

LWVNPC ACTION PLAN: EDUCATION

In partnership with the League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area, the LWV North Pinellas County Education Team supports Florida's constitutional requirement to make adequate provision for the education of all children that is "uniform, efficient, safe, secure, and high quality."

Key issues include:

1. Charter school quality, management, and cost efficient. See statewide study on school choice at <https://www.lwvfl.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/issue-education-studies-actions-statewide-school-study.pdf>
2. Constitutionality of direct and indirect funding to support private schools. See LWVUS positions on vouchers and tax credit scholarships
3. Impact of testing and school grade policies on teaching, learning, and curriculum.
4. Impact of school choice on school racial and economic segregation and local control of education policy.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON EDUCATION ISSUES, CONTACT:

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LWVNPC ACTION PLAN: NATURAL RESOURCES

The League of Women Voters of North Pinellas County supports LWVFL's position supporting state legislation for energy conservation and greater use of renewable sources like solar energy. Our League supports policies that promote conservation of freshwater and its availability for environmental, public, agricultural, industrial, and mining uses on a priority basis. We also support legislation to ban oil and gas drilling off Florida's coast, as well as funding for public transportation.

Key issues include:

1. Fund Florida Forever of the Water and Land Legacy Act/Protect our state parks.
2. Ban "fracking" in Florida.
3. Restore and protect our water and aquifers.
4. Promote renewable energy and sustainability.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON NATURAL RESOURCES/ENVIRONMENT ISSUES, CONTACT

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LWVNPC ACTION PLAN: POVERTY/HEALTHCARE/JUVENILE JUSTICE

Health (State LWV Priorities)

1. Support expansion of health care access and affordable coverage for low income, uninsured and underinsured under an expansion of Medicaid.
2. Support funding of critical health care services, such as Kid Care, mental health clinics, substance abuse, free family planning services, and expanded dental care.

Juvenile Justice

1. Support the increased use of civil citations instead of arrest where appropriate.

2. Work to decrease the use of Direct File where juveniles are transferred to the adult penal system without judicial oversight.
3. Support reforms that keep juveniles out of adult prisons and out of solitary confinement.

Poverty

1. Support increasing affordable housing. Support use of the Sadowski funds for housing only.
2. Support the increase of TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) payment levels to realistic cost-of-living levels.
3. Support every child in north Pinellas with quality pre-school education.
4. Support mass transportation services, especially in low income areas.
5. Support increased public information on the availability of Earned Income Credit
6. Support increased early voting sites in vulnerable neighborhoods.
7. Increase child care funding for low income families.
8. Increase eligibility and access for SNAP (food stamp) programs.
9. Reform criminal justice system to reduce intake, to provide community-based solutions to first time offenders, and to reduce economic and living barriers once a sentence has been served.
10. Recommend that the statutes that impact low-income residents be reviewed for effectiveness, adequacy, and impact.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

1. Raise the issues of poverty to the state LWV level for their 2019 legislative agenda.
2. Identify and join forces with other Florida county entities, citizens groups, church groups and consumers interested in poverty resolution. Hold joint trainings and forums around the issues of poverty and the potential solutions.
3. Monitor the use of new and existing county funds to ensure low income residents needs are being met.
4. Collaborate with the Florida leagues on joint poverty issues.
5. Conduct annual assessment on the impact of poverty programs by county.

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