans a panel discussion in February to advocate for comprehensive reform.
- * Speak with your Legislators before and during the session to let them know your ideas and concern for true health care reform. Talking points sent in an earlier email can be used. If you'd like further background material please contact us.
- * Encourage your members to attend their party caucus on February 5 and speak up for health care reform.
- * Educate yourself on the various health care reform proposals of the Presidential candidates. Share your ideas and concerns with friends and neighbors.

Lastly, keep in touch! We now have health care network members from 21 of our local leagues and MALs across the state. If you have a question or idea, share it with us. Together we can

support one another to build a grassroots movement for reform in Colorado. The time is upon us.

Best wishes for the holiday season. See you in January!

Linda Mahan

Barb Irelan

Irene Fortune

LWV of Larimer County

"Great things are done by a series of small things brought together." Vincent van Gogh