

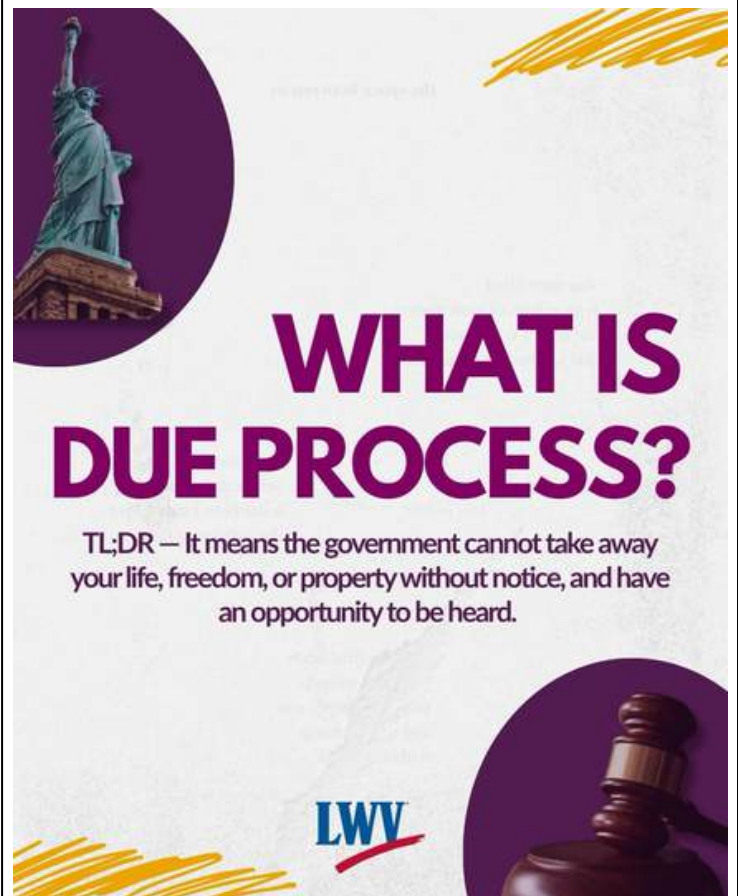
Stand UP for DEMOCRACY - Week 7! 🌞

Another Thursday rolls around, Leaguers! And weather-wise, it feels like a giant step back into a different season. (Kind of like how the House approving the budget by a single vote feels like a giant step back to a colder time, with its cuts to Medicaid, food assistance, and child tax credits. [Read more](#) at the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities site.) Also alarming are the bill's buried details that limit [state-level regulation of AI](#) and [strip federal judges of the ability to enforce contempt citations](#).)

Looks like the late-season nor'easter will blow out of here before Saturday. We look forward to seeing LOTS of you **THIS Saturday, May 17th, from 11 AM to noon in front of the Senior Center in Hamilton.** **Note the change in meeting point!** With Melody Miles starting and ending at Winthrop, it promises to be a busy spot! Great for visibility.

Food for thought and fodder for standout signs: due process and habeas corpus have been in the news a lot lately and there is some misunderstanding of just what it is and what it means. Learn more about what our world *with* due process looks like, and what it would look like *without* it with this LWV social media post.

The League at all levels is strictly nonpartisan, but we can be vocal about policies we have studied and about threats to our constitution and our constitutional rights. If due process is denied to anyone on US soil, it can be denied to any one of us. [Click through to learn more](#) and share widely.



UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

MAY:

- **Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, May 24, 11 AM - 12 PM**, Hamilton (Hamilton Senior Center, 299 Bay Road) – **this week only** due to Melody Miles at Winthrop). **May 31**, we'll be back at Winthrop!

JUNE:

- **Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, June 7, 11 AM - 12 PM**, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also **June 14, 21, and 28!**
- **HWHRC Pride Picnic Sunday, June 8, noon - 4 PM**, Patton Homestead (650 Asbury Street, Hamilton) ([Sign up for a shift!](#))
- **Special Town Meetings (School Consolidation Question) Monday, June 9, 6:30 PM** Hamilton meets at HWRHS Auditorium (775 Bay Road, Hamilton); Wenham meets at Buker School (1 School Street, Wenham)
- **LWVMA Convention 2025 – Year 105: Democracy Forward! Saturday, June 14, 9 AM - 4 PM**, EnVision Hotel Mansfield/Foxboro (31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield)
- **The Community House Block Party Saturday, June 21, 4 PM (fireworks start around 9)**, Patton Park (Asbury Street & Bay Road) (rain date Sunday, June 22) ([Sign up for a shift!](#))
- **Hamilton Special Town Meeting (3A Zoning) Thursday, June 26, 6:30 PM** HWRHS Auditorium (775 Bay Road, Hamilton)
- ***NEW DATE* LWVHW Annual Meeting Monday, June 30, 6:30 PM**, Wenham COA (10 School St., Wenham)

JULY:

- **Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, July 5, 11 AM - 12 PM**, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). **July 12, 19 and 26!**
- **Steering Committee Planning Meeting Wednesday, July 2, 6 PM**, location TBD

WHAT'S NEWS

Stand Out – Week Six:

We caught a break from the rain last Saturday and had an enthusiastic group of 16 folks standing out and standing up for our constitutional rights. This Saturday looks like another dry (if chilly) day and the center of town will be hopping and bopping with Melody Miles happening. We will meet in front of the Hamilton Senior Center (299 Bay Road) at 11 and pick our spot for best visibility and cheer on the runners



Pro-Democracy Stand Out - Week 6!

Stand Out for Democracy **THIS SATURDAY** (and *EVERY* Saturday)!

Join us from 11 AM to 12 PM Saturdays in Hamilton - ***THIS WEEK we will meet at the Senior Center (299 Bay Road)!***

Bring a friend or neighbor! Think about local folks and organizations in the fight to preserve and protect our civic institutions and civil rights. *The more the merrier!*

Let's all use **OUR** First Amendment rights and **be Out-Standing for Democracy!**

Bring a sign -- or not -- your presence is valuable! We usually have some extras on hand to share!

Tips to remember:

- **Show enthusiasm** – smile and wave – music helps the mood!
- **Don't engage with negativity** - no booing or gesturing back - it's just not worth it
- **Leave the scene better than you found it** - protests that leave behind litter or damage harm their own cause.
- **Keep your signs in your car** so you can spontaneously join other like-minded actions - **and bring multiple signs** if you have them - we've had many spontaneous standout joiners who don't have their own sign – **YET!**



Community-Wide Events - Help Represent LWVHW

We will have tables at two upcoming community events: **HWHRC's annual Pride Picnic on Sunday, June 8**, and **The Community House's annual Block Party on Saturday, June 21**. League tabling is a

great way to expand our presence in the community and it's FUN! **We will need volunteers** to cover shifts at these events, so watch this space and sign up for an hour or so. Learn the ropes with seasoned Leaguers, enjoy conversations with folks, and help facilitate fun giveaways and activities.

- [Pride Picnic Sign Up Sheet](#) (Sunday, June 8, Patton Homestead, multiple shifts 11-4:15)
- [Block Party Sign Up Sheet](#) (Saturday, June 21, Patton Park, multiple shifts 4-8; fireworks start around 9. Rain date Sunday, June 22.)


🌟 [LWVMA Action Alert: DEFEND DUE PROCESS](#)

Last week brought [news of yet another family being terrorized by Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\)](#). ICE is arresting and detaining people without warrants. Immigration infractions are civil, **not** criminal. Anyone charged with a crime in Massachusetts is already held accountable through our criminal justice system. While we understand the state constraints around reining in a federal agency, NOW is the time to raise our voices and urge all electeds to demand enforcement of due process protections guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Our federal delegation has demonstrated their commitment to human rights, but we can no longer turn a blind eye to daily ICE abuses. [Learn how to turn your outrage into action.](#)

🌟 [LWVUS Taking Action to Defend Democracy](#)

In case you missed it, The League and the National Partnership for New Americans collaborated on a [guide to supporting the immigrant community](#). The House [also passed the No Rogue Rulings Act](#), an attack on our system of checks and balances.

➡ [LWVMA Convention - Registration Open](#)

 A poster for the LWVMA Convention 2025. It features a stylized yellow and purple dome of the Massachusetts State House. The text reads: "LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION 2025", "DEMOCRACY FORWARD", "Saturday, June 14", "9:00 am to 4:00 pm", "EnVision Hotel", "Mansfield, MA", and "CELEBRATING 105 YEARS".	<p>Year 105: Democracy Forward!</p> <p>For 105 years, Leaguers have gathered around the Commonwealth to organize and mobilize voters at the polls and the State House. From the <i>19th Amendment</i> to the <i>VOTES Act</i> of 2022, the League of Women Voters has been at the forefront of empowering voters and defending democracy.</p>
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Convention is being held on Saturday, June 14, from 9 AM to 4 PM in person at [EnVision Hotel Mansfield/Foxboro](#) (31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield). The schedule includes:

- Light breakfast
- Lunch
- Motivational Group Activity

- Interactive break-out sessions on important topics
- Program Planning and Budget for the next biennium
- Vote on Reparations Study Consensus
- Election of LWVMA Officers and Directors

Convention is a great way to connect with other local Leagues from around the Commonwealth. [Registration is open now](#) (\$125 before May 26; \$145 after that). Guest speaker TBA.

✓ **The SAVE Act is Still on the Table!**

LWV CEO Celina Stewart testified in a Senate Spotlight Hearing “Protecting our Future of Democracy” on May 14th hosted by Ranking Member Senator Padilla (D-CA) (Read [transcript](#) or watch [video](#) of her testimony.) Leader Schumer stated in his testimony that he can confirm that ALL Senate Democrats will vote no on the SAVE Act; it’s worth contacting Senate Republicans to encourage them to vote no. As long as the *SAVE Act* hasn’t been voted on in the Senate, these actions are worth taking and sharing in your circles:

- [Tell your Senators to oppose the SAVE Act](#): the Senate must reject this bill to prevent it from becoming law. **Call** the US Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 (*pro tip: save this in your contacts!*) or [take email action](#).
- **Get familiar** with these great [Talking Points compiled by LWVUS](#) to help push back on misinformation.
- **Share information** with young voters: LWVUS CEO, Celina Stewart, wrote an excellent and informative op-ed for Teen Vogue about the harm the *SAVE Act* will cause nationwide: [What is the SAVE Act? The Trump Admin’s Attempt to Strip Voting Rights from Women and Young People](#).

UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS:

- **[Stop the SAVE Act: Protect Democracy](#)**
Sponsored by LWVMA and others. The speakers include special guest Senator Ed Markey, Geoff Foster, Executive Director of Common Cause MA, Cheryl Clyburn Crawford, Executive Director of MassVOTE, and the event is moderated by Allen Feliz, Executive Director of One Nation Every Vote. [Register here](#).

Event Co-Sponsors



STOP THE SAVE ACT: PROTECT DEMOCRACY

One✓
One Nation Every Vote

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025
5:00 PM – 5:45 PM EST

Register via Eventbrite
to access Zoom link

Special guest:
U.S. Senator Edward Markey

Cheryl Clyburn Crawford,
Executive Director, MassVOTE

Geoff Foster, Executive Director
Common Cause Massachusetts

Moderator: Allen Feliz
Executive Director, One Nation Every Vote



- **[Rise for Freedom Nationwide Mass Training Series](#)** (ongoing Thursdays, 8-10 PM through Thursday, June 5) – training for “people who love our country and understand the threat of autocracy before us and want to do something about it.” This would make a great option for a watch party with friends!
 - May 22: “Advanced Organizing Skills: Choosing your Tactics”
 - May 29: “Digital Hygiene for Activists”
 - June 5: “Media Storytelling with a Focus on Broadcast and Social Media”

ICYMI – PAST VIRTUAL EVENTS:

- **[Meet the Legislative Specialist: Reproductive Rights/Women's Issues \(recording\)](#)** (May 15) ([accompanying slides](#)) During a moment in history when human rights are under attack at the federal level, the League can effectively advocate for the advancement of women's rights at the state level. Learn about legislation that supports protections for women, including:
 - An Act promoting and enhancing the sustainability of birth centers and the midwife working force [H.1117/S.774](#)
 - An Act ensuring access to full spectrum pregnancy care [H.1311/S.761](#)
 - An Act prioritizing patient access to care [H.2370/S.1563](#)
 - An Act strengthening health care protections in the Commonwealth [SD.2808](#)
 - The Location Shield Act
 - An Act to protect location privacy [H.86](#)
 - An Act to protect safety and privacy by stopping the sale of location data [S.197](#)

- An Act relative to healthy youth [H.656/S.340](#)
- An Act to increase access to disposable menstrual products [H.2483/S.1549](#)
- **LWVMA - Meet the Specialists** (catalog) Series of four programs offering members the chance to take a deep dive into the state level bills the League supports in a specific topic area. Learn more about these important issues and what we can do to advance them on Beacon Hill. Featuring presentations on Medicare for All, Gun Violence Prevention, Fairness for Farmworkers/Immigration, and Reproductive Rights/Women's Issues.
- **LWVMA Town Hall: Supported/Opposed Legislation 2025-2026** ([recording](#)) (April 17) Learn from chair Jen Muroff about the Legislative Action Committee and the bills LWVMA is prioritizing this session. ([accompanying slides](#)) Visit the [legislative tracking page](#) for more information. This is a **FANTASTIC** primer on how the League advocates for and against legislation at the state level. **Highly recommended viewing!**
- **MoveON Hands OFF De-escalation and Safety Training** (April 3) This is a GREAT informative webinar on personal safety at stand out and protest events. Worth a watch at your leisure. The basics of de-escalation and safety apply widely.

OTHER IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

✦ **Stay Informed** LWVUS sends an informative bi-weekly newsletter (check out the [April 17 issue](#)). You can [join the mailing list here](#).

✦ **Steering Committee Meetings** (generally second Tuesdays of the month) Members are always welcome at Steering Committee meetings. **We are done with regular meetings for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Our next meeting will be the Annual Meeting**, held on **Monday, June 30, at 6:30 PM** at the **Wenham Council on Aging** building (10 School St., Wenham).

- [Draft Minutes from May 13](#)
- [Approved Minutes from April 8](#)

✦ **LWVMA Convention 2025** “Year 105: Democracy Forward!” **Saturday, June 14, 9 AM - 4 PM**, EnVision Hotel Mansfield/Foxboro (31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield) [Registration now open!](#)

Not a member yet?

[Join us today!](#)

If you or someone you know would like to join the League, let us know or simply have them [join online](#)! **We are always happy to answer questions too!**

You can also encourage folks to [sign up for our periodic email updates](#). Thanks for helping build our community!





Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

LWVHW Steering Committee

Dacia Rubel, Spokesperson & Civics Engagement

MJ Brown, Membership & Publicity/PR

Christina Holz, Elections & Voter Services

Max King, Graphics Specialist

Jane Kusel, Legislative Envoy

Stephanie MacLeod, Treasurer & Website

Lindsay Schnabel, Elections & Voter Services

Bethany Swanson, At-Large

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