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## Maine Women's Lobby Legislative Alert (1988 - March)

Maine Women's Lobby Staff

*Maine Women's Lobby*

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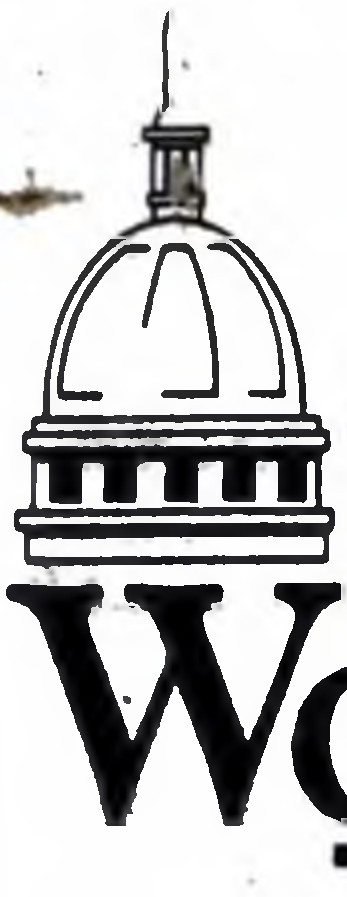
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# Maine Women's Lobby

P.O. Box 15, Hallowell Maine 04347

MARCH 1988

## LEGISLATIVE ALERT

### FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE BILL WINS LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL, AWAITS GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE

The Month of March has brought two major victories: the successful challenge of the parental consent referendum petitions (see "Message from the Chair"), and legislative approval of AN ACT To Ensure Family and Medical Leave in the State of Maine -- the cornerstone of this year's WLAC legislative package!!

As of press time, L.D. 2534 (New Draft of L.D. 1984) had just won overwhelming approval in the House on a 90-38 vote, and was pending approval in the Senate. Issued from the Committee on Labor with a 12-1 recommendation for passage (with all three Senators approving), we are cautiously optimistic the Senate will follow suit.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL MWL MEMBERS WRITE GOVERNOR MCKERNAN TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THIS BILL! Please urge your friends, families, and co-workers to do likewise. As we continue to spread the word, the business lobby will continue to vigorously oppose this bill: where they failed in the Legislature, they will persist in urging a gubernatorial veto. We must let the Governor know Maine families support this minimum job protection act!!

Please write today:

The Honorable John R. McKernan, Jr.  
Office of the Governor  
State House Station #1  
Augusta, ME 04333  
289-3531

Here's a summary of the New Draft:

L.D. 2534: AN ACT To Ensure Family and Medical Leave in the State of Maine (Sponsor: Rep. Marge Clark of Brunswick; Co-Sponsors: Sen. Nancy Randall Clark of Cumberland, Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake, Rep. Steve Zirnkilton of Mt. Desert). WLAC Sponsoring organization and contact: Maine Commission for Women, Betsy Sweet, Director.

\*Family Leave Requirements: entitles eligible employees up to 8 weeks of unpaid leave for the birth or adoption of a child, or the serious illness of self, child, spouse, or parent (physician

-More-

Family and Medical Leave, Cont'd:

certification required). "Serious illness" is specifically defined as in "imminent danger of death", conditions requiring "hospitalization involving an organ transplant, limb amputation, or such other procedure of similar severity as determined by regulation". The leave may be more or less than 8 weeks if mutually negotiated by the employee and employer;

\*Applicability: Will apply to any public or private employer with 25 or more employees in Maine. This would cover 12% of Maine employers and 74% of Maine workers;

\*Eligibility: A worker must have been employed by the same employer for 12 consecutive months, and must give 30 days notice (unless prevented by medical emergency) in order to qualify;

\*Job Protection and Benefit Status: Will entitle an employee to be restored to the same job or a position equivalent in status, seniority, benefits, and salary. This restoration provision will not apply if the employer can prove that the worker was not restored due to conditions "unrelated to the employee's exercise of rights" under the Family Leave Act. It is not required that benefits be paid for by the employer while the worker is on leave, but the law will require the employer to allow the worker to pay for continuance of benefits at the employer's group rate.

\*\*\*\*\*

Joanne D'Arcangelo, MWL Lobbyist  
can be reached at the following  
phone numbers:

Legislators

Mail: State House  
Augusta, ME 04333

State House: 623-1220

MWL Office: 622-5798

Phone: 1-800-423-2900 (House)  
1-800-423-6900 (Senate)

\*\*\*\*\*

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

Some changes in committee assignments have occurred since last year, so note membership rosters closely:

APPROPRIATIONS -- 289-1635  
State House, Room 228

HUMAN RESOURCES -- 289-1317  
State House, Room 436

**Senators:** Michael D. Pearson (D-Penobscot), Chair  
Georgette B. Berube (D-Androscoggin)  
Jerome Emerson (R-Penobscot)

**Representatives:** Donald V. Carter (D-Winslow), Chair  
Lorraine N. Chonko (D-Topsham)  
John Lisnik (D-Presque Isle)  
Gregory G. Nadeau (D-Lewiston)  
Patrick K. McGowan (D-Canaan)  
Vinton T. Ridley (D-Shapleigh)  
Linwood M. Higgins (R-Scarborough)  
Ruth S. Foster (R-Ellsworth)  
Leland C. Davis, Jr. (R-Monmouth)  
Judith C. Foss (R-Yarmouth)

**Senators:** N. Paul Gauvreau (D-Androscoggin), Chair  
John M. Kerry (D-York)  
Barbara A. Gill (R-Cumberland)

**Representatives:** Peter J. Manning (D-Portland), Chair  
Neil Rolde (D-York)  
P. Kelley Simpson (D-Casco)  
Bradford E. Boutilier (D-Lewiston)  
Margaret Pruitt Clark (D-Brunswick)  
Jo Anne D. Lapointe (D-Auburn)  
Susan J. Pines (R-Limestone)  
Priscilla G. Taylor (R-Camden)  
Jean T. Dellert (R-Gardiner)  
Wesley Farnum (R-South Berwick)



LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES (Cont'd)

JUDICIARY -- 289-1327  
State House, Room 438

LABOR -- 289-1333  
State House, Room 134

**Senators:** Joseph C. Brannigan (D-Cumberland), Chair  
N. Paul Gauvreau (D-Androscoggin)  
Henry W. Black (R-Cumberland)

**Representatives:** Patrick E. Paradis (D-Augusta), Chair  
Daniel E. Warren (D-Scarborough)  
Harry L. Vose (D-Eastport)  
Constance D. Cote (D-Auburn)  
Gerard P. Conley, Jr. (D-Portland)  
Dale F. Thistle (D-Dover-Foxcroft)  
Mary H. MacBride (R-Presque Isle)  
Jeanne F. Begley (R-Waldoboro)  
Dana C. Hanley (R-Paris)  
Francis C. Marsano (R-Belfast)

**Senators:** Dennis L. Dutremble (D-York), Chair  
Thomas H. Andrews (D-Cumberland)  
Donald F. Collins (R-Aroostook)

**Representatives:** Edward A. McHenry (D-Madawaska),  
Chair  
Tony J. Tammaro (D-Baileyville)  
Ruth Joseph (D-Waterville)  
Mona Walker Hale (D-Sanford)  
Richard P. Ruhlin (D-Brewer)  
Anne M. Rand (D-Portland)  
Ralph M. Willey (R-Hampden)  
Jeanne F. Begley (R-Waldoboro)  
Michael F. Hepburn (R-Skowhegan)

\*\*\*\*\*

STATUS OF BILLS

Please call MWL Lobbyist, Joanne D'Arcangelo (623-1220 or 622-5798) for updates or additional information. [\*\*\* -- WLAC-sponsored legislation]

\*\*\*AN ACT To Provide for Child Care and Child Development Training for Student Parents.

L.D. 2150

**Sponsors:** Rep. Marge Clark of Brunswick, Sen. Gill of Cumberland, Sen. Estes of York, Rep. Norton of Winthrop

**Status:** Unanimous "Ought to Pass" recommendation from Education Committee, approved by full Legislature. Amended to ensure that school-based child care services will also be available to adult students seeking GED or other diploma program.

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\*\*\*AN ACT To Establish Child Care Availability for Individuals in the Substance Abuse Treatment System.

L.D. 2205

**Sponsors:** Rep. Marge Clark of Brunswick, Rep. John Lisnik of Presque Isle, Rep. Ruth Foster of Ellsworth, Sen. Nancy Randall Clark of Cumberland

**Status:** Proposes to establish on-site or contracted child care services for individuals entering in-patient substance abuse programs. Pending consideration before Appropriations Committee for approval of \$300,000 funding request.

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\*\*\*AN ACT To Correct Inequities in the Maine State Retirement System Statutes

L.D. 2548 (New Draft of L.D. 1947)

**Sponsors:** Sen. Nancy Randall Clark of Cumberland, Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake, Rep. Dan Hickey of Augusta

**Status:** Repeals discriminatory provision in State Retirement statute by permitting a state employee to designate any person of his/her choice as a beneficiary eligible for full survivor benefits. Unanimous "Ought to Pass" recommendation from Aging, Retirement, & Veterans Committee accepted by full Legislature. Placed on Appropriations Table for approval of \$61,000 funding request.

**AN ACT To Increase the Minimum Wage .**

L.D. 1948

**Sponsors:** Rep. John Diamond of Bangor, Senate President Pray of Penobscot, Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake, Sen. Dennis Dutremble of York

**Status:** As of press time, amendment under consideration by Labor Committee would propose \$.10 increase on January 1, 1989, and, absent a federally-mandated minimum wage increase now under consideration by Congress, another \$.10 increase on January 1, 1990.

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**\*\*\*RESOLUTION, to Make the Language of the Constitution Gender Neutral**

L.D. 1949

**Sponsors:** Rep. John Diamond of Bangor, Sen. Nancy Randall Clark of Cumberland, Sen. Thos. Perkins of Hancock, Rep. Ruth Foster of Ellsworth

**Status:** Proposing to eliminate gender-biased language from the Constitution of Maine, this measure has received a 7-6 "Ought to Pass" recommendation from the State Government Committee. Due to be presented to full Legislature for debate during week of March 22.

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**AN ACT To Increase Work Incentive in the Unemployment Insurance Partial Benefit Structure.**

L.D. 2517 (New Draft of L.D. 2105)

**Sponsors:** Rep. Charlene Rydell of Brunswick, Sen. Collins of Aroostook, Rep. Joseph of Waterville, Rep. Anne Rand of Portland.

**Status:** Allowing part-time wage earners receiving unemployment insurance to retain a greater percentage of their benefits as they continue to seek full-time employment, the new draft increases the dollar amount disregard from \$10 to \$25, and further requires a report from the Dept. of Labor that will track some of the trends for people receiving partial benefits. Likely to receive majority support from the Committee on Labor.

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**AN ACT to Enhance Provisions of Head Start Services in Maine**

L.D. 2213

**Sponsors:** Rep. Marge Killkelly of Wiscasset, Rep. Chonko of Topsham, Rep. Marsano of Belfast, Sen. Perkins of Hancock

**Status:** Proposing to fund a (long overdue) 5% increase for Head Start staff salaries and reinstate 30 slots eliminated by federal cutbacks, this bill is under consideration by Appropriations Committee for a \$350,000 funding request.

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**\*\*\*AN ACT To Improve the Standard of Living for Maine's Low-Income Families and Children (Emergency)**

L.D. 2212

**Sponsors:** Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake, Sen. Gauvreau of Androscoggin, Rep. Oliver of Portland, Rep. Lisnik of Presque Isle

**Status:** Proposing a \$7 million appropriation to provide a 10% increase in both the standard of need and the payment standard for AFDC families, the bill is under consideration by the Appropriations Committee.



**\*\*\*AN ACT To Make Health Care More Accessible to Low-Income Elderly and Disabled Individuals, Pregnant Women, and Children (Emergency)**

L.D. 2242

**Sponsors:** Speaker Martin of Eagle Lake, Sen. Pearson of Penobscot, Sen. Gill of Cumberland, Rep. Foss of Falmouth

**Status:** Proposing to establish a Federally-approved option that would increase Medicaid eligibility to elderly and disabled individuals, pregnant women, and young children whose family incomes are below 100% of the poverty level, the bill is under consideration by the Appropriations Committee for approval of \$4 Million state funding request.

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**\*\*\*AN ACT To Require Mandatory Medicare Assignment for Physician Services in Maine**

L.D. 2324

**Sponsors:** Sen. Beverly Bustin of Kennebec, Senate President Pray of Penobscot, Rep. Ken Matthews of Caribou, Rep. Dan Hickey of Augusta.

**Status:** Proposing to ensure that all physicians accept Medicare assignment, the bill was held for Public Hearing before Business Legislation Committee on 3/14. Pending Committee consideration.

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**AN ACT to Clarify the State's Antidiscrimination Laws to Include Families with Children in Mobile Home Parks**

L.D. 2152 (Emergency)

**Sponsors:** Rep. Charles Preist of Brunswick, Rep. Pat Stevens of Bangor, Rep. Marge Clark of Brunswick, Sen. Paul Gauvreau of Androscoggin

**Status:** Extending current antidiscrimination laws against tenants with children to include mobile home parks, the bill is under consideration by Committee on Legal Affairs.

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**Bills pending from First Regular Session (Held Over):**

**\*\*\*AN ACT To Revise the General Assistance Laws**

L.D. 1705

**Sponsor:** Reported by Rep. Manning from the Committee on Human Resources

**Hearing Date:** Not scheduled as of Press Time

Representing the majority report of Joint Select Commission on the Administration and Financing of General Assistance Laws, the bill proposes to: Index AFDC benefits to the cost-of-living; provide a one-time housing allowance for AFDC families; provide Medicaid continuance an additional 6 months for recipients returning to work; increase Medicaid benefits for first-time pregnant women; and Enhance state reimbursements to towns for General Assistance costs. L.D. 1706, which represents the minority report of the Commission Study, excludes all provisions relating to reform of the AFDC laws.



\*\*\*AN ACT to Expand the Medicaid Dental Program to Include Adults.

L.D. 2492 (New Draft of L.D. 467)

Status: Proposes an expansion of Medicaid dental benefits to eligible adults for emergency services, including acute oral surgical care for injury and other services necessary to relieve pain. "Ought to Pass" recommendation issued by Human Resources Committee accepted by full Legislature; placed on Appropriations Table for consideration of \$431,678 funding request.



ATTENTION ALL LOBBY MEMBERS!

Save SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH for our 10th Anniversary Celebration!! You'll be receiving ticket information in the mail soon, but we urge you to help make this event a great success by selling tickets to friends, family, co-workers! For more information, contact:

Portland/Southern Maine:

\*Deb Deatrack: 772-1325  
\*Eleanor Goldberg: 773-0321  
\*Merrie Allen: 892-6056  
\*Marilyn Kirby: 797-3264  
\*Phyllis O'Neill: 775-3810

Bath/Brunswick:

\*Kathy Lyon: 725-7690  
\*Barbara Reinertson: 724-1089

Mid-Coast:

\*Darrilyn Peters: 354-8151  
\*Lisa Miller: 549-7420  
\*Jane Fisher: 737-4968  
\*Bambi Jones: 586-5837  
\*Ellen Golden: 442-8128

Augusta/Central Maine:

\*Annee Tara: 623-1778  
\*Betsy Sweet: 289-3417  
582-2759  
\*Karen Heck: 873-4531  
\*Tory Leuteman: 582-6269  
\*Sara Shedd: 623-3163  
\*Joanne D'Arcangelo: 622-5798  
623-1220

Tri-County Area:

\*Carol Wyckoff: 778-3271

HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS TO VICKI FOLEY OF WESTBROOK!!

Best Wishes to VICKI FOLEY and Family as this year's Maine Women's Lobby Raffle Winner! The lucky winner received her raffle ticket as a Christmas gift from her Mom -- none other than long-time MWL Activist DEB LEIGHTON!!

Vicki and her family will enjoy three days at a luxurious Sugarloaf Mountain condominium sometime between now and April '89, thanks to the generous hospitality of Joan and Dick Marshall, who contributed this year's prize.



GOVERNOR'S WELFARE REFORM PROPOSAL -- "ASPIRE"

AN ACT To Establish the Additional Support for People in Retraining and Education Program.

L.D. 2390

Sponsors: Rep. Foss of Yarmouth, Rep. Glidden of Houlton, Rep. Nadeau of Lewiston, Sen. Dutremble of York.

Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 23, 1:00 p.m.

Committee on Human Resources, Room 107, SOB

The Governor's welfare reform proposal, "ASPIRE", aims "to provide greater opportunity for Maine's citizens who receive public assistance to achieve adequate income through appropriate employment opportunities". The \$13.4 Million program (\$7.7 federal share/\$5.7 state share) would establish a partnership between the Departments of Human Services and Labor to provide support services, assessment, pre-training, and educational and employment referral services for AFDC recipients to attain self-sufficiency.

While the MWL and other groups support and endorse the overall objective of the program, there are concerns regarding implementation, administration, and funding, as outlined below. There are questions as to whether some proposed reforms would maximize the state's ability to provide opportunities for long-term, meaningful employment for Maine's AFDC recipients.

There are a number of individuals and organizations, most notably, Chris Hastedt and Kit St. John of Pine Tree Legal and Besty Sweet of the Maine Commission for Women, who are working closely with DHS Commissioner Ives and DOL Commissioner Fitzsimmons to ensure these concerns are specifically addressed in L.D. 2390. These advocates' expertise will be invaluable to ensure these reforms truly improve upon services currently provided under Maine's nationally-renowned WEET program.

The following summarizes the major aspects, and concerns, of the program:

1. AFDC Benefit Increase. The most significant concern is the absence of a meaningful benefit increase for AFDC recipients, despite nearly a \$4 million surplus in the AFDC account (DHS proposes to "deappropriate" this surplus to instead fund provisions of ASPIRE). Though the Dept. does propose to increase the AFDC standard of need, thereby allowing working clients to retain a greater percentage of their earnings, it has agreed to provide only a minimal benefit increase of 2.5% (far below last years inflation rate of 4.2%). That fewer than 25% of AFDC recipients will be able to participate in ASPIRE over the next 2 years leaves great concern for those clients who must continue to rely on AFDC. (See alternatives proposed by L.D.s 2212 and 1705)
2. New Partnership between Dept. of Human Services and Dept. of Labor. The program proposes a division of responsibility -- and resources -- to create a partnership between the existing WEET and JTPA programs to both provide assessment, educational referral, and employment opportunity services. Advocates are



"ASPIRE" (Cont'd)

working to ensure that DHS, under the auspices of WEET, will maintain primary responsibility for case management, assessment and educational/employment referral services for participating AFDC clients, as it has successfully done since 1982. WEET would therefore continue to refer to JTPA (or other education/ training programs, such as those provided through Displaced Homemakers, Maine's VTIs, the University system, etc.), as appropriate. This will prevent unnecessary duplication of services, and would further maximize the existing strengths of both WEET and JTPA.

3. Waiver-Seeking Authority of Dept. of Human Services. Though not explicitly stated in L.D. 2390, DHS is proposing to seek at least 3 waivers from the federal government as part of its reform efforts. If granted, these specific waivers, strongly opposed by advocates, would: 1.) require all parents of children over 3 years of age to register for the ASPIRE program (current regulation exempts parents of children under 6 years of age from the requirement to file under the existing WEET program); and, 2.) require all teen parents to participate in the Family Services Program. Individuals who could not comply with either mandate would become ineligible for assistance, and thereby lose some -- or all -- of their benefits. The third waiver would allow DHS to establish a two-tier benefit system: a lower benefit scale for those clients able and expected to work, and a higher one for those who are deemed unable to participate in ASPIRE. All three proposals raise extreme concerns as they radically depart from current laws and regulations governing eligibility and equitable administration of benefits. Advocates are strongly opposed to both the effects and the method of seeking such waivers, and will propose a number of alternatives and safeguards, including Legislative oversight of all DHS waiver proposals.
4. Transitional Medical Assistance. As proposed under L.D. 2390, participants who lose medicaid benefits as a result of finding work under the ASPIRE program would be granted 12 months of continued medical coverage. The system proposed, however, would require clients to pay a portion of the premium costs and all required co-payments or deductibles, which could dramatically erode their living wages. Advocates have proposed instead state-funded medicaid-like coverage for a period of 18 months, as well as all efforts to take full advantage of federal medicaid options that would maximize federal subsidies (e.g., as provided in L.D. 2242).
5. Transitional Support Services and Assistance. Though not expressly provided for in L.D. 2390, DHS proposes to ensure adequate support services such as child care and transportation services up to 12 months for clients who lose AFDC eligibility as a result of working. Clearly critical to a clients success in the program, these support services, as proposed by advocates, would be explicitly defined in and funded for in the bill.

Please contact your legislator in support of these proposed amendments that will help make ASPIRE a fair, practical, and effective program! The Committee on Human Resources will be making recommendations on L.D. 2390 as it governs welfare reform/ASPIRE policy; the Committee on Appropriations will issue a recommendation on funding of the program, as proposed in the DHS supplemental budget. Contact those Committee members today!



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR  
by Karen Heck

PARENTAL CONSENT REFERENDUM NIXED!

The Maine Women's Lobby has yet another major victory to celebrate: the successful challenge of the parental consent referendum petitions, which has effectively struck from the November ballot a proposal that would have required the approval of a parent or a judge for minors under 17 seeking abortions. THERE WILL BE NO PARENTAL CONSENT REFERENDUM FIGHT THIS YEAR!

Proving once again that what we do makes a difference, 93 workers, including many MWL volunteers, spent 1,121 hours working to disqualify signatures on the referendum petitions, with sweeping success.

A heartfelt round of applause and kudos to Maine NOW, the MCLU, MWL Board Secretary Merrie Allen, Chris Rusnov, Lucie Bauer, and many, many others who contributed their untiring efforts, hard work, long hours, and sleepless nights to pull this victory off! Thanks, too, to the groups who, in addition to the MWL, formed the Steering Committee of the Campaign Against Government Intrusion: the Family Planning Association, the Maine Commission for Women, the Maine Civil Liberties Union, the Maine Public Health Association, and the League of Women Voters.

A little history is probably in order: During February, the Campaign searched for funding from a variety of organizations to defeat the referendum at the polls. MWL's Merrie Allen and Maine NOW Coordinator Beth Edmunds travelled to D.C. to seek support from National NOW. Before committing major funding, National NOW reps indicated they would fund an effort to review petitions for duplicate signatures, given the number filed was only a fraction more than the 42,686 needed.

With less than one week to complete the daunting task, Merrie, Lucie, and Chris were able to engineer the victory, thanks to Maine NOW's incredible grassroots organizing efforts. Phone calls went out, supplies were purchased, a system was developed, and the tedious task of transcribing names onto 3x5 index cards began!

Three days and nights were spent copying names certified by the Secretary of State as acceptable. After the copying effort got underway, the alphabetizing brigade was formed. Not exactly what you'd call glamorous work, but the atmosphere throughout the week was inspiring! The sense that what was being done was going to make a difference was enough to unglaze eyes and uncramp fingers. Throughout the week, the feeling that this really was going to work grew -- AND IT DID!

At 8:30 a.m. on Friday, February 25th, the Secretary of State announced to the Legislature that the petitions were 28 signatures short of the minimum needed to send the proposal to the Legislature. That morning, anti-choice referendum proponents submitted 32 signatures which they contended should not have been disqualified by the Secretary of State, and the Campaign then submitted an additional 194 duplicates. But by then, it was all over.

The referendum proponents have since missed the deadline for filing a court challenge to the Secretary's of State ruling. During the appeals period, workers nonetheless continued the effort, finding an additional 350 duplicates for a grand total of

Again, many Thank You's to all those who participated and provided yet another example of what we can do when we try!!



\*\*\*\*\*

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

. . . FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT: Fundraiser tickets, raffle sales, contributions, new memberships, renewals, and your phone calls and letters!

LITTLE KNOWN FACT: If our memberships doubled, we wouldn't have to rely on constant fundraisers! ASK A FRIEND TO JOIN THE MAINE WOMEN'S LOBBY -- Today!

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Town of Legal Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to help with: Fundraising? Membership? Phoning legislators?  
(Circle one - or more!)

My Contribution to the Lobby is:

\_\_\_\_\_ Life (\$500) \_\_\_\_\_ Sustaning (\$250) \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsoring (\$100)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Supporting (\$50) \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_ Individual (\$15)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other [Please make checks payable to: MWL, P.O. Box 15, Hallowell 04347]

The Maine Women's Lobby is committed to representing women of all economic means.  
We welcome any contribution you are able to make.



P.O. Box 15, Hallowell Maine 04347

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Augusta, ME

**\*ATTENTION ALL INTERESTED MEMBERS\***

Nominations for ten 1988-1989 Board positions are now being sought.

The Board is responsible for the development and implementation of policy and for fundraising. Serving on the Board is an exciting experience which involves equal parts of fun and work. The benefits include the opportunity to have a direct impact on issues affecting not only you, but all Maine women and their families, in addition to being part of a wonderful network of people committed to social change.

The Board is a working Board. Members are needed to work actively on committees and fundraising efforts. The Board meets monthly on the first Wednesday from 6p.m. to 8:30p.m. in Augusta. Committees meet as needed during the year. The committee schedules vary with the work load and they may meet more often during one part of the year than another.

At times, Board members are asked to personally support fundraising activities. This doesn't mean it has to be your money. Your contribution could come from a special fundraising effort on your part.

You can nominate yourself by sending a brief biography and statement of why you are interested in serving on the MWL Board. For further information you can call Joanne D'Arcangelo at 622-5798 or Tory Leuteman, MWL Vice Chair at 1-800-524-7262 ext. 141. Nominations close at the Annual Meeting which will be held on Sat. May 21st. The meeting will provide an opportunity for all interested MWL members to discuss the philosophy and direction of the Lobby. Details to follow in April.



P.O. Box 15, Hallowell Maine 04347

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