

## **Results of National Program Planning/2010 Advocacy Meeting**

January 7, 2010

26 members, 2 guests

National program planning: (each person had 3 votes)

1. Update of energy position to include examination of all non-greenhouse-gas-producing energy sources and their economic cost-benefit and realistic development timeframe – 17 votes
2. Study of current and possible alternative methods of meeting the future financial/budgetary commitments to health care, social security/disability payments in view of projected demographics – 14 votes
3. Cabinet level department of peace – 11 votes
4. Federal role in education – 7 votes
5. Election of Senators in case of vacancy – 4 votes
6. No recommendation – 0 votes

### 2010 Advocacy

(each person had one vote)

1. Fair Elections Now Act – 11 votes
2. Immigration – 4 votes
3. Decision-making in the Senate – 1 vote

Consensus following vote: immigration advocacy will happen anyway so we eliminated it; Decision-making in the Senate is a closer second to Fair Elections Now Act than the vote reflects. Both items should be suggested with emphasis on Fair Elections Now Act.

Other areas suggested for advocacy:

Removing the cap on salary level subject to F.I.C.A tax

Inclusion of a public option in health insurance if it is cut from the current bill

Redrawing Congressional district lines to guarantee success of incumbent or incumbent party, i.e. 'safe' district

After the general meeting and in fact after the deadline for submission of recommendations, the board voted to support the request of the LWV of Steuben County, NY to support raising the national LWV's priority on the FRAC Act. The companion bills HR 2766 and S 1215, both introduced last June, would repeal the exemption of hydraulic fracturing from the Safe Drinking Water Act and require disclosure of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing (aka hydrofracking or fracking). Judy Duffy said she would include our support in her verbal presentation to the board.

Marilyn T. Brown