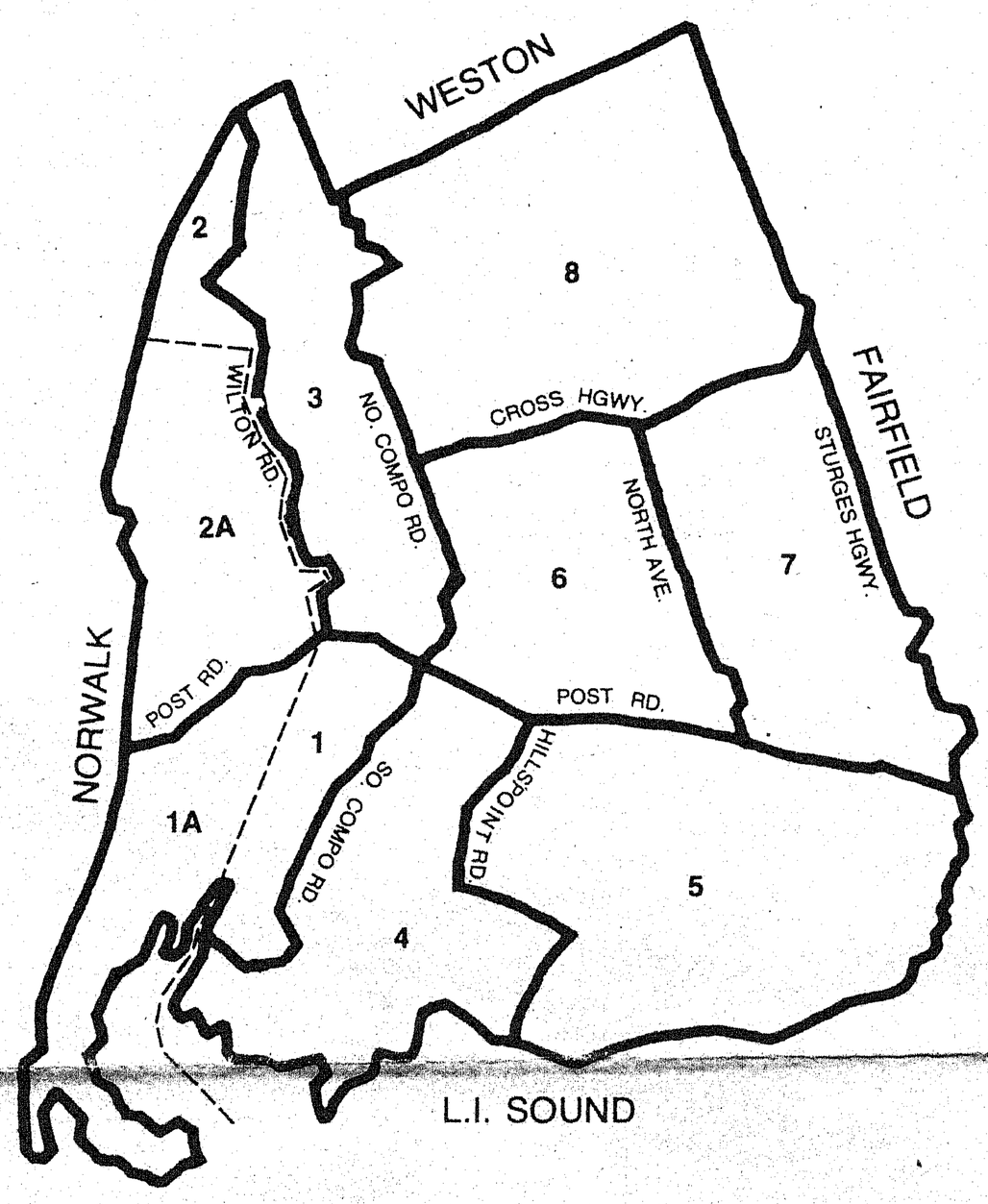
1984 WESTPORT Voter's Guide

Prepared as a NON PARTISAN PUBLIC SERVICE by the

WESTPORT LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS



Polling Places

	Assembly Districts 136th	139th
* Bedford Middle School RIVERSIDE AVENUE		1A, 2A
Greens Farms School MORNINGSIDE DR. SOUTH	1, 4, 5	
* Coleytown Elementary EASTON ROAD	2, 3, 8	
* Long Lots School HYDE LANE	6, 7	

*** Handicapped accessible machines available**

Vote!

Polls Open

6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

NOVEMBER 6, 1984

Your time in the voting booth is limited to two minutes. Before you get in line at your polling place, be sure you know:

(a) How to use a voting machine

(b) How you wish to vote on all candidates and questions

The information printed in this guide by the League of Women Voters is to help you make an informed vote.

On your ballot will be. . .

Candidates For President and Vice-President:

MONDALE and FERRARO
(Democratic Party)

REAGAN and BUSH
(Republican Party)

HALL and DAVIS
(Communist Party)

SERRETTE and ROSS
(Connecticut Alliance)

Westport Voters Will Also Be Voting For:

(1) Candidate for the U.S House of Representatives

(1) Candidate for State Senate

(1) Candidate for the State House of Representatives

(3) Amendments to the State Constitution

Registrar of Voters

LWV

The views expressed on these pages are the candidates' and have not been edited.

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UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

LWV Questions: (1) What should be the U.S. policy in Central America? What are U.S. interests? What are the sources of conflict? What are the solutions?

(2) What measures do you support regarding control of acid rain?

Dr. John Orman (D)

Dr. John Orman is Chairman of the Politics Department at Fairfield University. He is an educator, author and concerned citizen. He has written numerous articles on American politics and he is the author of two books: *Presidential Secrecy and Deception* (1980) and *The Politics of Rock Music* (1984).

1. U.S. Central American policy must emphasize a negotiated regional settlement, a policy embodied in the Contadora plan. To assist this peaceful effort, the U.S. must promote stability, not war. The U.S. should halt the illegal covert war against Nicaragua, and remove her bases from Honduras. Because of human rights violations under the Duarte regime, the U.S. should cut off military aid to El Salvador. The negotiated regional settlement promises the only sound solution to the sources of conflict—poverty and social injustice. The U.S. must support peaceful discussions; the current policy of arms shipments and Cold War rhetoric is counterproductive.

2. Acid rain requires immediate attention, not the empty policy of continued study provided by the Reagan Administration. To reduce the sulfur dioxide emissions which produce acid rain, scrubbers and some switching to low sulfur fuels are necessary, measures included in bills recently introduced in the Senate, requiring polluters to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions by up to 50 percent over the next 15 years. A bilateral agreement on these emissions, a problem also affecting Canada, should be negotiated as soon as possible. Acid rain is a pressing national problem and the federal government must quickly deal with it.

Stewart B. McKinney (R)

Ten years Fairfield County small businessman; four years, 1966-1970, Connecticut state House of Representatives; Minority Leader, 1969-1970; 14 years, 1970-present, United States Congress; member, Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs; ranking member, Housing and Community Development Subcommittee; ranking member, House Committee on the District of Columbia.

1. The United States has a moral obligation to assist its neighbors whether they be threatened by poverty or by other indigenous crises exploited by outside forces.

U.S. policy must be two-pronged. Aid should be provided to nurture economic development and, in turn, to enhance political stability. Peace on the military front will be elusive as long as there is political and economic instability. The U.S. must assist to create a safe setting for development and to minimize disruptions by both left-wing guerrillas and right-wing death squads. Peace can be achieved by showing strength grounded in legality and democratic choice.

2. Given the major environmental consequences of unchecked sulfur emissions and the current stalemate on the issue, I will consider any reasonable plan to reduce this type of pollution. I specifically endorsed two acid rain bills in the 98th Congress.

I supported the most viable acid rain bill yet offered (H.R. 3400). This measure struck an acceptable balance on cost-sharing and set a reasonable schedule for emission reductions.

I also cosponsored a more aggressive sulfur control bill written by the New England Congressional Caucus (H.R. 4404). This bill, which sets higher goals for reducing emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide, gives our heavily affected region a vehicle for urging strong action to curb acid rain pollution.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE 136th Assembly District

LWV Question: Do you believe that the state funding of local government should be increased to reduce the real estate tax burden: If so, how? How would you represent Westport on this issue?

Edward C. Saenz (D)

My qualifications include eighteen years as a business executive including several years experience in building and managing subsidiaries marketing high technology medical equipment. During this time I interacted with different government agencies involved with many aspects of commerce. I also have extensive management experience and professional skills in analyzing and solving problems.

It is my belief that only by increasing state aid to local government can we properly reduce the real estate tax burden. Connecticut is the second wealthiest state in the nation, but the second poorest in aid to education. To compound the problem, Westport could lose approximately one million dollars in education funding because of a recent court decision affecting minimal grants to towns from the State. I would introduce legislation allocating increased aid per pupil to each town and a supplemental grant to all towns whose per capita income was below the State average.

My opponent voted against State funding of the Transportation Infrastructure Bill which would maintain several I-95 and route 136 bridges in Westport. I would expand coverage of this bill by introducing legislation that will aid towns in improving and maintaining their roads and bridges.

Julie D. Belaga (R)

Eight years in Hartford has given me extensive experience representing Westport. I know how to get things done. Furthermore, four years as Chairman of Westport's Planning and Zoning and one year on the RTM gave me a superb understanding of how our town works. I see immediately the impact of proposed legislation on Westport.

It is not realistic to assume that the state will increase local funding to communities like Westport. More and more when assessing state grants the legislature fashions formulas based on municipal need as well as the municipalities ability to raise its own tax revenue. If this continues, Westport can expect less and less state dollars despite an increase in our citizens tax responsibilities to the state. I see no way in which your premise can be implemented in terms of Westport ... unless the entire philosophy in Hartford reverts back to a "per capita" formula rather than the current "per need" emphasis. As it is, we have a major challenge just trying to assure that the state does not place mandates on a town without adequately funding those programs.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE 139th Assembly District

LWV Question: Do you believe that the state funding of local government should be increased to reduce the real estate tax burden: If so, how? How would you represent Westport on this issue?

William Chang (D)

Norwalk City Council, 2 years; Human Relations Commission, 5 years. Member League of Women Voters, Real Estate Course, Former Business Owner, Chinese Association of Fairfield County, 13 years military service. Arts Council of Norwalk, American Security Council, Economics Certificate. Saint Georges College, West Indies; Associates Degree in Electronics. Notary Public, former member Norwalk Town Committee.

The real estate taxes can be reduced by: **(a)** The state should empower the state's Board of Education to increase the state's share of the total cost of elementary and secondary education so that the state and local communities would share equally in the education system. Currently the state provides 38.3% of primary and secondary school funding compared with the national average of 54.3%. The guaranteed tax base (G.T.B.) which has been increased to 95% is another source of school funding. **(b) Infrastructure Plan:** The ten year Infrastructure Plan which is currently in operation—repairing bridges, roads, etc. will roll back funds to the communities. They would have to appropriate for such operation. These roll back funds can be used to decrease taxes. I will work diligently for enforcement of these laws which will benefit Westport/139th District.

Jacob (Jack) Rudolf (R)

Elected to: Norwalk Common Council 1959 to 1967, 4 Terms; Council President, 3 Terms; Council Majority Leader, 1 Term; Connecticut State Senate 1967 to 1973, 3 Terms; Senate Minority Whip, 1 Term; Connecticut House of Representatives, 2 Terms 1980 to 1984. Committees: Finance, Insurance & Real Estate. Clean Water Task Force.

Rolling back the present 7½% sales tax would grant some relief to the residents but would not necessarily lower real estate taxes. It would, however, give taxpayers the ability to meet the real estate tax bill without the heavy burden of the highest sales tax in the country. This alone is small in scale, however, added to that we would have to include increasing other State grant programs as a means of lightning the load. Whichever finance formulae we choose the bottom line would be the retention of as many tax dollars as possible at the local level.

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STATE SENATOR — District 26

LWV Question: Has the time arrived to reform the state's tax system to make it fair, more efficient, and more visible to the taxpayer?

Adam J. Freeman (D)

High School graduate. Attended Universities of Tampa and Bridgeport. Owner, Video Movie Center, Wilton, a comprehensive retail business employing seven persons. I believe my practical business experience and daily contact with district residents qualify me to represent the 26th District.

I believe a thorough, non-partisan review of our state's tax system is appropriate and timely. I fully support assessing fairness, efficiency and visibility. I do not support institution of a graduated personal income tax.

John G. Mathews (R)

Legislator last 14 years; past 6, Senator, presently Assistant Minority Leader; prior 8, Representative, last 2 as Assistant Minority Leader - Chairman/Ranking Member, Labor Committee - Other present Committees - Appropriations, Finance Advisory, Legislative Management; various subcommittees - Full time legislator - Rated among top legislators by peers - Married - 3 children. Yale B.A. - N.Y.U. M.B.A.

In tax discussions, it is popular to equate progressiveness to fairness. But at what point does progressive taxation become unfair? To say a tax on income is more fair is questionable because of the loopholes usually built in. The absence of an income tax, however, spreads taxation over broader areas and encourages economic expansion and jobs.

In fact, Connecticut's taxes are progressive. A family that receives 50% of its income from the government and pays 5% in sales tax, benefits from progressive taxation. Also, since 1966, eight states have adopted an income tax. In every instance, other taxes have risen to meet or exceed previous levels.

Finally, Connecticut income taxes on interest, dividends and capital gains hurt state investment and thus result in greater economic instability.

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

LWV Question: What changes, if any, do you recommend in the present system of voter identification at the polls?

Helen Paty Stamps (D)

B.A. in Economics and Sociology, Agnes Scott College; graduate study University of Illinois. Westport resident more than 11 years; Registrar of Voters since mid-1979. Professional experience has been in personnel and medical social work, and has served as an officer of LWV, AAUW, New Neighbors, PTA and church.

There is an old saying: "if it ain't broke don't fix it." Connecticut has a simple system which has stood the test of time. Neighbors of both parties serve as challengers, fully instructed in the important role they play. There are few enough voters per polling place so that most potential voters can be known to the poll workers. This neighborhood knowledge by public spirited citizens is an integral part of the integrity of the electoral process. Correct and constantly updated voter registry lists, together with the challenger system, protect the integrity of the voting system against tombstone voting and other illegal attempts to distort the election results.

Mabel A. Johnson (R)

My chief qualification for the office is the hands-on experience I've had first as Deputy, then as Registrar. To do the work to the best of my ability, I have also drawn on previous experience as a secretary, purchasing agent, and teacher. My education consists of a Bachelor's degree from Hunter College in Humanities; a Master's equivalent in Education also from Hunter; 15 credits of Accounting courses at Norwalk Community College and 20 credits of Computer Science at Norwalk State Technical College.

Because of population shifts and changes in Westport, it is no longer realistic to expect Election Officials at the Polls to be able to recognize and identify electors on sight. This fact together with a movement now underway to require the registration of homeless people indicates that we need to seriously consider implementing improved means for voter identification to protect the integrity of the process and ensure the One-Person/One-Vote basis of our democratic system. Because Voter ID cards can easily be lost, misplaced, or misused, I would favor a Voter Sign-In system. This is nothing new. It has been used successfully in other states. It would, however, entail considerable clerical work and additional cost to the town. If the League is aware of a simpler, more efficient system, I would be interested in knowing about it.

3 STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The following proposed constitutional amendments will appear at the upper left-hand corner of the voting machine. There will be pointers above each, and the elector may push down the pointer over "YES" or "NO" to indicate his choice.

	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
Vote on the Questions	**1. For the constitutional amendment prohibiting discrimination against a person because of his or her physical or mental disability.**		**2. Shall the constitution be amended to provide a procedure for the lieutenant-governor to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the office of governor when the governor is unable to do so?**		**3. Shall the constitution of this state be amended to establish a division of criminal justice within the executive department and to provide for the appointment of state's attorneys by a criminal justice commission?**	

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1

This amendment prohibits the denial of equal protection of the law, segregation and discrimination in the exercise and enjoyment of civil and political rights because of a person's physical or mental disability. The Constitution already prohibits such discrimination because of religion, race, color, ancestry, national origin and sex.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2

This amendment establishes procedures for declaring the Governor unable to exercise his powers and perform his duties. In such situations, the Constitution already authorizes the Lieutenant Governor to act as Governor. Under this amendment, the Governor could voluntarily declare himself unable to perform his duties. Disputed questions of incapacity would be decided by a two-step process. First, a newly created Council on Gubernatorial Incapacity would, by a two-thirds vote, have to declare the Governor unable to carry out his duties. Second, each House of the General Assembly would have to reach the same conclusion by a two-thirds vote. The governor could resume his office after a majority vote by each House of the General Assembly. The Supreme Court is given the authority to settle any disputes which may arise under this procedure.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3

The Criminal Justice Division is responsible for the investigation and prosecution of all criminal matters in Connecticut. This amendment moves the Division from the Judicial Branch of State government to the Executive Branch. It also establishes a Commission made up of the Chief State's Attorney and six persons appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the General Assembly. This Commission is empowered to appoint state prosecutors and their assistants, officials now appointed by the judges of the Superior Court.

Voting Information

Absentee Voting

IF YOU ARE A REGISTERED VOTER, YOU CAN VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT IF YOU ARE:

- Ill, or physically disabled.
- Going to be out of town during voting hours.
- Temporarily living in another Connecticut town as a student, spouse of a student, or member of a religious community.
- In the Armed Forces and out of town during voting hours.
- A member of a religious group not permitted to vote on Election Day.

GET AN APPLICATION BY CALLING, WRITING OR GOING TO YOUR TOWN CLERK.

When you receive your absentee ballot, read the directions carefully, fill it out, and return it **by mail or in person** to the Town Clerk in time to be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day. If you complete your ballot in the Town Clerk's office, you may return it at that time.

Voting in Person

A sample ballot, a dummy voting machine, and a poster explaining the proposed constitutional amendments will be on display at your polling place and officials on hand to answer questions.

When ready to vote, give your address and name to the checkers. Your name will be checked against the official voting list. You will be directed to a voting machine.

To close the curtain, move the red handle of the curtain lever to the right as far as it will go and leave it there.

Register your vote for candidates in any one of four ways:

Vote without using the party lever. Simply TURN DOWN the pointers over the candidates for each office for whom you wish to vote.

OR **Vote a split ticket.** Pull the party lever of your choice. Then TURN UP the pointers over the candidates for whom you DO NOT wish to vote. TURN DOWN the pointers over the candidates for whom you DO wish to vote.

OR **Vote a straight party ticket.** Pull the party lever of your choice. This will TURN DOWN the pointers over all the names in the party row.

OR **WRITE IN the name of a candidate who does not appear on the ballot.** Above each position category there is a place for entering write-in votes. Push up the cover (slide), write in vote with pencil that will be there. Do not open the slide unless you intend to use it. Name(s) the voter enters will not be counted unless those name(s) have been filed in advance with the Connecticut Secretary of State.

BALLOT — 136th Assembly District

Vote on the Questions	YES / NO: 1. For the constitutional amendment prohibiting discrimination against a person because of his or her physical or mental disability.	YES / NO: 2. Shall the constitution be amended to provide a procedure for the lieutenant-governor to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the office of governor when the governor is unable to do so?	YES / NO: 3. Shall the constitution of this state be amended to establish a division of criminal justice within the executive department and to provide for the appointment of state's attorneys by a criminal justice commission?				
OFFICES ➧	1 Presidential Electors for	2 Representative in Congress	3 State Senator	4 State Representative	5 Registrar of Voters	6	7
DEMOCRATIC	1A Mondale and Ferraro	2A John M. Orman	3A Adam J. Freeman	4A Edward C. Saenz	5A Helen P. Stamps	6A	7A
REPUBLICAN	1B Reagan and Bush	2B Stewart B. McKinney	3B John G. Matthews	4B Julie D. Belaga	5B Mabel A. Johnson	6B	7B
COMMUNIST	1C Hall and Davis	2C					7C
CONNECTICUT ALLIANCE	1D Serrette and Ross	2D		4D	5D	6D	7D

SAMPLE

BALLOT — 139th Assembly District

Vote on the Questions	YES / NO: 1. For the constitutional amendment prohibiting discrimination against a person because of his or her physical or mental disability.	YES / NO: 2. Shall the constitution be amended to provide a procedure for the lieutenant-governor to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the office of governor when the governor is unable to do so?	YES / NO: 3. Shall the constitution of this state be amended to establish a division of criminal justice within the executive department and to provide for the appointment of state's attorneys by a criminal justice commission?				
OFFICES ➧	1 Presidential Electors for	2 Representative in Congress	3 State Senator	4 State Representative	5 Registrar of Voters	6	7
DEMOCRATIC	1A Mondale and Ferraro	2A John M. Orman	3A Adam J. Freeman	4A William Chang	5A Helen P. Stamps	6A	7A
REPUBLICAN	1B Reagan and Bush	2B Stewart B. McKinney	3B John G. Matthews	4B Jacob P. Rudolf	5B Mabel A. Johnson	6B	7B
COMMUNIST	1C Hall and Davis	2C	3C				
CONNECTICUT ALLIANCE	1D Serrette and Ross	2D			5D	6D	7D

SAMPLE

Check Your Ballot

Before you leave the booth, make sure that pointers are down over all the candidates and questions for which you wish to vote. LEAVE THEM DOWN. Then move the curtain lever back to the left. This registers your vote, and all pointers will be up when the curtain opens.

Other Considerations

Any elector who requires assistance to vote for reasons of blindness, physical disability, or inability to read or write may be given assistance by a person of the elector's choice, other than the elector's employer or agent of that employer or agent of the elector's union.

NO ONE may enter the voting booth with you unless you ask for help. NO ONE is permitted to electioneer or solicit votes for a political party or candidate inside the polling place or within 75 feet of the polls outside.

A message from the president of
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

This publication is presented by the League of Women Voters and paid for by The Westport Bank and Trust. The League of Women Voters is a non partisan organization that presents this guide as one of its traditional ways of helping the public cast an informed vote.

May we suggest that you read what each candidate has written, make your decision, mark the sample ballot provided and take it with you to the polls. We urge you to exercise your RIGHT TO VOTE on November 6. Voting districts and polling places are indicated. The polls are open from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM. At every polling place there is a person who is there only to answer questions and demonstrate the operation of the voting machine.

To vote you must first be registered. Citizens may register year 'round at the office of the Registrars of Voters on the first floor of Town Hall. Remember to notify the Registrar of Voters if you change your name, change your address within the town, or move to another town in the state of Connecticut.

Judie Kiernan

From the people who bring you the Presidential Debates...

AN INVITATION TO DEVELOP YOUR OWN POLITICAL PERSONALITY!

Get involved in
—nonpartisan political action
—study of issues
—informing the public
—learning the ropes of government

Join the WESTPORT LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

P.O. Box 285 • Westport, CT 06881 • 226-1670

Here's $25 for one year's membership ☐*For myself* ☐*Gift*

Mrs./Ms./Mr. _____

Address _____

City _____ *Zip* _____

Phone _____

Gift card should read _____

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization open to all citizens, men and women, of voting age.

I'm interested. Send more information! ☐
I'm unable to join but would like to support League with my enclosed contribution ☐