

Consensus Study on Legislative Procedures

By Estelle Gellman

The Government Committee has been working on a consensus study regarding whether or not to update the LWVNYS position on Legislative Procedures. The results of the study will be presented on November 14th at 7 PM at the Hampton Library in Bridgehampton, at which time there will also be a discussion to determine whether there is consensus on the questions posed by the NYSLWV.

The focus of the meeting will be on the following:

- Outside Income/Legislative Salaries: the issues to be considered are whether outside income should be banned or limited in some way and whether a legislator's salary should be weighted by cost of living differences in different parts of the state.
- Term Length for State Assembly and Senate:

- Whether or not terms for State Senate and Assembly should be staggered:
- Whether or not there should be limits on how long a state legislator can serve in a leadership position, e.g., a committee chair, majority or minority leader, et. al.:
- Whether or not stipends should continue for committee chairs and those in leadership positions.

It should be noted that while the community is invited to the information part of the meeting, only members of the LWVH may participate in the consensus. The consensus questions may be viewed at: <http://www.lwvny.org/programs-studies/legislative/Legislative-Procedures-Questions.pdf>

All LWVH members are invited to join the Government Committee; if you are interested, contact Estelle Gellman at cpresg@hofstra.edu.



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By Susan Wilson

AT HOME:

Bring home superhero plants. Easy-care greens such as English ivy, mums, and peace lilies naturally help remove indoor air pollutants like formaldehyde and benzene.

Using a microfiber cloth instead of a paper towel will take the place of 60 rolls of paper towels before it needs replacing.

Buy refillable containers - Spray bottles, for example, can be refilled from larger jugs or concentrate. Over time, you'll buy — and dispose of — fewer containers.

Choose concentrated or "ultra" cleaning products, which use 50 to 60 percent less packaging than traditional formulas while cleaning just as thoroughly. Or make your own All Purpose Cleaner with 3 simple ingredients:

3 cups hot water

1 tablespoon baking soda

2 teaspoons Dr. Bronner's Liquid Castile soap

Mix together and fill a spray bottle. Works great on grease, stains and sticky fingerprints.

Don't use more product than the directions indicate. Pouring in extra laundry detergent or fabric softener won't get your clothes any cleaner or cuddlier. Instead, follow product instructions on the label.

Buy local & eat seasonal.

When cooking select a pan size to match the burner element. A six-inch pan on an eight-inch electric burner, for instance, will waste more than 40 percent of the heat produced and food will take longer to cook.

Run a full dishwasher whenever possible — it uses half or less of the water and energy of washing the same dishes by hand. And don't waste water by rinsing before loading (today's machines are designed to power off the mess).