



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF IOWA

What do League members get from LWVIA?

We get to use the League good name. When League members identify themselves to local and state leaders and elected officials, they are immediately thanked for the good work they do with candidate forums, legislative coffees, informed lobbying, as well as their passion and knowledge about statewide issues. As we learned from LWVUS staff person Tim O'Brien, research shows that League members are trusted as much as an individual's own mother would be!

We get invited to participate in LWVIA events, including:

- The Fall Issues Briefing where we receive detailed explanation regarding our Legislative Priorities for the coming legislative session
- Statewide Officer Training where we learn from experienced leaders basics as well as advanced training
- Capitol Day where members get a guided Lobbying experience
- League Council or Convention each year where members determine program, budget, and other business.

We get the League website which is being updated to include the latest news impacting League and our work.

We get the LWVIA *The Voter* newsletters. Four times a year, the LWVIA *Voters* give information about:

- Upcoming and past events
- Issues and talking points regarding Legislative Priorities
- Registration for events and meetings
- What is happening in Local Leagues
- Voting in Iowa and VOTE411.org, League's electronic guide to voting in Iowa
- State and national League studies
- Overall view of League work statewide

We get two League Lobbyists. Campbell and Patterson keep us "up to speed" on all the events taking place during the Legislative Session. They give us specifics on the Legislative Priorities and other issues. League Legislative Priorities are those decided on each year by the LWVIA Board based on the input from Local Leagues. Often new topics come up during the legislative session and our lobbyists work with us to decide if we support, oppose or are neutral on specific bills based on League positions at the national, state and/or local level. They plan the Issues Briefing and help coordinate events for Capitol Day. During session they send out their newsletter, *Capitol Report*, every couple weeks, and on their website they have a link, Bill Tracker, that keeps track of the bills important to League members.

We get opportunities for Professional Growth. LWVUS has in the last few years provided **MLD - Membership, Leadership & Development** - training in Iowa. Statewide coaches are working with Local Leagues to assist them with in becoming dynamic organizations that grow membership and foster leadership.

We get opportunities to make an impact on what is happening at the State and National Level with Action Alerts that give members links to federal hearings and an opportunity to express their thoughts on topics such as the Keystone Pipeline, Campaign Finance Reform, and Immigration.

We get funds from LWVIA and LWVIA Education Fund that support special projects at the Local Level and help to advance the work and enthusiasm demonstrated in Local Leagues.

To join a Local League, go to the Local League page on the League of Women Voters website.