

Public Policy

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I spent the year learning as much as I could about public policy positions and how to use resources and the website. My first activity was attending a Gillibrand event where I met members of her staff and Senator Gillibrand. She offered us direct contact with her staff and easy access to policy makers. In September some members volunteered to work on Sean Eldridge's campaign in support of his stance on women's issues. Several issues were pursued on the Two minute activist at the request of Washington. Pins were distributed for Get OUT THE VOTE. I Attended a Teachout Rally and continued to act using The Two minute Activist. In November and December I called people to vote, Utilized the Two Minute Activist, sent Emails to Gibson, Gillibrand, Schumer and posted on FB pages regarding fair pay, education and violence against women. January and February saw continued emails to Gibson, Gillibrand , Schumer, Facebook postings, and use of the activist. AAUW co sponsored lecture women of Isis at Vassar and it was attended by many members. March saw research on the gender gap. I volunteered at Marist book Fair to aid funding for new teachers. I attempted to organize for Equal Pay Date...unsuccessful!

In April, I attended the AAUW State Convention and made several contacts with state leaders. 4 members attended the Gillibrand press conference for Family Leave Act and later attended an area wide meeting regarding state Family Leave Act. Participated in a meeting with Citizen's Action for NYS Family Leave Act. Meet with with Assemblyman Skartados on gender equality and tuition tax credits. Met with state senator Larkin on tuition tax credit. 3 members participated in local rally for support of public education. Several members attended lecture on campus sex assault.

Ten articles were written for the newsletter: Two Steps Forward, One Step Back (reproductive rights) Shouts and Whispers (domestic violence and activism) Orchestrating a Comeback (Title IX); the Corporate Closet (Wage discrimination); Right to Choose; Share the Spotlight(supporting women's issues); Ending the Silence (Sexual Harassment); What is Wrong with this Picture (Religious Freedom Act); a Word to the Wise (STEM). Articles encouraged readers to use the Two Minute Activist for current issues.