

State income tax urged by synod

WAYNESBURG, Pa. (UPI) — Delegates to the United Presbyterian Synod of Pennsylvania want the state government to enact an income tax and maintain welfare grants for general assistance at "100 per cent of the minimum standard of health and decency."

The delegates, representing 1,300 local congregations throughout the state, issued a plea for the state income tax Wednesday night after hearing guest speakers from a Welfare Rights Organization WRO in Philadelphia.

The WRO members recommended the synod's department of church and community affairs expand its welfare program to assure job opportunities, wages and daycare resources.

A spokesman said the synod

agreed "that welfare grants should be equal to 100 per cent of the minimum standard of health and decency."

It said a state income tax could "more adequately fund the Commonwealth's health and welfare programs," according to the spokesman.

The synod also recommended the presbyteries recognize welfare reform as "their top priority."

The WRO speakers at the synod were Mrs. Roxanne Jones, president of the Philadelphia chapter; Dorothea Burnett, vice president, and Mrs. Pauline London and Mrs. Viola Saunders.

They asked individual congregations to publicize the "facts surrounding people in need" and pressure the state legislature.