



SPACTION

A NEWSLETTER OF THE STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUES OF CALIFORNIA
SPRING 2004

JUNIOR LEAGUES OF CALIFORNIA PRESENT 2004 LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The 2004 State Public Affairs Committee Legislator of the Year Awards were presented to Senator Dede Alpert (D-San Diego) and Assemblymember Darryl Steinberg (D-Sacramento) at the Junior Leagues of California annual legislative luncheon held on May 3, 2004 at the Sutter Club in downtown Sacramento.



Senator Alpert is the author of SB215, which would create the California Youth Policy Council (CYPC) to coordinate state policy regarding youth development. The council would operate under the California Health and Human

Services Agency. SPAC is sponsoring this legislation.

Assemblymember Steinberg is the author of AB 2661, another piece of SPAC-sponsored legislation. This bill establishes a centralized database for foster family agencies to use when certifying foster families. Under the current system, there is no efficient way to check if a foster parent has been decertified. This bill would keep decertified foster families from being certified by another foster family agency.



NEW SPAC PRESIDENT TAKES OFFICE



Delegates warmly welcomed, newly elected SPAC President, Maureen Dowd, at the Spring Conference in Sacramento. Dowd looks for 2004-2005 to bring continued success to SPAC. Dowd said, "I am honored to be representing SPAC as chair this next year. My two years as SPAC delegate for the Junior League of Los Angeles were the highlights of my League experience."

Dowd is a former politics major and lobbyist, and feels this is an opportunity to tie in her volunteer activities with her personal and professional interests. Dowd said, "These are exciting times in California, and I hope that SPAC continues to drive legislation of interest to our leagues that will significantly impact the state".

A FOND FAREWELL

The Spring Conference also brought a touching farewell to Sarah Rosendahl, 2003-2004 SPAC President.



During Rosendahl's year as President, she presided over conferences, and assumed the duties of the position with admirable grace. She never hesitated to inspire, and was always ready to lend a hand to any SPAC delegate who needed her assistance. Rosendahl's compassion and heart for SPAC will certainly be missed by all.

Good Luck Sarah!

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2004 SPRING SUPPORT BILLS

EDUCATION

SB 1316 (Alpert) Foster Care Education
AB 2295 (Hancock) Student Career Exploration
AB 2327 (Chan) Nutrition and Physical

FAMILY SUPPORT

SB 1681 (McPherson) Alcohol and Drug Programs

HEALTH

AB 2504 (Maldonado) Pupil Nutrition
AB 2686 (Jackson) School Lunch Standards

VIOLENCE PREVENTION

SB 914 (Bowen) Domestic Violence Prevention Grant Programs
AB 2873 (Garcia) Child Abuse Review Panels

SPRING CONFERENCE AT THE STATE CAPITOL

Congratulations and many thanks to Sacramento Delegates, Margot Shinnamon Bach, Lisa Harris and Traci Trask. Thanks to their hard work and the work of many members of the Junior League of Sacramento, the Spring Conference a complete success!



TAKING SPAC HOME: NEW TOOLS

Now SPAC Delegates have two new tools to help them in their quest to take SPAC to their home Leagues. Presented at the recent Spring Conference were the PowerPoint presentation "Project Driven Advocacy" and video entitled "How a Bill Becomes a Law".

Special thanks to SPAC Delegate Dianne Gayoski (outgoing senior from Santa Barbara) and Judy Barrett Miller of Sacramento Advocacy for spearheading this effort and Matthew Miller for his excellent editing capabilities. This makes it even easier for SPAC to have an impact at the local level.

OCTOBER CONFERENCE IN MONTEREY

Save the dates for the SPAC Fall Conference on Friday, October 1 through Sunday, October 3, 2004 in Monterey. Laura Schimmel, Susie Brusa and the Junior League of Monterey County are our hosts for this conference and are already hard-at-work planning an exciting conference.



Delegates will be staying and meeting at the Lighthouse Lodge and Suites in Pacific Grove. Be sure to



contact the hotel by September 1st at (800) 858-1249 to reserve a room. Mention "Junior League SPAC" to take advantage of the special group rate of \$119 a night plus tax. Please contact Laura Schimmel at (831) 659-2223 with questions.

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