



# LWV Glendale/Burbank VOTER

[www.gb.ca.lwvnet.org](http://www.gb.ca.lwvnet.org)

April/May 2018

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- Twitter: @LWV\_GB
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## Letter from the President

Cold days, warm days, a smattering of rain followed by Santa Ana winds. The weather pattern reminds us that Spring has finally arrived in Glendale and Burbank! Breathe deeply and enjoy the sweet Spring air! And, in my case, grab a tissue and sneeze!!

Traditionally, Spring is the time of year that we clean house and dust off those projects that laid dormant during the Winter months. The League of Women Voters is no exception. We are looking forward to many activities this Spring, including our annual meeting!

Our annual meetings are now biennial and last year we enjoyed our “social + speaker only” lunch [during odd-numbered years] meeting, but Leaguers also enjoy the pageantry of an election and that’s the main addition to our “business + social + speaker” lunch [during even-numbered years]. It’s 2018, so all positions for Board directors and officers are on the ballot!

Please consider accepting a nomination to the Board of Directors. New terms are two years and the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters – United States is just around the corner in 2020! This is a very exciting time to participate on the local board of directors of the League of Women Voters – Glendale/Burbank, a non-partisan political organization.

Read more about our upcoming events in this issue of the Voter. Please attend our events and invite a friend!

Sincerely,  
Mary L. Dickson  
President of LWV-Glendale/Burbank

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## IN MEMORIAM

Our dear friend and member Joan Godell passed away this past March, 2018. Joan was a long-time member and a director on the Board. She served on our events and scholarship committees and was always willing to help with voter service and education efforts.

Donations in her honor can be made to the League of Women Voters-Glendale/Burbank and all designated funds will be added to the scholarship fund for distribution to local, deserving college students. We will miss Joan and extend our deep sympathies to her family.

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## April 2018 LWV-G/B Members Planning Meeting the SB-415 Forum!

Commencing January 1, 2018, cities such as Burbank and Glendale must have adopted a plan to consolidate a future municipal election with a statewide election (because holding an election on a nonconcurrent date has previously resulted in reduced voter turnout). Turnout for our municipal elections has been so low that the new law requires that our municipal elections be aligned with statewide elections. Our next member event is a planning meeting to review Burbank's and Glendale's response to this state law and to develop questions for our informational forum to be held May 9 (see below for more info).

**Date:** Thursday, April 19, 2018

**Location:** Home of Joan Hardie 832 Patterson Ave., Glendale, CA 91202

**Topic:** Planning the forum on SB-415!

**Time:** Meet beginning at 6:30pm, discussion will be starting before 7pm.

Please invite a friend and carpool or use public transportation. Snacks provided!

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## LWV-G/B Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Location: TBD

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SENATE BILL 415  
VOTER PARTICIPATION  
RIGHTS ACT

*How should we comply?*





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## LWV LA County Ballot Briefing and separate Action Workshop

**Date:** Saturday, April 28, 2018

**Time:** 9:30 to Noon

**Location:** Hollenbeck Palms, 573 S. Boyle Avenue, Boyle Heights

Prepare to discuss Pros and Cons on Props. 68 to 72 the 5 state Ballot Measures. Hear experienced speakers present the Pros and Cons to inform you on how to prepare for and present the Pros and Cons. If you would like to attend this briefing, please email us at [lwvglendaleburbankca@gmail.com](mailto:lwvglendaleburbankca@gmail.com) and we will connect you with carpool information.

SENATE BILL 415  
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## May 2018 LWV-G/B Members Event **SB-415 Forum** – Learn about the new elections schedule for Glendale and Burbank

**Date:** Wednesday, May 9, 2018

**Location:** Buena Vista Library, 300 N. Buena Vista St. Burbank, CA 91505

**Speaker:** Doug Johnson

**Time:** 7:00pm to 8:30pm

The League of Women Voters of Glendale/Burbank is pleased to host this informational forum regarding the proposed charter amendments and calendar for our municipal elections.

**ANNUAL  
MEETING**

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## Please Attend the LWV-G/B Annual Meeting!

**Date:** Saturday, June 3, 2018

**Location:** Glendale Community College, Sierra Vista Bldg. in new dining facility in the culinary arts program

**Speaker:** Drew Sugars (*formerly Burbank PIO, now with GCC*)

**Time:** 10:30 am (registration); 11am to 11:45pm (annual meeting); 12 pm (lunch and speaker);

**Luncheon price:** \$25.00 per person

**RSVP:** On our website!

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## **CHANGES PROPOSED FOR PROPOSITION 13**

By: Monica Marquez

In 1978, there was no limit on the amount that property owners could be taxed. Property taxes were assessed according to the fair market value of the property. County assessors determined the market value. With property values skyrocketing, many homeowners were concerned that they could not continue to afford their own homes.

Proposition 13 changed everything. Property taxes would now be assessed at 1% of the purchase price, with an annual increase of 2% or the rate of inflation, whichever was lower. When the property was sold, the tax reset to market value, but then could only go up by the 2% from that point. The results were that Californians who owned their property for a long time paid much less in taxes than newer purchasers.

A new initiative constitutional amendment proposes a major change called a "split roll." Commercial and residential properties would be taxed at different rates. Under the new system, commercial properties would return to assessments based on market value. Residential property taxes would remain under the Prop. 13 system. The "split roll" approach would apply to commercial and industrial properties, along with vacant lots. It would exclude businesses worth less than \$2 million or with 50 or fewer full time employees.

The Legislative Analyst estimates that the change would generate \$6 – \$10 billion per year in revenue. The revenue would be allotted at 60% to local governments, and 40% for schools and community colleges.

The argument of unfairness is at the core of the proposition. The League of Women Voters of California, which supports the change, asserts that the current tax system is unfair and that the proposed change would generate much needed revenue to improve schools and community colleges.

Opponents also call the proposal new system unfair. Business owners would no longer be assured of the stability of their property taxes from year to year. They note that California is one of the most highly taxed states in the union.

The proposition does not have a number. The California Secretary of State has cleared it for signature gathering, which is in process, however, the proposition is expected to be delayed until the 2020 election.

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