



Proclamation

WHEREAS, on February 14, 1920, the League of Women Voters ("League") was formed at the Congress Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, and

WHEREAS, the League was formed six months prior to, but in anticipation of, ratification of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the League was a political experiment designed to help 200 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters by educating them about issues, and

WHEREAS, from the beginning the League determined that it would be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing any political party or individual candidate, and

WHEREAS, the League continues today as a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy, and

WHEREAS, today the league is composed of members in over 200 local, county, and state leagues in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and Hong Kong;

WHEREAS, among those state Leagues is the league of Women Voters of Illinois that was incorporated on March 22, 1920 and in turn is composed of over 40 local leagues with almost 4,000 members, and

WHEREAS, among those local leagues in Illinois is the League of Women Voters of Central Kane County, and

WHEREAS, members of the League first study and then take action on a broad range of issues after reaching consensus on positions, and

WHEREAS, Leagues at all levels, among other activities, register voters, educate voters by holding candidate forums and publishing voter guides, publish public policy research, and hold meetings on key issues, and

WHEREAS, the league is a civic organization that has fought since 1920 to improve government and engage everyone in the decisions that impact their lives, and

WHEREAS, the League will celebrate its 100th anniversary on February 14, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeffrey D Schielke, Mayor of Batavia, do hereby proclaim Friday, February 14th, 2020 as "League of Women Voters Day" in the City of Batavia, and encourage all citizens of Batavia to celebrate a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

Jeffrey D. Schielke

Jeffery D. Schielke, Mayor