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LWVSC Testimony on S. 37 (Municipal Elections) in Senate Subcommittee

The League of Women Voters supports the proposed changes in municipal election law. At present municipal elections often draw regrettably few voters due to unpredictable election times and are subject to excessive variation in processes. When problems arise, they lead to lack of the voter confidence that is essential to our form of government.

The standardized dates established in Section 2(B) should provide predictability for voters. The current lack of uniformity leads to voter confusion and to very small turnout in many elections.

The authority of municipalities to transfer election administration to the county in Section 7, and the requirement that the county accept that responsibility, is also very important. Only larger municipalities can maintain trained staff and consistent oversight of the highly technical processes of modern elections.

We have no recommendations for amendment and we support this bill.

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