

MISSOULA LWV COALITION GUIDELINES

Adopted April 2000

The following guidelines will be considered when the League decides whether or not to join a coalition:

1. The coalition's major issues should mesh with League positions, though there need not be a League position on every issue with which the coalition is concerned. The aims of the coalition must not conflict with League positions.
2. The major goals of the coalition should be in accord with the adopted Advocacy Agenda or Citizen Education Priorities, or the goals should be ones the League expects to work on in the future to achieve.
3. The coalition's activities should bring added effectiveness to the overall efforts to achieve the League's organizational, advocacy and educational goals.
4. The members of the coalition should be organizations with which the League can work effectively. The League should have confidence in the leadership of the coalition and may serve in a leadership capacity.
5. Expenditures for work with the coalition (including staff and volunteer time, as well as cash and in-kind expenses) should be worth the investment.
6. The League representative to a coalition shall be a board member.
7. The League representative to a coalition, of which the League is a member, must have the prior approval of the League president and/or the League Executive committee, before making any formal public statement of League position on a specific issue.
8. If the League disagrees with the majority opinion of the coalition, a public statement of the League's dissension should be issued, and relationship publicly broken.
9. If at such time, the activities of the coalition change from inquiry and education to advocacy and action, the League representative shall bring notice of the changes to the attention of the League's Board. The Board or the League's Executive committee must approve specific changes in the outline for work and public positions, i.e., action and advocacy, through which the League acts in conjunction with the coalition, In general, this would be based on League positions.
10. Joining a coalition should be a Board decision.