

Nonpartisanship Policy “The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties. Any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.” Please print the nonpartisanship policy stated above in combination with our mission statement on all your voters service publications, such as Voters Guides, candidate forum programs, and elected officials guides. In addition, all local Leagues should adopt a nonpartisan political policy statement and review/update it annually. It should outline the limitations for political activities for various board positions. Local League nonpartisan policies vary based on their own communities. For the policy of the state board, see the LWVTX Nonpartisan Political Policy, Section 1.1, in Policies and Procedures: A Manual for State & Local League Boards found on the publications page of the state website.

# **Policies & Procedures**

## **A Manual for State and Local Leagues**

### **Adopted as revised by the**

### **League of Women Voters of Texas Board of Directors**

© July 2005; Revised 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2016, 2017

## **Sec. 1. Policies Relating to the Public & Government**

### **1.1 Nonpartisan Political Policy**

Members of the state and local League boards shall adhere carefully to the nonpartisan political policy of the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS). Specific procedures to implement this policy include:

1.1.1 The president, chairs of the advocacy and education committees, the voters service coordinator, and others the public strongly identifies with the state or the local League, such as the executive administrator, shall avoid political activities while on the board that may give the appearance of partisanship.

1.1.2 All state and local board members are encouraged to vote in the primary of their choice.

*1.1.3 Other state and local board members are encouraged to participate in political activities but must first consult the board if they are in doubt as to whether their activities could compromise the League’s nonpartisanship.*

1.1.4 A board member shall not run for office in a partisan race or accept a partisan appointment

1.1.5 A state board member may accept appointment to, or run for, a local political office if

1.1.5a the election does not require a party affiliation,

1.1.5b the board of the local League involved gives approval, and

1.1.5c the state League board approves.

1.1.6 Individuals serving as issue chairs shall avoid activities that could compromise League nonpartisanship. They are encouraged to participate in political activities but must first consult the board if they are in doubt as to whether their activities could compromise League nonpartisanship.

1.1.7 The Nominating Committee shall explain to prospective board nominees the League nonpartisan political policy. The state board shall explain to prospective off-board appointees the nonpartisan political policy.