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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 1, 2020 Richmond, VA **CONTACT:** Rhea Sahai communications@lwv-va.org (804) 447-8494

EMPOWERING VOTERS.

DEFENDING DEMOCRACY

LWV-VA Stands with All Those Who Grieve the Loss of George Floyd

The League of Women Voters of Virginia stands with millions of Americans in grieving the senseless murder of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Sean Reed, and countless other Black lives at the hands of law enforcement officers. These past few weeks have served as a stark reminder of this country's pervasive systems of oppression and inequality. It's also worth noting that these protests come in the midst of a pandemic that is affecting African-American communities at a drastically disproportionate rate.

However, it is not enough to simply grieve and mourn—we must all work to remove racist policies and continue to educate ourselves. We will continue to work to amplify Black voices and empower voters. "We also recognize that besides advocacy and protesting, voting is a powerful tool that we must exercise," stated Deb Wake, president of the League of Women Voters of Virginia. "It is our civic duty to vote." Check <u>Vote411</u> to make sure your voter registration is up to date and so you can vote. It is your voice. Past Issues

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The League of Women Voters was founded in 1920 when U.S. women won the right to vote. We work to encourage informed and active participation in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. The League is dedicated to empowering voters and defending democracy. We are proud to be nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.

For more information, visit the League of Women Voters of Virginia at lwv-va.org and on social media @lwvva and @leagueofwomenvoters.

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