



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Richmond, Virginia – August 19, 2020 - **LWV-VA commends Governor Northam for voter protection proposals.**

Yesterday, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam made recommendations aimed at supporting the health and safety of voters and poll workers during the pandemic.

"We commend the Governor on his elections proposals and urge the General Assembly to adopt them," said Deb Wake, president of League of Women Voters of Virginia. "Voters should not need to choose between their health and their right to vote, a cornerstone of our democracy. Secure and flexible access to voting will preserve public health and safety."

The governor's plan to permit voters to deposit their absentee ballots in secure drop boxes will preserve voter health. More than 30 states now permit voters to deposit their ballots in strong, tamperproof drop boxes.

The League also supports the governor's proposal for prepaid return postage on absentee ballots, and budget provisions that will enable absentee voters to correct errors on their ballots. These recommendations will help ensure that all voters can make their voices heard at the polls.

The League of Women Voters of Virginia strongly supports these important measures for access to voting and urges the General Assembly to adopt them.

The League of Women of Arlington is committed to producing positive change in our communities. Current areas of focus for the Arlington LWV are voter registration, voter protection, affordable housing, and fair redistricting.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

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