



The Kentucky Voter

Winter 2012

LWV of Kentucky, 1009 Twilight Trail, Suite 103, Frankfort, KY 40601
502-875-6481, KentuckyLWV@gmail.com, <http://lwvky.org>

Redistricting

Leagues in Kentucky and other states are speaking out about the manner in which redistricting has been handled. On January 31, Franklin Circuit Court Judge Phillip Shepherd extended the filing deadline one week for legislative candidates in response to a legal challenge to district boundary lines adopted by the Kentucky legislature.

LWVUS policy states:

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that voting is fundamental citizen right that must be guaranteed.

AND

The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that congressional districts and government legislative bodies should be apportioned substantially on population. The League is convinced that this standard, established by the Supreme Court, should be maintained and that the U.S. Constitution should not be amended to allow for consideration of factors other than population in apportionment.

Watch for discussion of this as a state issue at the Spring Council meeting.

To learn what's happening in other states go to the LWVUS web site:

www.lwv.org

Please join us for

LWV Lobby Day in Frankfort

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

9:30 a.m. Meet in Capitol Annex Cafeteria (basement)
11:30 a.m. Lunch with Rep. Ruth Ann Palumbo (Rm 370B)

Call your legislators (1-502-564-8100) as soon as possible to make appointments between 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. or after 12:30 to talk with them about the bills the League is supporting including:

HB 167 - Energy Bill,
SB 230 - Clean Elections
HB70 - Felon's Voting Rights

Please Register and give us your lunch preference no later than Feb 10 by e-mailing or calling Nita Smith at nitavotes@aol.com or 859-272-5827.

Box lunches (sandwich, fruit, chips, cookie & drink) are available for \$7.95 (cash only please) Options: Sandwiches: Chicken salad, Tuna salad, Pimento cheese, Turkey, Ham, BLT wrap, Fried chicken wrap, Grilled chicken wrap or Veggie wrap. Drinks: Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Mellow Yellow, water.

Grab your LWV pin and join us!

Holiday Auction and Fund Raiser a Success

LWV members and friends were treated to a conversation with Al Smith, journalist and author, and his wife, Martha Helen, who talked about the media in the coming years. We also raised \$964 for the state League.

The League of Women Voters Supports:

Restoration of Felon Voting Rights - HB 70

HB 70 proposes amending Section 145 of the Constitution of Kentucky to allow persons convicted of a felony other than treason, intentional killing, a sex crime, or bribery, the right to vote after expiration of probation, final discharge from parole, or maximum expiration of sentence. If passed, this amendment would be placed on the ballot this fall for voters to ratify or reject. To read the bill: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/12RS/HB70.htm> and find the League's 2007 report, "Felony Disenfranchisement in the Commonwealth of KY" found here: <http://lwvky.org/about/publications>

Clean Energy - HB 167 and HB 187

HB 167 would encourage greater energy efficiency, conservation, and the use of renewable resources in order to promote energy independence and security by diversifying the portfolio of energy sources used for generating electricity for Kentucky retail electric customers; encourage economic growth; create high-quality jobs, training, business, and investment opportunities in the Kentucky energy sector; determine energy forms and sources that qualify as renewable energy; set specific obligations to achieve specified increases in the applications of various renewable energy forms and to increase the efficiency of electric usage through targeted low-income weatherization programs and Kentucky state energy programs; provide for alternative plans for public utilities and city-owned or city-controlled electric generating facilities by offsetting reductions in energy use and increased efficiency of use; provide for Public Service Commission denial of issuance of certificates for public convenience and necessity for new or expanded conventional generating capacity for utilities that fail to fulfill their obligations to diversify energy sources and increase efficient use of energy; specify reporting requirements and intervals to the PSC regarding progress in diversifying energy sources and increasing efficient use of energy. To read the bill: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/legislator/H034.htm>

The League also supports HB 187, a bill that supports use of clean energy. To read the bill go here: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/12RS/HB187.htm>

Clean Judicial Elections - HB 230

HB 230 would establish the clean judicial elections fund for distribution to certified judicial candidates administered by the Kentucky Registry of Election Finance; require the registry to publish information about campaign expenditures in the judicial campaigns of the previous year; establish candidate requirements to qualify to receive funds; provide that a person entitled to a state tax refund may designate on their income tax return an amount to be credited to the fund; allow members of the Kentucky Bar Association to contribute to the clean judicial elections fund with their bar dues. Find the bill at: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/record/12RS/HB230.htm>

Kentucky Legislature: www.lrc.ky.gov

Toll-Free Phone numbers - 2012 Regular Session

Legislative Message Line	1-800-372-7181
Bill Status Line:	1-866-840-2835
Calendar (Meetings) Line	1-800-633-9650
TTY Message Line	1-800-896-0305
En Español	1-866-840-6574

Membership Recruitment Initiative (MRI)

LWVUS is seeking Membership Recruitment Initiative (MRI) coaches. Our state coaches, **Nikole Wolfe** and **Carolyn Self**, have served for the last two years, providing support for local Leagues. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, contact: Nikole for more information.

<nrwolfe@gmail.com>

State Board Seeking Members

The nominating committee is looking for LWV members willing to serve on the State Board. The board holds meetings every other month August through April. For more information: Cindy.Heine@InsightBB.com.

KY LWV at the State Legislature

Terry Naydan, our state legislative liaison, has done a great job representing us at the Capitol this year. She will be at LWV Lobby Day in Frankfort and can answer questions about the bills we support and oppose. She can be reached at: terrynaydan@aol.com.

In addition, Gary Drehmel, Richard Beliles, & Kathy Wright have done a great job of organizing a coalition of organizations to support HB230 including AFL/CIO; Common Cause; National Council of Jewish Women, Louisville Section; Fairness Campaign; Alliance against Racism and Political Repression; and Kentucky Council of Churches. Representatives of the League are going to Frankfort, working with the bill sponsors, and lobbying other legislators one day each week.

Teena Halbig, former state LWV president, testified on behalf of HB 70, restoration of former felon voting rights, at a recent House Judiciary Committee Hearing.

New photo ID laws: what could happen to some voters?

As part of a recent story by National Public Radio, League national president Elisabeth MacNamara explains how these voter ID laws are creating additional challenges for some voters: "People are caught in a Catch-22: You need a birth certificate to get this ID, but to get a birth certificate you have to have an ID." The compelling [news piece](#) looks at the stories of three longtime voters that now must confront voting under new ID laws.

2011-2012 Board of LWVKY

Pres.	Vacant	
1st VP	Cindy Heine	Cindy.Heine@InsightBB.com
2nd VP	Tammy Fagley	taf1969@netscape.com
3rd VP	Cecile Schubert	Cecilel@roadrunner.com
Secretary	Nicole George	ngeorge828@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Steve Senft	s.senft@InsightBB.com
Elec. Director	Richard Heine	rheine@InsightBB.com
Elec. Director	Beverly Moore	BeverlyDM@aol.com
Membership	Carolyn Self	bcsself@newwavecomm.net
Leg. Liaison	Terry Naydan	terrynaydan@aol.com

LWV KY Calendar of Events

February 15, 9:30 a.m.	LWV Lobby Day in Frankfort
February 18, 10 a.m.	LWVKY Board Meeting, State offices, Frankfort
April 28	LWVKY Board meeting and Council, time and location to be announced
June 8-12	LWVUS 50 th National Convention in Washington, DC

The League of Women Voters of Kentucky is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



League of Women Voters of Kentucky
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