

League of Women Voters of Benton and Franklin Counties
P. O. Box 765 , Richland, WA 99352

January 19, 2008

To: Senator Jerome Delvin
Representative Shirley Hankins
Representative Larry Haler

From: Leona Hassing, President
LWV Benton-Franklin

Enclosed is a copy of the League of Women Voters of Benton and Franklin Counties Study: Location of the Benton County Seat and the letter presented to the County Commissioners.

As a result of this study, the League concluded it is imperative that County services be located in the center of population, and that any further expansion take place in Kennewick. However during the course of this Study, legal issues were identified that need to be addressed before any further tax dollars are spent in construction of facilities.

League sees two options: move the County seat to Kennewick or explore legislative remedies. The first will take a vote of the citizens. We are asking you to pursue the second option to determine if there is a legislative remedy.

Benton County seems to have the greatest need for these changes although there are other Counties with similar issues. For example, Thurston County asked to build a County facility in Tumwater and was denied.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your response.

Cc: Benton County Commissioners
Tri-City Herald
Yakima Herald