

League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy. 2024 Policy One-Pager

In the ever-evolving landscape of democratic governance, the League of Women Voters of PA remains poised to address pivotal challenges and opportunities in the year 2024. Committed to fostering a resilient and inclusive democracy, our focus revolves around critical pillars that shape the foundation of our democracy. As we navigate the complexities of this critical election year, LWVPA will direct its attention towards key policies, encompassed broadly by election administration and funding, voting integrity, representation, social policy, and environmental sustainability. By outlining the following core areas, we aim to contribute to the advancement of a vibrant and responsive democratic system that reflects the diverse voices and concerns of our citizens. This is intended to be a summary statement of the priorities we expect to focus on at this time. However, this list is not exhaustive, and does not disallow LWVPA from taking action on other issues. These priorities are a reflection of what LWVPA expects to be a focus of our time and effort.

Election Administration and Funding

- Adequately fund, staff, and equip election offices at the state and county levels, including in the state budget to support modern operations and adequate systems to comply with requirements.
- Authorize pre-canvassing of ballots to streamline administration and reduce the number of voters who are disenfranchised due to technical errors.
- Support policies and systems to facilitate the curing of ballots which have clerical or administrative errors
- Ensure officials uphold their duty to defend our democracy by honoring the will of the voters and acting to combat mis- or disinformation.

Voting

- Continue to improve access and convenience for every eligible voter, including how and when they are able to cast their ballots.
- Oppose hurdles to voting, such as unnecessarily restrictive voter ID rules and hard-to-understand absentee/mail voting rules.
- Ensure voter privacy and voter data security.



• Ensure that certification follows the process outlined by law and is not subject to interference or obstruction, including protection against recounts that undermine election integrity and disrupt election processes.

Representation

- Promote a nonpartisan redistricting process that is governed by transparency and equity to ensure that the population is fairly represented.
- Adopt a primary election system that grants equal participation to all registered voters, including unaffiliated voters.
- At the federal level, support changes to the Electoral College to give votes equal weight toward electing the President of the United States.

Social Policy

- **Healthcare**: Protect the right to make private healthcare decisions without interference from the government. In particular, support the constitutional right of privacy of individuals to make reproductive choices.
- **Education**: Ensure a quality public education system for every child in Pennsylvania, which rests on an increase of state funding for k-12 education and distributing this funding equitably.
- Gun Violence Prevention: Enact reasonable gun control laws, including limiting
 the accessibility regulating ownership of weapons by private citizens, in order to
 reduce the incidence of gun violence, including gun accidents, and gun-assisted
 suicide.

Environmental Policy

- Addressing Climate Change: Ensure the passage of much-needed policies to reduce dependence on fossil fuels either via Pennsylvania participation in RGGI, or a reasonable alternative, to preserve environmental sustainability across the state.
- **Environmental Protection:** Protect our air, water, and land and actively work to combat the effects of climate change through legislation and policy.
- Environmental Justice: Ensure the meaningful involvement of all citizens in environmental policy decisions, the equitable treatment/consideration for frontline communities, and mindfulness of environmental decisions on public health.