

Program Planning for 2020

Program is an essential component of League activity; as the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) says in *League Basics*, “Program is the League’s reason for being, the basis for both advocacy and education efforts.”

Program planning is the opportunity for members to tell our League board what public issues they want to explore by proposing a new study or suggesting a topic for an educational meeting or activity. Every year we review our Lane County positions and review state and national positions in alternate years. This year we will look at our local League positions and the LWVUS positions. Please review them before December’s unit meeting. They are included in our new directory, which you should bring to the meeting for reference.

When we consider our existing program positions, we are thinking about whether we still agree with the conclusions, if changing conditions require additional information, or if there is an area where we might want to take action that would require a new study.

Before suggesting a new local study, members should remember that we can use both state and national positions to take action at the local level. After our December meetings, the LWVLC board will discuss the suggestions from units for local programs and make recommendations for member consideration at the annual meeting in April. Suggestions for new national studies will be forwarded to the LWVUS board for consideration and possible recommendation to next year’s convention.

The program planning process is an important League tool for identifying issues for study, review and update, and/or concurrence. It gives members and Leagues the opportunity to balance the pros and cons, assess possible support, and consider the viability of issues.

EXISTING PROGRAMS

When discussing program, members must consider existing programs and whether to retain, drop, update or restudy them. Following are definitions that may help members discuss existing programs.

RETAIN: means keep position as is: no change.

DROP: means to remove the position completely from our list. All further advocacy will be discontinued. It may not be incorporated into the program without a new study.

UPDATE: means to study the position topic for informational purposes only, with no intention to update the position, only to update the knowledge base for the members.

RESTUDY: means to undertake a review of the position with the potential to change it.

PROPOSING NEW STUDIES

When proposing new studies, keep the following in mind:

1. What are issues of importance that are most critical in our community?
2. Will the study bring greater visibility and credibility to the League of Women Voters?
3. What issues will stir the imagination of our members and attract potential new members?
4. What studies of educational/advocacy projects would help our League to link with individuals and organizations representing different viewpoints, ages, racial or ethnic identities, or other diverse groups that are underrepresented in the League?
5. Why should the League focus its time and resources on this study or project?
6. Is the issue one that can be addressed by government action?

Also consider:

1. The issue must fall within the Principles of the League of Women Voters (see page four of the Directory for the Principles).
2. The issue should add balance to the League program and have good appeal for our members.
3. League of Women Voters' volunteer time and financial resources must be available.

LWVLC Program				
Current Positions	Retain	Drop	Update	Restudy
<i>GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE AND PROCESS</i>				
Boards, Commissions and Committees				
Lane County Government				
Urban Services				
Structure of Local Government				
<i>ECONOMIC POLICY</i>				
Capital Improvement Financing				
Local Government Finance				
Sustainable Economic Management				
Urban Renewal and Tax Increment Financing				
<i>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</i>				
Housing				
Planning and Zoning				
Sign Control				
Sustainable Metropolitan Management				
Transportation				
<i>GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES</i>				
Elementary and Secondary School Facilities				
Library Services				
Mental Health Services for Adults in Lane County				
Parklands				
<i>NATURAL RESOURCES</i>				
Solid Waste				
<i>SOCIAL POLICY</i>				
Ending Violence in Lane County				

LWVUS PROGRAM				
CURRENT POSITIONS	RETAIN	DROP	UPDATE	RE STUDY
REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT				
<i>VOTING RIGHTS</i>				
Citizen's Right to Vote				
DC Self Government/Full Voting Representation				
<i>ELECTION PROCESS</i>				
Apportionment				
Money in Politics				
Redistricting				
Selection of the President				
<i>CITIZENS' RIGHTS</i>				
Citizen's Right to Know/Citizen Participation				
Individual Liberties				
Constitutional Amendment Proposals				
Constitutional Conventions				
Public Policy on Reproductive Choice				
<i>CONGRESS AND THE PRESIDENCY</i>				
Congress				
The Presidency				
Privatization				
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS				
United Nations				
Trade				
U.S. Relations with Developing Countries				
Arms Control				
Military Policy and Defense Spending				
NATURAL RESOURCES				
Natural Resources				
Resource Management				
<i>ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND POLLUTION CONTROL</i>				
Air Quality				
Climate Change				
Energy				
Land Use				
Water Resources				
Waste Management				
Nuclear Issues				

LWVUS PROGRAM				
(Continued)				
CURRENT POSITIONS	RETAIN	DROP	UPDATE	RE STUDY
Public Participation				
Agricultural Policy				
Federal Agricultural Policy				
SOCIAL POLICY				
<i>EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY</i>				
Equal Rights				
Education, Employment, Housing				
Federal Role in Public Education				
<i>FISCAL POLICY</i>				
Tax Policy				
Federal Deficit				
Funding of Entitlements				
Health Care				
Immigration				
<i>MEETING BASIC HUMAN NEEDS</i>				
Housing Supply				
Income Assistance				
Support Services				
Child Care				
Early Intervention for Children at Risk				
Violence Prevention				
Gun Control				
Urban Policy				
Death Penalty				
Sentencing Policy				
Human Trafficking				