

Present representation in the Washington State Legislature is based on the population of the State in 1930. Although the Constitution requires that reapportionment and redistricting be done by the State Legislature after each census, this has not been done since 1901.

An initiative passed in 1930 established present districts. Since then certain areas have grown tremendously and some have lost population. One district has only 18,000 people, another has over 130,000 — each has the same number of representatives in the State Legislature.

Initiative 199 is a redistricting plan drawn by a committee set up by the League of Women Voters of Washington. The committee consulted men from both eastern and western Washington appointed by the State Chairmen of the Republican and Democratic Parties.

The initiative provides for 49 legislative districts, instead of the present 46. Each district would have one senator. Each district would have two representatives except the largest district, which would have three so as to continue the present total of 99 representatives in the House.

Areas gaining representation would be King County, the Richland area, Vancouver, Yakima, Kitsap and Snohomish counties. Urban and suburban areas, where population has increased most, would make substantial gains in their legislative representation. However, rural areas would still have greater representation per capita.

## INITIATIVE 199

IS

sponsored by

The League of Women Voters  
of Washington,

WAS

drafted in cooperation with both

Republican and Democratic

party organizations,

WILL

carry out requirements of the

Washington State Constitution

WILL

make Washington's legislature one of

the most representative in the whole

United States.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF WASHINGTON

Realty Building  
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

Mrs. Robert J. Stuart, President  
March, 1956

*Why Sign  
Initiative  
199*

*For*

*reapportionment  
and  
redistricting of seats*

*in the*

*Washington  
State Legislature*