

## League of Women Voters of California Positions

### GOVERNMENT

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

#### **CAMPAIGN FINANCING Adopted 1973; updated 1976**

Support state campaign finance practices for candidates and advocates of ballot measure positions which will ensure full disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures and enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office

#### **CONSTITUTION Adopted 1957; updated 1965-1967**

Support measures to secure an orderly and simplified State Constitution..

#### **ELECTION SYSTEMS Adopted 2001; modified 2003**

Support election systems for executive offices, both at the state and local levels, that require the winner to receive a majority of votes through Instant Runoff Voting, if necessary.

#### **INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM Adopted 1985; updated 1999**

Support citizens' right of direct legislation through the initiative and referendum process.

#### **INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIPS Adopted 1981**

Support an efficient, effective and equitable balance of responsibility and authority among the levels of government with accountability to the public.

#### **PUBLIC LIBRARIES Adopted 1998**

Support a public library system as a basic community service with a long-term, assured, stable and adequate funding source and access for all.

#### **REDISTRICTING Adopted 1988; amended 2007**

Support a state redistricting process and standards that promote fair and effective Support a independent commission as the preferred redistricting body.

#### **STATE AND LOCAL FINANCES Adopted 1969; updated 1975; new positions 1976, 1977, 1981, 1995**

Support measures to ensure revenues both sufficient and flexible enough to meet changing needs for state and local government services; that contribute to a system of public finance that emphasizes equity and fair sharing of the tax

#### **VOTING RIGHTS Adopted 1972; reviewed 1986**

Support measures that will protect every citizen's right to vote and ensure government's responsibility to protect this right through regulations and procedures that encourage an informed and active electorate.

### NATURAL RESOURCES

*Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest.*

#### **AGRICULTURE Adopted 1983; updated 2015**

Support policies that recognize agricultural land as a limited resource that must be preserved for the economic and physical well-being of California and the nation. Support sustainable policies.

#### **AIR QUALITY Adopted 1971; updated 1973**

Support measures to establish air quality standards that will protect the public health and welfare, and the development of effective enforcement

#### **ENERGY Adopted 1978; updated 1980, 2006; amended 2007**

Support development of a state energy policy that will ensure reliability of energy resources and protection of the environment and public health and safety.

#### **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Adopted 1986, 1987**

Support comprehensive measures to provide maximum protection to human health and the environment from the adverse effects of hazardous materials, including pesticides.

#### **LAND USE Adopted 1975**

Support state land use planning that recognizes land as a resource as well as a commodity.

**SOLID WASTE Adopted 1973**

Support measures to ensure environmentally sound and efficient solid waste management, to reduce the generation of wastes, to encourage resources recovery, and to increase the demand for secondary materials.

**TRANSPORTATION Adopted 1981; revised 1985; new position 1991**

Support a transportation system to move people and goods that includes a variety of transportation modes, including mass transit; is safe and secure; and serves all segments of the population.

**WATER Adopted 1959; updated 1961, 1967, 1971, 1979**

Support measures that promote the management and development of water resources in ways that are beneficial to the environment

## **SOCIAL POLICY**

*Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice, and the health and safety of all Americans*

**CHILD CARE Adopted 1989, Readopted 2004**

Support state and local policies, legislation and programs that meet the need for accessible, affordable, and quality child care.

**PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION Adopted 2016**

Support a comprehensive system of public higher education that serves the personal, professional, and occupational goals of all adult Californians with emphasis on affordability, equity, and excellence.

**COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM Adopted 2003**

Support a statewide community college system with sufficient resources to fulfill its overall goal: to offer all Californians access to a quality higher education.

**EDUCATION: PRE-KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELVE Adopted 1973; updated 1985, 2005**

Support a comprehensive pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade public education system that meets the needs of each individual student Support improvements based on access with equitable and sufficient opportunities to learn for all students.

**HOUSING Adopted 1970; updated 1973, 1993**

Support equal opportunity in housing. Support action at all levels of government for the provision of affordable housing for all Californians.

**JUVENILE JUSTICE/DEPENDENCY Adopted 1997 and 1999**

Support a juvenile justice/dependency system that works to prevent child abuse and neglect and juvenile delinquency, that serves foster children and their families and status offenders, and that rehabilitates juvenile offenders, by promoting their safety and well being of children.

**LEGAL AID Adopted 1971; revised 1983**

Support adequately funded, government supported legal assistance programs that provide legal aid to those unable to pay.

**MENTAL HEALTH CARE Adopted 1998**

Support an adequately funded mental health care system that provides comprehensive services to the acutely, chronically and seriously mentally ill of all ages; maintains optimal mental health services for all clients; places emphasis on meeting the needs of children and the homeless..

## **LWVC Action Policies**

**LWVC Children and Family Policy:** Support for principles that all children are entitled to safe, nurturing care and that caring for children is a societal as well as a family responsibility.

**Growth Management Action Policy** Provision should be made for the efficient, effective and equitable balance of responsibility and authority among the levels of government with accountability to the public

All levels of government assigned growth management planning regulatory responsibilities must provide for the following:

- Involvement of citizens
- Adequate funding of the public information process
- Minimize conflict of interest on the part of persons who make growth management decisions

**Offshore Oil/Gas Exploration, Development, and Production Action Policy:** Support the goal of wise management of resources in the public interest, with a high level of protection of the environment.

Support decreasing reliance on fossil fuels and an increasing emphasis on conservation and renewable energy sources. Support for a long-term suspension of both lease sales and new projects in the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and state Tidelands.

**Sustainable Communities Action Policy:** “Sustainable thinking” calls for integrating separate League program areas. New means of resolution of issues may be indicated.

For more information: [www.lwvc.org](http://www.lwvc.org)