



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS® Louisville

Call to the Annual Meeting

WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN!

Come Celebrate with Us and Make Plans for Next Year.

May 23, 2011 at the Lang House

115 South Ewing Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky 40206

5:30 PM Buffet, Reception, and Silent Auction

Dinner \$25; Please RSVP by April 18, 2011

6:00 PM Annual Meeting

Voting on Board Members, Budget, Study Projects, Bylaws

7:15 PM

We are honored to welcome

Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer [Speech title]

Dear League Members,

At the Annual Meeting, we consider our accomplishments this year and set the directions for our work next year. The nominees for Board Members, the proposed budget, recommended bylaws changes, and issues proposed for study and action are enclosed.

I hope you will be able to attend, so that our choices truly represent the interests of our members. At the end of the business meeting, there will be an opportunity to make recommendations to the board of your priorities for next year.

LOUISVILLE LWV PROGRAM: STUDY AND ACTION

Studies adopted by LWVKY and National LWV

FYI

LWVUS Studies:

1. The Role of the Federal Government in Education
2. Privatization: the policy agenda to transfer government functions, services and assets to the private sector

LWVKY Studies:

1. Civics Education in Kentucky Schools
2. Funding for Juvenile Drug Courts.

Proposed local studies

Members will vote on which of the following studies it would like the League to adopt and work on during the coming year.

1. . Alternative Schools Study: A Local Study Addition to the National League Study of the Role of the Federal Government in Education regarding core academic standards for accountability in schools

Focus: Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) Alternative School student graduation rates and performance compared to their peers in regular Jefferson County Public School settings. A description of JCPS student body and a description/ list of Alternative Schools will be included.

Scope: The study will evaluate how students attending the JCPS alternative schools are performing on KY assessments (KCCT, ACT, etc) compared to their peers in regular JCPS schools, and how well they are prepared upon graduation for college and careers. The study will also examine how the alternative schools are informing the students and their families about the new KY Common Core Standards and accountability system.

2. A study of the use of the Louisville Metro Council Members' discretionary funds, the Neighborhood Development Fund (NDF) of \$175,000 and Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) of \$100,000, that are allocated to each of the 26 Metro Council members.

Focus: The focus is to determine the advantages and disadvantages of placing such sums in the control of individual Council Members.

Scope: The Neighborhood Development Fund is intended for general purposes, including operating expenses for non-profits. The Capital Improvement Fund (CIF) is intended for capital construction in the district. The study will evaluate the use of the funds and compare with how discretionary funds are allocated and used in other cities.

3. A Study of the Issues Connected With the Merged Government of Louisville Metro focusing on equity in services and funding including the impact of changes proposed by the Merger 2.0 Task Force.

Focus: (1) Monitor Merger 2.0 Task Force meetings; (2) work/partner with other groups (e.g., U of L Urban Study Center) and (3) inform and report to our members and the public through meetings and electronic media.

Time Line: Preparatory information is being gathered by attending Merger 2.0 Task Force meetings and collection of information beginning in April. Study should be completed by the end of 2011.

Action Priorities

The National Priorities were adopted by the Board of the LWVUS.

LWVUS National Priorities:

- Clean Air Defense
- Health Care Defense
- Money in Elections (Campaign Finance)
- Voter Registration and Election Administration

Possible Local Action Priorities

The Annual Meeting can choose to recommend priority issues for Local League activity if members volunteer to do the ground work.

Proposals:

1. Redistricting of Louisville Council and School Board Districts focusing on equity of changes in representation based on the 2010 census and on the Essential Principles on Redistricting and guidelines provided by the LWVUS.

STATEMENT ON ESSENTIAL PRINCIPLES ON REDISTRICTING

The essential principles are:

- *An accurate and complete count in Census 2010 is an essential building block for all redistricting efforts.*
- *The process used for redistricting must be transparent to the public.*
- *The redistricting process, at all levels of government, must provide data, tools and opportunities for the public to have direct input into the specific plans under consideration by the redistricting body.*
- *In order to achieve representative democracy, redistricting plans must be drawn in a manner that allows elected bodies to reflect the diversity of the populace, especially racial and ethnic diversity.*

2. Defense of Voter Registration in line with the national priority

3. Campaign Finance Reform in line with the national priority "Money in Elections".

Additional proposals for Local Action may be available at the Annual Meeting.

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