



**The League of Women Voters of South Carolina joins the world in mourning the death of George Floyd; we profoundly deplore the continued brutality against unarmed people of color in this country, and the protection from accountability that complicit officials provide to the police officers who are responsible. We see this failure in our system of criminal justice as intrinsically related to many other aspects of injustice and racial inequities— access to education, employment, housing, health care, and many other resources needed to lead the full and rewarding lives that should be available to all South Carolinians.**

**The League understands that the roots of these problems run deep in America’s culture, but we believe that there are governmental actions that can help. Among other things, including support for criminal justice reforms, we will work for legislative action to address educational inequities, to provide broadband availability throughout the state, and to ensure health care access to our citizens.**

**Most importantly, the League will continue its efforts to “empower voters and defend democracy” in South Carolina. Voting is at the heart of this work. We applaud the message of Terrence Floyd, George Floyd’s brother, when he said. “Let’s stop thinking that our voice don’t matter and vote. . . Not just vote for the president, vote for the preliminaries, vote for everybody. . . Educate yourself. Don’t wait for somebody else to tell you who’s who. Educate yourself and know who you’re voting for.”**

**Our ultimate tool for change is the ballot box. Our voter registration drives, citizen education initiatives, get-out-the-vote projects have never been more critically important.**

**Our efforts to make voting more meaningful through redistricting reform, and to obtain the complete count for the 2020 Census that underlies redistricting, continue; our efforts to work for fair and accessible elections, to prevent unnecessary obstructions to the ballot box for our citizens, continue.**

**We will continue to speak out against injustice; we will continue our efforts to strengthen our democratic processes and the accountability and transparency of our government; we will continue to insist on fair access to the vote. We will continue our work.**