

SUGGESTED LEGISLATIVE PLAN

11/20/74
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The purpose of our activity at the legislature should be seen as a part of our general strategy of developing support for our struggle and not as a substitute for other forms of support. Neither should our activity there be considered the focus of our support. Our focus should be on extensive and mass contact with various groups, organizations, and community associations. Our goal should be to line up as much public support for our four positions as possible, and especially for our goal of long-term leases in particular.

Goals and Objectives

- (1.) To implement our legislative program. (i.e. changes in land-use legislation; leasehold reform, tenant rights, Agricultural legislation etc.)
- (2.) To lobby against and defeat bills against our "interests".
- (3.) Try to get House and Senate Resolutions passed in support of our struggle and our positions.
- (4.) To keep the WWCA informed on what is happening in the legislature. (This will tell us where we have support and where we don't. It will also tell us who we ought to work against in the next election.)

There are three phases to implementing our legislative plan, they are;

Phase 1. Basic Orientation to the Legislature and the legislative process.

- A. How does a bill become a law; who does what, when, where. What is the committee system, etc. etc.)
- B. General survey of the legislators, where do they come from, what do they do, what is their history; what are the strong community groups in their area that we should go after for their support. (i.e. who are their constituency)
- C. Who can write-up and draft legislation--who can introduce legislation--who can we count on for support--who is in the opposition.
- D. Develop a list of resource personnel that we can call on for assistance. (Legislative Reference Bureau, Clerks office, etc.)
- E. Work for this phase would include, 1. developing an information packet on the legislature and the legislators; 2. meeting with key, trustworthy people who can give us some tips and advice; 3. Planning out our general program and strategy; and 4. taking a field trip to the legislature.
- F. The basic time-frame for this phase should be from now till the the legislature opens.

Phase 2. Monitoring the Legislature.

- A. Collecting and analyzing the bills and resolutions.
- B. Attending the various hearings and preparing testimony on bills.

- C. Lobbying the various legislators--in support of our bills and against the bills of our opposition.
- D. Work in this phase will include 1. setting up of a WWCA box down in the print shop; 2. We will need a couple of people to read and sort out the various bills; 3. We are going to need a team of people who can do research and type, (maybe we can use some students here.) 4. Prepare presentations for committees and various legislators, etc.
- E. The time-frame for this phase will probably be from the beginning of the session to its half-way point. By then we ought to know the basic of how things are run, who to see, what is possible, who we can count on for support, by this time we ought to know what our chances are for our program.

Phase 3. Introducing Our Program.

- A. What kind of joint efforts do we want to engage-in with other groups who support similar legislation. What alliances can we build. (i.e. Malaekahana will probably be pushing for some kind of leasehold reform, so will other groups.)
- B. We are going to need a couple of trustworthy, reliable lawyers that we can call on from time to time to analyze various bills and their legal consequences. We should line them up as soon as possible.
- C. The work at this stage will involve, 1. intensive lobbying of the various legislators; 2. the building of tactical alliances with other groups; 3. Attracting public attention and support for our program.

Developing Our Program

We have approximately 2 months with which to do research, write-up our bills, and get our program ready for introduction around mid-March. We should decide as soon as possible what our program is going to consist of and what our priorities are going to be.

Implementational Team

- (1.) The legislative plan will need between 6 to 12 people to implement. These people will have to make some major time commitments to this activity.
- (2.) 2 or 3 central coordinators will be needed. For these people this must be their primary work for the WWCA before and during the legislative session.
- (3.) The closest contact must be maintained between the implementation team and the WWCA steering Committee.
- (4.) The Implementaion team should be able to mobilize others to; A. do research; B. give testimony; C. Lobby; D. Trace bills and do many other tasks.