

AAUW Offers a new State Legislative Tracking Tool

With the election over, it's time to hold our legislators' feet to the fire. AAUW-NYS now has a state-of-the-art legislative tracking tool to help us take effective and timely action on policy issues in New York State.



We know education funding is going to be one of the priority issues in the 2013 Legislative session in Albany, along with other critical economic security issues like wages, fair and equal pay, paid sick leave and pension reform. Other hot-button issues will involve health care, the environment, and civil rights. CQ StateTrack will let us stay on top of these issues as they move through the Assembly and Senate.

CQ StateTrack allows the AAUW staff in Washington, D.C., to work with our state leaders to track state legislation that affects our AAUW priority issues. We have created a CQ StateTrack profile for our state, which includes a set of keywords, committees, and legislators that will be used in automatic searches of state bills. The searches will generate email alerts when state legislation containing one of our keywords is introduced, is being heard in committee, or is ready for a floor vote. The search can also generate web reports to give us a snapshot of what the state legislature is considering at any one time, based on our state's keywords and key issues.

CQ StateTrack is a game-changer for AAUW-NYS advocacy on AAUW priority issues. Through our policy experts in Washington, D.C., AAUW already has the capability to track federal legislation down to this specific, instantaneous level, and CQ StateTrack will extend that capability to state legislation in our state.

We will embed the CQ StateTrack legislative report on our AAUW-NYS website so that our site becomes a go-to place for up-to-date information on legislation affecting women and their families in New York. We can include summaries from the CQ StateTrack legislative report for newsletters to keep everyone up to date and ready to take action when needed.

With this new service, AAUW-NYS will become one of the first advocacy organizations in New York to know about pending legislation. We will be able to make decisions about taking positions on new bills and take a leadership role on particular legislation. This new service from AAUW is your dues dollars at work for you, in the nation's capital and in Albany!

Watch the AAUW-NYS website (<http://www.aauw-nys.org/>) for more information as we implement CQ StateTrack when the new Legislative session begins!



For more information, contact AAUW-NYS's Public Policy Director, Donna Seymour at 315-265-6985 or by email at: seymour6985@verizon.net.

Breaking through Barriers