



BULLETIN, October, 2026

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

Greetings from the Convenor's Desk.

The League of Women Voters of Lexington is expanding its **Rides to the Polls program** to provide rides to voters not only on Election Day, November 3, but also during the early voting period, October 17 to October 30. We want the convenience of early voting available to everyone.

The new ride dates are intended to accommodate voters who wish to vote early or who want to deliver their mail-in ballots in person, but need transportation to do so. Rides can be arranged by calling the League at (339) 223-0832. Contact information will also be available from the Town Clerk's office.

**Lexington Voters:
Get a Free Ride to the Polls!
Oct 17-30 & Nov 3**

**Vote in person
or
Hand-deliver your mail-in ballot
Call 339-223-0832**



LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF LEXINGTON

In a lawsuit filed by the League of Women Voters the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, and other civic groups, the Supreme Court recently upheld a U.S. District Court preliminary injunction blocking proposed U.S. Postal Service rules that would have stopped the delivery of certain mail-in ballots. Many voters remain concerned or concerned. Our expanded rides program will help everyone to return their mail-in ballots in person if they prefer.

Massachusetts [first offered](#) the option to vote early in 2016, and to vote by mail without an excuse in 2020. In 2023, the [Massachusetts VOTES Act](#) made these reforms permanent

There will be 9 questions on the November 3 ballot, but, in the Fifteenth Middlesex district (Representative Michelle Ciccolo-Precincts 1-5, and 7-9) there will be a 10th non-binding question about stipend reform. And if that is not enough, there will be an 11th also non-binding question on all Lexington ballots about Medicare for all.

The Lexington LWV is holding the **October First Friday on October 3** to discuss the 9 statewide ballot questions.

And don't forget to look at the "Red Book" from the Secretary of State's office (all 87 pages!) to learn more about them. Voting is not for the faint-hearted this year!

Thanks to Jere Zeder and Melanie Thompson for working on this information and for the graphic.

Margaret Coppe
Convenor

LWV FIRST FRIDAY FORUM, OCTOBER 2, 2026: VOTERS TO CONSIDER 9 BALLOT QUESTIONS ON NOVEMBER 3



Jonathan Cohn

The League of Women Voters of Lexington's First Friday presentation on the **November 3 Ballot Questions** will be on **Friday, October 2, 2026, 9:30 AM** at the Lexington Community Center and features **Jonathan Cohn, Policy Director for Progressive Massachusetts**, a multi-issue grassroots organization that advocates for state level policy. He has been active in campaigns to expand voting rights, strengthen immigrants' rights, increase education funding, and make a fairer tax code, among others. He has also been a volunteer, neighborhood team leader, regional coordinator, or campaign manager for various candidate campaigns and ballot initiatives at the city, state, county, and national level.

Andrew Mikula with the Legalize Starter Homes ballot committee (better known as Yes on 7) will also be joining the discussion.

There are nine statewide ballot questions on the November 3, 2026 state election. In Lexington there are two additional ballot questions (except for Precinct 6 where there are ten) that are nonbinding and refer to legislator stipends. Mr. Cohn will explain what will happen if these questions pass and what effect they will have on citizens and communities. Every household in Lexington has received the **Secretary of State's Information for Voters booklet, the "Red Book"** and you are urged to bring it with you.

[**This First Friday presentation is intended to be a factual presentation of the ballot questions presented, and not advocacy for or against any question. However, the League of Women Voters has taken a position on five of these questions. Below is a statement of the League positions on each of those five issues.**]

This program is the second in the 2025-2026 LWV First Friday Forum series hosted by the League of Women Voters to promote awareness and understanding of public policy issues. Lex Media will record the program for future viewing. All League forums are free and open to the public. As always, there will be time for Q&A after the program. For more information about the League and this program go to: <https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/lexington>.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MASSACHUSETTS LWVMA ADVOCACY

LWVMA Supports (Urges YES Vote)

- Question 1: Expanding the Public Records Law
- Question 4: Election Day Registration
- Question 7: Single Family Homes
- Question 9: Firearms Regulation: Vote YES to uphold the current firearms law

LWVMA Opposes (Urges NO Vote)

- Question 5: State Revenue Limit & Rebate

LWVMA is focusing resources on Yes on 4: Election Day Registration (EDR) and Yes on 9: Firearms Regulation.

Yes 4 Election Day Registration (EDR)

LWVMA urges a yes vote on Question 4: Election Day Registration. LWVMA has supported Election Day Registration (EDR) for more than a decade. EDR helps eligible voters who miss the state's arbitrary cutoff for registration. It helps registered voters who have moved, changed their names, been shifted to inactive status, or have a typo in their registration. Instead of casting a provisional ballot that may take weeks to verify, they can bring ID, re-register and vote on the spot. They will remain registered for future elections. It reduces the administrative burden on election officials, who will have far fewer provisional ballots to review. Now is the time to enact this common-sense reform already used by 23 states.

Yes on 9 to Uphold Firearms Regulations

LWVMA is participating in the Vote Yes for a Safe Massachusetts campaign to defeat the Massachusetts Firearm Regulations Referendum. This is a veto referendum to repeal An Act Modernizing Firearms Laws previously passed in Massachusetts. LWVMA supported the passage of this law during the previous legislative session. A YES vote upholds the law as is. A NO vote repeals the law.

Statement of Celia Canavan, LWVMA Executive Director

[Because of the unusual circumstances of this year's November election, we include a statement from our Executive Director to League members.]

This ballot question season has been a year of firsts. We have never seen so many ballot questions proposed, nor the legal battles they faced, and now we have a record-tying number of ballot questions – with some local ballots including over 10 questions! on ballot questions, This year existing League positions have allowed us to take a public stance on 5 of the 9 ballot questions – requiring a herculean effort by our Board, volunteers, and staff to vet and confirm each stance. Because of the nature of the questions, what has always been voter service now includes elements of advocacy. We appreciate Your patience, as we work our way through this unprecedented year.

Voter service and advocacy cannot be listed next to each other without a clear differentiation between what we have taken positions on, and what we have not. This is especially important for our ballot questions, where the League is involved in two ballot question committees: the Yes on 4 Election Day Registration Committee, and the Yes on 9 for a Safe Massachusetts Committee. For these two ballot questions, as well as 1, 5, and 7, local Leagues must be mindful of general League principles: The state League creates and approves the kinds of action local Leagues can take on statewide ballot questions. To maintain our tax status as 501c3 and 501c4 organizations, we must ensure that our voter service and advocacy efforts remain separate and distinguished, to ensure compliance with the IRS and campaign finance laws.

I want to thank you all for hanging in with us this ballot question season: we know the break from our norm can sometimes be uncomfortable and difficult to convey to our communities. But this election is a reflection of what we already know to be true: as political tensions and threats to democratic institutions rise, the League must be proactive in our response to these threats, and utilize all available resources and every avenue possible to uphold and protect our civil liberties, democratic institutions, and policies that allow us to build a stronger democracy; including at the ballot box.

As a nonpartisan organization, we exist outside of the idea that one candidate or one party is the answer to our problems. This is why action on our ballot questions is important: because these

questions represent 9 different ways that voters can use their voice to reflect their vision for the Commonwealth, rather than assuming that any candidate or party will reliably reflect those values.

LWVMA EVENTS

LWVMA ON GBH'S BOSTON PUBLIC RADIO

This month you can Join LWVMA alive and in-person at the **Boston Public Library on Friday, October 16 at 11:00 am** when our **Executive Director Celia Canavan will be featured as the YES on Ballot Question 4 debate speaker on GBH's Boston Public Radio (BPR) with Jim Braude and Margery Egan. Alternatively, you can watch the show live on the BPR YouTube channel or nepm.org, or listen live on the **radio at 89.7 and NEPM radio 88.5** in Western Massachusetts.**

The Boston Public Library (BPL) central branch is located at 700 Boylston Street in Copley Square, Boston. GBH radio is recorded at the BPL's Newsfeed Cafe, accessible through the main Boylston Street entrance. Arrive at BPL via the Copley Station of the Green Line T or the Back Bay Station of the commuter rail and/or the Orange Line T. Parking is limited. Find a spot nearby through SpotHero.

NO KINGS EARLY ACTIVATION OCTOBER 17

The League is continuing to partner nationally with No Kings around its non-partisan **October 17 Vote Early Activation**, while keeping **Election Hero Day on October 20 as a priority League moment**. Leagues may participate in No Kings activities on October 17 if they have the capacity to do so without taking time or resources away from your planned Election Hero Day activities. Nationally, LWVUS is working with No Kings to encourage participants on October 17 to lift up Election Hero Day and the important role election workers play in making our democracy possible.

REMINDER: BOSTON 10K FOR WOMEN ON OCTOBER 10

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts is fielding a team: ***Team Civic Pacers*** for the 50th anniversary of the **Boston 10k for Women, held at the Boston Common on October 10, 2026**. This year, the League has been selected as a **charity partner**, so participation makes an impact not just on race day, but on sustaining our civic education, youth leadership, and internship programming – ensuring the League's impact sustains us for another 106 years.

Even if you weren't able to sign up as part of the team, you can come down to the Boston Common before 9:00 am to see our runners start and cheer them on. For more information: www.lwvma.org/2026-boston-10k-for-women/ .

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE UNITED STATES

LWVUS EVENTS

ENGAGING VOTERS: TEXTBANKING OPPORTUNITIES

One of the most effective ways to engage voters is simply by reaching out. LWV upcoming **textbank opportunities** allow you to connect directly with voters, share important election information, and encourage civic participation — all from your computer or phone. No experience? We'll provide training, support, and everything you need to get started. Sign up for an upcoming textbank at: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/Sq8qwxdsQ_Cx0hfOu5yEBA#/registration.

Textbanks will take place on the following dates:

- October 22 at 06:00 pm ET
- October 29 at 06:00 pm ET

VOTE411 is LIVE!

VOTE411 is the League's "one-stop-shop" for election related information. Voters can use the following features on VOTE411 to educate themselves ahead of the November 3rd elections:

- Receive personalized ballot and candidate information. www.vote411.org/ballot
- Check their voter registration. www.vote411.org/check-registration
- Make a voting plan. www.vote411.org/make-your-plan
- Learn more about voting rules and options in Massachusetts. www.vote411.org/massachusetts

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

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Communications: Jeanne Canale

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P.O. Box 233, Lexington, MA

www.lwvlexington.org/

lwv.lexington@gmail.com

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of self-government established in the Constitution of the United States. The League works to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government. For more information, contact Convenor Margaret Coppe at [**mecoppe@gmail.com**](mailto:mecoppe@gmail.com).

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LEGISLATORS

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren

JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street, Boston, MA 2203
(617) 565-3170

311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-4543

U.S. Senator Edward Markey

JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street, Boston, MA 2203
(617) 565-8519

255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-2742

U.S. Representative Katherine M. Clark

2368 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2836

MA Senator Michael Barrett

24 Beacon Street, Room 312B
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-1572

MA Senator Cindy Friedman

24 Beacon Street, Room 313
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-1432

MA Rep. Michelle Ciccolo

24 Beacon Street, Room 473F
Boston, MA 02133
(781) 330-0730

MA Rep. Ken Gordon

24 Beacon Street, Room 473G
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-2070

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We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you would like to submit an article for the November 2026 Lexington LWV Bulletin, please send it to Wendy Manz at wendy_manz@yahoo.com by October 28, 2026.



**THE COMING ELECTION IS AS CONSEQUENTIAL AS
ANY WE HAVE HELD IN THIS CENTURY.
DEMOCRACY IS NOT A SPECTATOR SPORT.**

VOTE!