

Summary of Missoula LWV Positions & Year Adopted

- 1. School District Enrollment Policy, 1978:** The LWV Missoula supports school enrollment policies which consider the following: a) equal opportunities in education; b) consideration of educational benefits as well as expenses; c) neighborhood group; and d) age grouping.
- 2. Good Government Standards, 1981:** The LWV Missoula believes that proposed changes in governments for Missoula must be measured against our seven standards for good government.
- 3. Land Use, Planning, and Growth in Missoula Area, 2020:** The LWV Missoula believes the public has a right to participate and influence growth decisions. Generally the League believes that all growth (commercial, industrial, and residential) should be efficiently managed. The League defines: **planning** as *a process governments use to develop ordinances and rules that guide growth*; **growth** is *new development*; **land use** is *how land is utilized as residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, agricultural, and as open space*.
- 4. Accountability of Local Boards and Commissions, 1985-86:** The LWV Missoula believes that boards supported in whole or in any part with public funds must be accountable to the public and must be subject to written policies covering bylaws or rules of procedure, agendas, minutes, and procedures for appointments and reappointments. The League also believes it is the responsibility of boards, or appointing bodies, in the case of appointed boards, to educate board members to the full meaning and content of the Montana Open Meetings Laws and the Montana Code of Ethics and to assure that they are followed.
- 5. Basic Principles about Public Education, 1987:** The LWV Missoula believes a primary purpose of public education in the United States is to provide informed, active, creative citizens with critical-thinking skills necessary for the success of our representative form of government. Public education must instruct students in the common heritage of all American groups and promote the tolerance and diversity that preserves our democratic institutions and safeguards our individual liberties.
- 6. Child Care, 1988:** The LWV Missoula believes that the Missoula community and the Missoula Community Governments have a responsibility to help maintain and improve the quality of child care for this community's children, i.e., health and safety of children receiving care; training of caregivers; adequate monitoring of child care facilities for safety, health, and sanitation; economic incentives for facilities; and education of caregivers.
- 7. Protecting Missoula's Drinking Water, 1997:** The LWV Missoula supports government and private actions to protect the Missoula aquifer from contamination (our only economically-feasible source of drinking water for the Missoula community).
- 8. Affordable Homes, 2020:** The LWV Missoula supports current and future efforts to increase the availability of safe, decent, and affordable homes for moderate and low-income households. Housing is a human right. It promotes self-sufficiency for individuals and families, promotes stability in neighborhoods, and is an effective tool in reducing and preventing poverty.