

## Juvenile Justice

- Support use of alternatives to incarceration of juveniles.
- Support special training for judges who hear juvenile cases.
- Support unified rules of practice and procedures for juvenile courts across the state.
- Support Child In Need of Service (CHINS) program as a comprehensive program to support the individual child.

## Responsible Tax Policy

- Support legislation for long-term solutions to Georgia's fiscal challenges.
- Support responsible spending and tax policies and a balanced approach to the budget, to meet the long and short-term needs of Georgia.
- Support progressive taxation as the primary source of state revenues.
- Oppose state tax structure changes which reduce revenues to the general fund and those which cause low income taxpayers to bear a higher proportion of their income in taxes so that others can reduce their tax burden.
- Oppose any measure to re-instate a sales tax on food.

## Transportation

- Support investments in transportation to improve the state's infrastructure, sustain a high quality of life, and attract economic development.
- Support additional state appropriations to public transit systems across Georgia.
- Support removal of spending restrictions on the Motor Fuel Tax to include public transportation, bike lanes and pedestrian walkways, in addition to roads and bridges.



2017

# Legislative Agenda

*The League of Women Voters of Georgia, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major policy issues and influences public policy.*

*Know the Issues. Join the Conversation. Make a difference*

100 Edgewood Ave, Suite 1275 Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404) 522-4598 \* [www.lwvga.org](http://www.lwvga.org) \* [lwvga@lwvga.org](mailto:lwvga@lwvga.org)

## Elections and Voting

- Support encouragement of civic participation and voter protection.
- Support legislation and activities to protect and extend voting rights to all citizens.
- Support mandatory education for Georgians about their rights and responsibilities as citizens and voters to be provided by the state or local elections superintendent.
- Support uniformity in election systems and protocols across the state.
- Support the improvement of the election system's integrity statewide.
- Support easier access to the ballot for independent and third party candidates.
- Oppose unnecessary and unconstitutional restrictions on voting, voter registration, access to the ballot and petitions.

## Education

- Support public funding for K-12 education in public schools exclusively.
- Support public K-12 schools with adequate state funding, with no austerity cuts, reflecting the actual cost of providing the state defined services.
- Support equalization of state funding to public K-12 schools, currently calculated on property tax wealth in each school system.
- Support efforts to increase the graduation rate in Georgia, such as mandatory attendance until graduation or age 18, early identification and support for potential dropouts, improved instructional programs for at-risk students, expanded counseling and guidance services.
- Support election of State Board of Education members and the appointment of the State School Superintendent by the elected board.
- Oppose State takeover of local schools without local board approval

## Environment

- Support conservation and water efficiency measures.
- Support diversity of energy resources including solar and wind.
- Support measures to reduce contaminants in our air and water.
- Oppose any measure endangering human life, waterlife, and wildlife ecosystems.

## Ethics and Transparency in Government

- Support transparency and accountability at all levels of Georgia Government.
- Support legislation and processes that make decisions, activities, and priorities of public officials understandable to the public.
- Support transparency in the state budget.
- Support creation of a Special Independent Redistricting Commission.
- Support ethics legislation that strengthens the distinction between lobbyist and legislators.
- Support mandated funding, rule making authority, and ability of enforcement of fines and rules for the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission.
- Support renaming the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission back to the Georgia Ethics Commission.
- Support all public decision making bodies, appointed or elected, being subject to the Open Meetings and Open Records Act.

## Healthcare

- Support policies to facilitate Georgians' access to healthcare.
- Support expansion of Medicaid in Georgia.
- Oppose measures removing access or insurance coverage of mandated health services.

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