



# League of Women Voters of Coos County

<https://my.lwv.org/oregon/coos-county>

541-441-4526

## Voting Matters

**October  
2025**

**SAVE THE DATE**

### **OCTOBER 7** Supporting College Student Voter Education

#### **ZOOM MEETING at noon Pacific time**

**LWVUS** is partnering with the “ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge” to offer members a virtual conversation highlighting the ways that college and university campuses and **LWV** chapters are working together to increase nonpartisan civic engagement among college students. People working on the ground will share tips and best practices for Leagues interested in building and maintaining relationships with campuses. Register [here](#).

### **OCTOBER 27** What’s Salem Done for Me Lately?

**WHEN: Monday, October 27, 4:00–5:30 p.m.**

**WHERE: Coos Bay Public Library, 525 Anderson Ave., Coos Bay**

State Senator Dick Anderson is coming to speak with us about state legislation that has an impact on our communities locally. How does the state serve our needs, and what could state government do better? There will be time for questions.

### **NOVEMBER 1** Fall League Workshop

**WHEN: Saturday, November 1, 10:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m.**

**WHERE: Campbell Community Center, Eugene, OR, and virtually on Zoom**

The focus of this year’s statewide workshop is Voter Service: learn more about voter engagement, youth outreach, engaging underserved communities in voting, and preparing for the 2026 elections, among other topics. Register [here](#).

### **NOVEMBER 19** A Deeper Understanding of the Pacific Coast Intermodal Port Project, part 2




**WHEN: Wednesday, November 19, 6:30–8:00 p.m.**

**WHERE: Egyptian Theatre, 229 S. Broadway, Coos Bay**

**LWVCC** will provide an informational program to address the status and current plans for the proposed PCIP, as well as reviewing trends and challenges in the global container shipping industry and the railroad container transport industry and their impact on the project.

## What Does the League Stand For?

### The League of Women Voters of the United States

-  encourages informed and active participation in government,
-  works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and
-  influences public policy through education and advocacy.



The League believes the freedom to vote is a nonpartisan issue, and it encourages everyone to take part in our democracy. Its vision is of a more inclusive democracy in which all Americans are represented. It promotes social and economic justice through the lens of issues such as health care, the environment, immigration reform and the census.

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## HOW THE LEAGUE PURSUES ITS GOALS

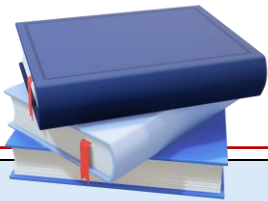


### 1. Studies and Positions

At each level—local, state, and national—committees of League members conduct studies of government issues. Based on the studies, Leagues develop a position by consensus. Only once a position has been adopted by membership can the League engage in advocacy on that issue.

### 2. Education

The League's 501(c)(3) arm, LWV Education Fund, works to register and provide voters with election information through its election resource [www.Vote411.org](http://www.Vote411.org), candidate forums, and debates.



## League LINGO

### What Are League Positions and Principles?

#### Principles

Nationwide, the League of Women Voters has a set of basic principles that collectively form the premise for League advocacy. The Principles are “concepts of government,” descended from the organization’s platform from 1942 to 1956. Each study conducted by any League—local, state, or national—must be consistent with these principles.

#### These are the LWVUS Principles:

- The **League of Women Voters** believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States.
- The **League of Women Voters of the United States** believes that all powers of the US government should be exercised within the constitutional framework of a balance among the three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial.
- The **League of Women Voters** believes that democratic government depends on informed and active participation in government and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings, and making public records accessible.
- The **League of Women Voters** believes every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; every person should have access to free public education that provides equal opportunity for all; and no person or group should suffer legal, economic, or administrative discrimination.
- The **League of Women Voters** believes efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.
- The **League of Women Voters** believes responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy, and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.
- The **League of Women Voters** believes cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems and that development of international organizations and international laws is imperative in the promotion of world peace.

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## Positions

The League conducts studies based on the Principles at the local, state, and national levels. Members reach consensus on a series of statements based on the studies, and those statements are formalized as Positions, which are then voted on by membership. *All League advocacy on any issue must be based on an approved position.*

**The L WVUS positions are legion**, and they are published annually in a book you can buy for a nominal sum: *Impact on Issues: A Guide to Public Policy Positions of the League of Women Voters.*

At the state level, **L WVOR** positions may be found [here](#).

Our local League has a smaller number of positions, listed [here](#). **L WVCC** has positions on the following subjects (date indicates the year adopted):

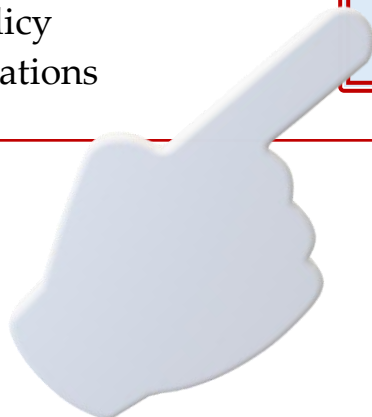
- Affordable Housing (1994)
- Comprehensive Planning (1973)
- County Budget Process (1977, 1987; we are starting a restudy process now)
- County Home Rule (2025)
- County Library Services (1979, 1993)
- Establishment of a Coos County Human Rights Commission (1996)
- Evaluating Public Administrators (1983)
- Health and Mental Health (1958, 1964, 1974, 1987, 1993)
- International Port of Coos Bay (1962, 1981, 2000, 2023)
- Juvenile Facilities (1976, 2000)
- Water Quality (2010)



In addition, **L WVCC** subscribes to the following **L WVUS** positions:

- Climate Change
- International Relations
- Meeting Basic Human Needs
- Natural Resources
- Representative Government
- Social Policy
- United Nations

**All of these positions may be read on our Coos County League Website's Positions page, found under "Issues" in the menu.**



## The Newest LWVUS Position: Federal Judiciary

- ✦ This past year our League participated in **LWVUS's** study of the Federal Judiciary.
- ✦ The study and a consensus position were adopted at the national council in June 2025.
- ✦ Below is the complete position announced by the **LWVUS** board.
- ✦ Now that a position on the Federal Judiciary has been adopted, the League is empowered at all levels to advocate for or against issues reflected in the position.

The League of Women Voters of the United States (**LWVUS**) believes that all powers of the US government should be exercised within the constitutional framework of the balance of powers among the three branches of government. The League believes that, within the bounds of the US Constitution, the overarching principles of transparency, accountability, independence, and ethics are essential to an effective federal judiciary. These principles are not only essential for a strong democracy but foster public trust in the federal judiciary and adherence to the rule of law, the essence of our constitutional democracy.

### For the federal judiciary, the League supports the essential principles of:

- ✦ **Transparency:** Federal court documents, proceedings, and rulings, including those in “shadow docket” cases, should be open and available to the public within the bounds of the law, recognizing the need for limited exceptions, such as legally protected sensitive information.
- ✦ **Accountability:** Federal judges and Justices should be held legally and ethically responsible for the integrity of their actions, with enforceable consequences for violations.
- ✦ **Independence:** Federal judges and Justices should act in accordance with the Constitution and statutory and case law, free from the influence of the other branches of government and free from shifting popular and political opinion.
- ✦ **Ethics:** Federal judges and Justices should adhere to ethical standards of conduct that apply universally at all levels of the federal courts. There should be a meaningful enforcement process with judges and Justices subject to penalties for failure to comply with the standards.

The League believes that standards of conduct for federal judges and Justices should include requirements to disclose non-judicial income; other financial benefits including, but not limited to, gifts and hospitality; and investment holdings. Federal judges, Justices, and their partners or spouses should be subject to penalties for failure to disclose accurately and in a timely manner.

The League believes that standards of conduct should include a process that requires a judge or Justice to recuse themselves upon evidence that a bias or reasonable perception of a bias exists for or against any party or issue raised in a case. A judge's or Justice's decision and rationale not to recuse, despite evidence raised in the court proceedings, should be disclosed in the court's record.

The League believes that respect for precedent (*stare decisis*) under most circumstances contributes to a strong democracy and promotes predictability and stability of law. *Stare decisis* does not mean precedents cannot or should not be overruled, but that such instances should occur in exceptional circumstances.

The League believes that the elements of this position contribute to judicial integrity and are essential to a strong democracy. These elements exemplify what the League expects from the federal courts, building trust and buttressing the Courts' legitimacy. Adherence to the principles of accountability, transparency, independence, and ethics ensures both a strong federal judiciary and a stronger democracy.



## Notes from Myrtle Point



**Jackie Clary,  
LWVCC President**

*We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, the access, and the confidence to participate.*  
—LWVUS Vision Statement

We have officially begun our League year, starting with a most impressive first meeting. At this writing, we now have at least 7 new members. Please join me in wishing their membership is as meaningful to them as it is to us.

Lately, I have been thinking more about DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) and its place in LWV values. First of all, by creating an acronym, I think we have made this challenge an easier target. In reality, DEI includes all of us to some degree. For instance—not to denigrate anyone with much larger issues—I belong to a group that is 10% of the population:

I am left-handed. Most of the time I am amused by the adjustments I have to make. Then I remember how my father was severely disciplined at home and at school for using his left hand, how “left” meant evil, demonic, and all kinds of other really bad things.

I remember only one time, in all my many decades, when I was asked if I needed special accommodation and how it made me feel to be asked. Such a little thing—to be seen. That’s DEI to me.

### CHECK IT OUT

During an average work week, how much time does a member of the U.S. House of Representatives spend raising money for their next election?

*“The most important political office is that of the private citizen.”*  
—Louis Brandeis, Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court

### Committee Chairs 2025–2026

**Action Coordinator:** Alice Carlson  
**Everymember Handbook:** Linda Miller  
**Membership Roster:** Margie Marshall  
**Membership Chair:** Susan Anderson  
**Merchandise Chair:** Susan Anderson  
**Nominating Committee Chair:** Alice Carlson  
**Program/Meeting Chair:** Judy Moody  
**Publicity/Press Relations:** Frances Smith  
**Natural Resources Chair:** Christine Moffitt  
**VOTING MATTERS Designer:** Cindy Machowski  
**VOTING MATTERS Editor:** Abigail Bok  
**Voter Service Chair:** Abigail Bok  
**Website Coordinator:** Linda Miller

### Coos County League Leadership Board of Directors 2025–2026

**President:** Jackie Clary (2025–27)  
**First Vice-President:** Frances Smith (2025–27)  
**Second Vice-President:** Abigail Bok (2024–26)  
**Secretary:** Carol Sanders (2024–26)  
**Treasurer:** Jen Shafer (2025–27)  
**Directors at Large**  
 Paul Arebalo (2025–27)  
 Kay Kerriden (2025–27)  
 Linda Miller (2025–26)  
 Judy Moody (2025–27)  
 Christine Moffitt (2024–26)





## Announcing New Oregon League President

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF OREGON

**“This unconscionable transformation of our democracy must not stand. It is contrary to the League’s core principles and adopted positions.”**

Mark Kendall, LWVOR President

**LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF OREGON



Mark Kendall, LWVOR President

In September, **LWVOR** announced its new president, Mark Kendall. A member of the Marion-Polk League, Kendall has served on several local and national nonprofit boards for more than 20 years. He has an academic background in organizational development and mediation training through the Neighbor to Neighbor program.

*Our new **LWVOR** President, Mark Kendall, began his term on September 1. We’re happy to share his introductory remarks to League members.*

Dear **LWVOR** Member,

It is with humility and honor that I have accepted this opportunity to coordinate the efforts of and provide leadership for the League of Women Voters of Oregon. As a League colleague said, these are “very unprecedented times.” My motivation is derived from concern for the viability of our democratic system of governance, seeing decades of progressive social reform overturned and looking into the eyes of my 12-year-old granddaughter as I see her civil rights being eroded and abridged on a daily basis. This unconscionable transformation of our democracy must not stand. It is contrary to the League’s core principles and adopted positions.

My objectives in this appointment are to (1) amplify the League’s voice both in Oregon and as empowered nationally, consistent with the “one voice” condition supported by rigorous consensus positions; (2) faithfully and vigorously implement the Oregon LWV Board strategic plan that focuses on eight priorities, many of which are of perennial interest to our members across Oregon; (3) champion the ongoing excellence of the League of Women Voters of Oregon core mission contributions to voters rights, equity, inclusion, civil rights, social justice; and (4) provide leadership of transparent, nimble, accountable and actionable governance.

## League Battles Battle Large & Small



### GERRYMANDERING FIGHTS

The League and the ACLU suffered a setback in South Carolina when the state Supreme Court dismissed a case challenging gerrymandering based on party. The court did not dispute the fact that lawmakers drew the Congressional maps for partisan gain, but ruled that only the state legislature could make laws regarding the drawing of district boundaries. The ruling echoes a 2019 opinion from the U.S. Supreme Court in *Rucho v. Common Cause*, when they said that while gerrymandering may be “incompatible with democratic principles,” it was a “nonjusticiable political question.”

For the League’s actions in response to the mid-cycle redistricting in Texas, see page 8.

### POSSE COMITATUS ACT OVERREACH

In Tennessee, **LWVUS** and the local League issued a statement in response to the plan to deploy the National Guard in Memphis that reads in part, “The League implores Congress to investigate the legality of this deployment and others like it in DC and Los Angeles. It is your duty as our representatives to ensure transparency and prevent misuse of federal authority. . . . The League of Women Voters strongly condemns the deployment of federal or state troops to any American city without due cause. We stand with Memphis and all communities facing this dangerous and unnecessary escalation.”

### BOOKS, RIGHTS IN SCHOOLS

The LWV of Iowa and One Iowa filed an amicus brief in a U.S. Court of Appeals supporting a preliminary injunction against provisions of a 2023 state law, SF 496. The law restricts books on LGBTQIA+ subjects in school libraries and the rights of LGBTQIA+ students in school. Caren Short, director of legal and research for **LWVUS**, said, “Students have a right to feel welcome and safe at their schools, and this includes the right to learn freely. Schools should be places where every student is respected, not where they are subject to state-sanctioned discrimination.”

### League Action around the Country

- ➔ Litigation
- ➔ Political advocacy



## Texas Mid-Cycle Redistricting

- On September 15, the League of Women Voters and other groups, led by the Legal Defense Fund, filed an amicus brief in the case *League of United Latin American Citizens et al. v. State of Texas et al.*, a suit seeking to block the Texas Legislature's attempt to further gerrymander the state's congressional maps. The brief argues that the court should block the 2025 congressional map before the 2026 elections because it is racially discriminatory.
- LWVUS** CEO Celina Stewart said, "Redistricting should always serve the people, not politicians. What is happening in Texas and across the country is not only a political disgrace, but also illegal racial discrimination against Black voters and other voters of color." Texas has more eligible Black voters than any other state in the country, and Latino voters make up 24% of the electorate.

### LWVOR Looking for Action Committee Members

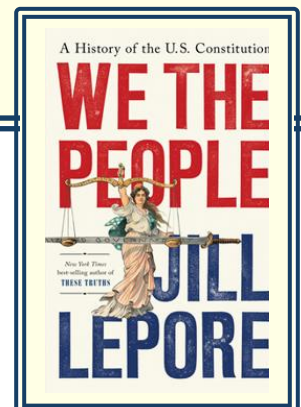
- LWVOR has an active group of volunteers who track legislation in Salem on a variety of issues of interest to the League.
- You do not have to live near Salem to participate! Currently the Action Committee is especially interested in finding someone with an interest in tracking Revenue issues in Oregon government.
- If you would like to be that person, write to [advocacy@lwvor.org](mailto:advocacy@lwvor.org) to learn more.

## Recommended Reading








Celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence by picking up this book by a highly regarded Harvard Law professor. Lepore deftly punctures the doctrine of originalism and brings to light the long history of attempts to amend and refresh our founding document.

**Warning:** this book is a doorstopper, at 720 pages!  
Learn more about it [here](#).





## October 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 Yom Kippur Begins 	3	4
5	6	7 Board Meeting 1 pm via ZOOM	8	9	10	11
12	13 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY 	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Diwali  Happy Diwali	21	22	23	24 United Nations Day 	25
26	27 What's Salem Done for Me Lately? 4:00 pm	28	29	30	31 Halloween 	

## November 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 LWVOR Fall Workshop
2 	3 Election Heroes Day	4 Board Meeting 1 pm via ZOOM	5	6	7 Supporting College Students Zoom - Noon	8
9	10	11 	12	13	14	15
16 	17	18	19 A Deeper Understanding of the PCIP II 7 pm	20 LWVUS Federal Advocacy Wrapper Zoom - noon	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving 	28	29
30						

## December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 	6 LWVCC Potluck & Fundraiser 11:30-1:30
7 	8	9	10 	11	12	13
14	15 Hanukkah Begins Bill of Rights Day	16	17	18	19	20
21 Winter Solstice 	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day 	26 	27
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 			