

## Nonpartisan Policy Guidelines for LWV-WC Board Members

Revised August 1, 2022

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. However, the LWV-WC Board values the many skills and types of experience that individual board members bring to the League, including those learned in public life through elective or appointive office.

To avoid the appearance of a conflict with the LWV's nonpartisan mission, the LWV-WC Board believes that some basic limitations on board members' political activity, while they are serving in this capacity, are necessary to protect the non-partisanship of the League as an organization.

In order to balance these goals, the LWV-WC Board adopts the following policies, listed below. These policies shall be reviewed and amended or re-adopted by the LWV-WC Board at the beginning of each new biennium.

- **Elected Office:** A Board member may not run for, nor hold, any partisan elective office at any level of government.
- **Political Party Office:** A Board member shall not serve in any official position in a political party at any level of government.
- **Political Campaigns:** A Board member shall not chair a political campaign or administer fundraising for a political campaign, chair a campaign event, be a spokesperson, or work in any other significant way in the campaign of a candidate for a partisan office at any level of government.
- **Leave of Absence:** A Board member wishing to engage in political activities shall take a leave of absence from the LWV-WC board for 2 months prior to and 2 months after the election.
- **Campaign contributions:** A Board member shall not make campaign contributions to campaigns or candidate for any federal or state office or to political parties or other entities contributing to such federal or state races. (Update 2022)
- **Campaign Materials:** Board members shall not circulate or distribute campaign materials at League-sponsored events.
- **Nonpartisanship:** Board members should be especially careful to display nonpartisanship in all public contacts where they could be construed to be representing the LWV.
- **Social and Other Media:** A Board member shall not indicate her/his political affiliations or candidate preferences at any level of government in the media, including on social networking sites or other public venues that also prominently identify her/him as a member of the LWV-WC Board.
- **Activities of Family members:** The political activities of a spouse or close relative of a Board member shall be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of a Board member.

**Additional Clarification:** Board members shall present questions about specific situations to the LWV-WC Board where the foregoing policies do not resolve the question.

Adopted June 24, 1987 Readopted August 9, 1994 Readopted September 15, 2008 Readopted June 29, 1988 Readopted September 18, 1995 Revised August 6, 2012 Readopted June 22, 1989 Readopted August 12, 1996 Readopted January 9, 2017 Revised May 24, 1990 Readopted June 23, 1997 Revised June 11, 1991 Readopted June 22, 1998