



Lashway, Lisa

From: NJLM - Municipal Clerks [njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]
Sent: Friday, October 10, 2008 2:53 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: Municipal Clerks from NJLM

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LEAGUE ALERT

Municipal Clerk: Please forward to Mayor and Governing Body.

October 10, 2008

Re: 2008 Ballot Questions

Dear Mayor:

When we go to the polls this November 4, we will not only elect a new President, a U.S. Senator, our district's delegate to the House of Representatives and assorted local officials. We will also determine the fate of two important ballot questions.

Public Question #1 seeks to amend the State Constitution to require voter approval of the creation of most new State bonded indebtedness, even when the issuing agency is an autonomous public entity, independent of direct State executive control. The Constitution already requires voter approval for the creation of State debt, but these autonomous agencies have not always sought voter approval in the past.

Public Question #2 would, in final effect, allow municipalities working together to form a joint municipal court to appoint their own judges. Currently, the Constitution allows the Governor to appoint judges to joint municipal courts, with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Some proponents believe that this change will encourage greater sharing of

municipal court functions. We have always supported this change as an appropriate extension of home rule.

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey has posted an excellent summary and analysis of these two questions on its website. You can access that information at:

http://www.lwvnj.org/VotersService/2008-1104_Ballot%20Questions.pdf

We hope that you find this helpful. If you have any questions you can contact Jon Moran at 609-695-3481, ext. 121.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

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