

SUMMARY OF POLICY POSITIONS

League of Women Voters of New York State 2023

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

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

UNDER LWVUS POSITIONS ON VOTING RIGHTS

Support of measures to protect, extend and encourage the use of the franchise, including Election Day registration, no-excuse absentee voting and in-person early voting. Restore integrity to the election process – specifically support for uniformity in election laws and procedures in their implementation and enforcement; promote measures that ensure the integrity of all ballots; support ballot access and fair campaign practices.

UNDER LWVUS POSITIONS ON THE ELECTION PROCESS

Support of comprehensive campaign finance reform, including public financing of campaigns.

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON ELECTION LAW

New Position-Support extending the right to vote to all currently incarcerated individuals.

Support the continuation of fusion voting in New York State.

Opposition to term limits for members of the New York State Legislature.

Opposition to term limits for New York State statewide elected officials.

UNDER LWVUS POSITIONS ON CITIZEN RIGHTS

Support of citizen rights, including reproductive rights.

Support of effective regulation of lobbying and ethics.

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON GOVERNMENT

Support of standards to ensure equitable representation in the State legislature and Congress.

Support of improved measures to provide representation for legislative districts in case of a vacancy.

Support of responsive and responsible legislative processes which increase the role of the individual member and the committee system.

Support of procedural reforms in the constitutional convention process to promote openness and nonpartisanship.

Support of the consolidation of government/shared services when it promotes effective and efficient operation of government.

NATURAL RESOURCES

UNDER LWVUS POSITIONS ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Support for protection and management of New York's natural resources in the public interest, including energy conservation and energy options from renewable sources.

Support for climate goals and policies ensuring a stable climate system for future generations.

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Support for measures to achieve watershed protection including limiting pesticide use and applying Best Management Practices.

Support for a state-established, intergovernmental system for land resource management.

Support for a proactive role for New York State in regional land use planning, containing urban sprawl and protecting sensitive areas.

Support of reconditioning of the New York State Erie/Barge Canal System and its development for recreational uses.

Support for preserving and enhancing the environmental integrity and quality of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Ecosystem.

Support for policies that promote: the reduction of waste, the reuse of products and materials over disposal, and the responsible management of waste that can't be reused.

SOCIAL POLICY

UNDER LWVUS POSITIONS ON SOCIAL POLICY

Support for equality of opportunity, meeting basic human needs, childcare, energy-efficient and environmentally sound public transit, gun control and high-speed, affordable internet access.

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Support for equity in employment laws and practices and equal pay for jobs of comparable worth.

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON EQUALITY FOR ALL

Support of measures that hold marriage to be an economic partnership with a presumption of equality between the spouses.

Opposition to measures that contain a presumption of joint custody of the children.

Support of measures to reduce the incidence and effects of domestic violence

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS

Support measures to meet the needs for affordable and accessible housing through use of state funds and incentives to localities

Support of a livable wage for all localities in New York State

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON STATE FINANCES

Support reforms for greater equity in education financing (K-12) for both pupils and taxpayers.

Support raising funds to provide New York's children with a sound basic education through increases in the New York State personal income tax, implemented in a progressive fashion.

Support for the replacement of the existing local residential property tax relief programs in which relief goes to all with programs based on need, with annual cost of living adjustment.

Oppose in principle the use of public funds to support non-public schools (K-12).

Support the funding of public higher education and the existing formula for financing the community system, 1/3 tuition, 1/3 state aid, and 1/3 county support.

Support a uniform equitable assessment and property tax system.

Support of measures to provide for openness and accountability in the operation of the New York State public authority system.

Support of a timely and responsive state budget.

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON HEALTH CARE

Support equitable access to quality care, public health investments, health and safety standards that protect patients and providers, cost-effective payment and delivery alternatives, and regular public evaluation.

Support of measures that enable individuals to assume responsibility for their own health and to participate in decisions, including extraordinary life-extending procedures.

Support for the option of medical aid in dying for the terminally ill.

Support single-payer public financing as a viable and desirable approach to implementing equitable access, affordability, and financial feasibility.

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON JUDICIAL ISSUES

Support of a unified state court system with improved provisions for judicial selection.

LWVNYS SPECIFIC POSITIONS ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Support of a criminal justice system that is just effective, efficient and transparent.

Support of statewide guidelines for law enforcement at all levels to prevent racial and economic profiling.

Support of alternatives to incarceration.

Support of measures to improve pretrial procedures in the criminal courts.

Support of measures to promote a fair and efficient jury system.

Support the rights of indigent defendants to representation at public expense.

Support of legislation and changes in public policy to stop human forced labor and sex trafficking