



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LOS ANGELES PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3303 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 310
Los Angeles, CA 90010-1700
www.LWVlosangeles.org

Contact: Raquel Beltran,
Executive Director
Phone: (213)-368-1616
Email: info@LWVlosangeles.org

LA's Winter Election has started! LWVLA: [YES](#) on A, [Neutral](#) on B

Los Angeles, CA –

Vote-by-mail ballots have already started arriving in homes throughout Los Angeles, prompting David A. Holtzman, President of the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles (LWVLA) to observe, "Despite what Punxsutawney Phil, the weather predicting groundhog, may have said, the March 5, 2013, election in Los Angeles will be over long before the first day of spring!"

Voters in the City of Los Angeles face two "YES or NO" ballot measures.

The League of Women Voters positions on the ballot measures are:

Proposition A: YES

(0.5% Sales Tax Increase for Local Services)

The City of Los Angeles does not have adequate revenue. Although the League prefers progressive taxes that vary based on ability to pay, the League accepts the use of sales taxes to raise needed revenue, largely because essential goods and services are exempt from sales tax. If enacted, this needed revenue measure will bring the total sales tax in the city to 9.5% (with 1.25% going to the city). The sales tax is already 9.5% in several cities in Los Angeles County.

Charter Amendment B: NEUTRAL

(Pension Credit Program for Personnel Transferred to LAPD)

It seems reasonable to allow transferred personnel to buy service credit in the LAPD's pension plan for the time they worked for another city department. And the proposal specifies that the purchases be "cost neutral" to the city. Nevertheless, LWVLA is concerned that in practice the program would use financial assumptions likely to result in the city losing money. This fiscal concern offsets our support for the general idea, so we have a neutral stance on this measure.

For more detail, please see "[The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles](#)

LWVLA encourages L.A. voters to ["Vote with the League!"](#)

LWVLA is a chapter of the League of Women Voters of the United States, 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. Membership is open to women and men.

For more information on LWVLA, visit our [website](#) or [calendar](#) page or call (213) 368-1616.

We're also on [Twitter](#) and on [Facebook](#).

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Our apologies to those who tried our website during our domain outage on Saturday.