



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CONNECTICUT
EDUCATION FUND, INC.**

1890 Dixwell Avenue, Suite 203
Hamden, CT 06514-3183
203-288-7996 Fax 203-288-7998 www.lwvct.org

**LWV of Connecticut agrees with refusal to release voter information to
Kobach commission**

The League of Women Voters of Connecticut (LWVCT) supports Connecticut Secretary of the State Denise Merrill's decision not to release Connecticut voters' information to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity.

In her July 2 letter to Kris Kobach, the Commission's vice chair, Secretary Merrill said that complying with the Commission's request to release voting information, including personally identifiable information about voters, "is not in the best interest of Connecticut residents."

On July 6, the LWVCT sent a letter commending Secretary Merrill for her response to Mr. Kobach, stating "The League stands by our long history of protecting voters by opposing the release of voting information."

In addition to questions Secretary Merrill posed to the Commission, the LWVCT letter asks:

- What changes, if any, to the federal election laws would you recommend to enhance the integrity of federal elections?
- How can the commission support state and local election officials in regard to information technology security and vulnerabilities?
- What recommendations do you have for preventing voter intimidation or disenfranchisement?
- What evidence is there that there is voter fraud in Connecticut?

The LWV is actively involved in preserving the sanctity of the vote. LWV supports passage of the Automatic Voter Registration Act of 2017, continued existence of the Election Assistance Commission, restoration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, and federal funding for replacement of outdated election equipment. LWV opposes partisan redistricting in the drawing of legislative districts.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy thorough education and advocacy. Membership is open to men and women of all ages.

###

Attached:

Letter dated July 6, 2017 to Secretary of the State Denise Merrill



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
1890 Dixwell Avenue, Suite 203
Hamden, CT 06514-3183
203-288-7996 Fax 203-288-7998 www.lwvct.org

July 6, 2017

SOTS Denise Merrill
State Capitol, Room 104
210 Capitol Ave.
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Secretary Merrill:

The League of Women Voters of Connecticut would like to commend you for your recent response to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Elections Integrity in your letter dated July 2, 2017. The League stands by our long history of protecting voters by opposing the release of voting information.

We are in agreement that the voters need to have additional information to assess the rationale for giving even public voter information to the commission. Your questions were important ones and we would add some of our own:

- What changes, if any, to the federal election laws would you recommend to enhance the integrity of federal elections?
- How can the commission support state and local election officials in regard to information technology security and vulnerabilities?
- What recommendations do you have for preventing voter intimidation or disenfranchisement?
- What evidence is there that there is voter fraud in Connecticut?

The League of Women Voters is actively involved in preserving the sanctity of the vote:

- We support the passage of the Automatic Voter Registration Act of 2017.
- We oppose the termination of the Election Assistance Commission
- We support the restoration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act.
- We oppose partisan redistricting in the drawing of legislative districts
- We support federal funding for replacement of outdated election equipment

This is an integral time for voters as there are so many proposed barriers to an open and transparent election process. The League of Women Voters of Connecticut will continue our efforts to fight for the voters of our state.

Sincerely,

Carol Reimers
President