

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC POLICY POSITIONS

League of Women Voters of the United States®

Representative Government

Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, and responsive.

Voting Rights

Citizen's Right to Vote. Protect the right of all citizens to vote and encourage all citizens to vote.

DC Self-Government and Full Voting Representation. Secure for the citizens of the District of Columbia the rights of self-government and full voting representation in both houses of Congress.

The Election Process

Apportionment. Support apportionment of congressional districts and elected legislative bodies at all levels of government based substantially on population.

Redistricting. Support redistricting processes and enforceable standards that promote fair and effective representation at all levels of government with maximum opportunity for public participation.

Money in Politics (formerly Campaign Finance). Support campaign finance/MIP regulations that enhance political equality for all citizens, ensure transparency, protect representative democracy from distortion by undisclosed contributions and big money, and combat corruption and undue influence in government. Support campaign spending that is restricted but not banned. Support public financing, full disclosure, abolishing Super PACs, and creating an effective enforcement agency.

Selection of the President.  Promote the election of the President and Vice President by direct popular vote. Support uniform national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections. Support efforts to provide voters with sufficient information about candidates.

Voter Representation/Electoral Systems. Support electoral systems at each level of government that encourage participation, are verifiable and auditable, and enhance representation for all voters.

Citizen Rights

Citizen's Right to Know/Citizen Participation. Protect the citizen's right to know and facilitate informed understanding and public participation in government decision-making.

Individual Liberties. Oppose major threats to basic constitutional rights.

Public Policy on Reproductive Choices. Protect the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

Evaluating Constitutional Amendment Proposals and Constitutional Conventions

Constitutional Amendment Proposals. Consider whether a proposal addresses matters of abiding importance, makes our political system more democratic, protects individual rights, could be achieved by a constitutional amendment or legislative proposal, and is consistent with other League positions.

Constitutional Conventions. Hold constitutional conventions only when certain conditions are in place, including, but not limited to, a specific topic, full transparency, delegates selected by population, and voting by delegates not by states.

Congress and the Presidency

Congress. Support responsive legislative processes characterized by accountability, representativeness, decision-making capability, effective performance, and transparency.

The Presidency. Promote a dynamic balance of power between the executive and legislative branches within the framework set by the Constitution.

Privatization

Ensure transparency, accountability, positive community impact, and preservation of the common good when considering the transfer of governmental services, assets, and/or functions to the private sector.

Digital Equity

Ensure high-speed, affordable internet access is readily available to all US residents and businesses.

Decline of Local News and Its Impact on Democracy

Support credible and ethical journalism as essential to our democracy.