

Nonpartisan Policy

Revised July 2015

The League is a nonpartisan organization. It never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. The League may, however, support or oppose particular ballot measures in line with positions adopted as a result of study and/or consensus reached on program issues.

The League of Women Voters of Piedmont may take action on governmental measures and policies, but it shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

Recognizing that the League experience uniquely equips members for public life and wishing to encourage members to utilize their knowledge and abilities, non-board members are urged to participate fully in political activities and issues on an individual basis. Board members' activities must be limited to preserve the League's nonpartisan status.

The President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Action, Voter Service and Smart Voter (Voter's Edge) Chairs, Voter Editor and Agenda Insight presenter, and any other board member whose position is deemed sensitive by the Board shall not run for or hold elective office. If a board member declares for an elective office, the member should resign from the board. Public notices released by the League announcing the resignation of a board member to run for such an office should be carefully worded to avoid the appearance of endorsing the reigning board member's candidacy.

The President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Action, Voter Service and Smart Voter (Voter's Edge) Chairs, Voter Editor and Agenda Insight presenter, and any other board member whose position is deemed sensitive by the Board shall not participate in any political campaign in any way. These board members shall not chair or administer fundraising or political campaigns, chair campaign events, lend their name to a supporter list, or work in a significant way in the campaign of a candidate, but may attend such meetings.

A board member may serve on any public board, commission, or coalition; however, that board member does not represent the League unless officially designated as a League representative by the League board.

A board member may not speak or in any way work against a League position.

A board member shall not indicate her/his political affiliations or candidate preferences at any level of government in the media (including on social networking sites or other public venues) that also prominently identify her/him as a member of the League.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the board member.

Board members who question whether an activity violates the League's nonpartisan policy should bring the issue to the Board for a decision.