**AMENDING BYLAWS TO REFLECT**

**THE LWVUS** **NEW STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION**

The Structural Transformation Plan requires changes to all League Bylaws to reflect the changes in the way that member dues are to be collected and processed by LWVUS, and the related changes to membership structure. The following paragraphs reflect the ways that local League Bylaws should be amended.

Local League Bylaws are consistent in structure but have many variances in detail. Presented in the following paragraphs are examples drawn from the LWV California Model Bylaws. However, it will be necessary to review the entirety of each set of Bylaws to be sure that are **no** **references to dues or membership** in other Articles.

The LWVUS board has approved their bylaws already.

Local Leagues can work on their bylaws changes now. Once you have completed this work, please email your draft bylaws to bylaws@lwvc.org. It is recommended that proposed amendments be submitted by January 15, 2025, if possible. This will give the LWVC Bylaws Review Committee the necessary time to review your bylaws. The Committee will let you know when you can move forward to approve these changes. If you have any questions, you may email your local League coach and/or bylaws@lwvc.org.

Please note that as these kinds of amendments are mandated by the LWUS, they may be implemented by each League’s Board of Directors and should not be submitted to the members for approval.

Article III Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policies of the League **and who pays dues as provided for in Article VII, Section 2,** shall be eligible to become a member.

*It is not necessary to refer to dues in this section, but many League bylaws do so. This new language will maintain consistency through the Bylaws.*

Section 2. Types of Membership.

a. The membership of the League shall be composed of voting members and associate members. Only voting members shall be members within the meaning of the California Nonprofit Corporation Law.

b. Voting Members. Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of the local League. Those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues.

*This subsection used to have a definition of student members, but there will no longer be a student membership classification in the future.*

c. Associate Members. All other persons who join the League shall be associate members.

Section 3. Termination of Membership.

a. A member may resign at any time by delivering a written notice to the president or secretary. The resignation shall be effective upon receipt of such notice.

b. Membership shall terminate upon the death of a member.

c. **Members who fail to renew within the period specified by the LWVUS shall be removed from the membership roster.**

d. **The board may recommend to the LWVUS that a member be terminated for conduct which the board shall deem inimical to the best interests of the League.**

*This language reflects the existing authority of LWVUS.*

 The board shall give such member 15 days prior notice, with reason, of the proposed termination or suspension. The member may submit a written statement to the board regarding the proposed termination or suspension no less than five days before the effective date of the proposed action. Prior to the effective date, the board shall review any statement submitted and shall determine the mitigating effect, if any, of the information in the statement on the proposed action. A suspended member shall not be entitled to exercise any of the voting rights set forth in these bylaws.

*This inserts into the Bylaws the applicable provisions of California Nonprofit Corporation Law.*

Article VII Financial Administration

Section 2. Dues. **All members shall pay membership dues in accordance with the LWVUS’ policy except those exempted from paying dues in Article III.**