THE LEAGUE PROMOTES

- Expansion of the Women’s Healthcare Safety Net

Ensure funding for women’s preventive healthcare, including contraception.
  - Roughly 1.8 million Texas women need publicly funded preventive services, yet less than 25% currently receive services.

Address the shortage of qualified family planning providers and increases providers in the state’s women’s health programs.
  - Texas needs more providers to deliver preventive care to women, especially in rural areas.

Provide FDA-approved contraceptives, including the most effective forms – implants and intrauterine devices (IUDs).
  - Women’s access to effective contraception allows them to plan and space their pregnancies.

Eliminate barriers to access to preventive healthcare.
  - Continuous healthcare coverage reduces unplanned pregnancies.

Allow funding to reach more women, saving Texas taxpayer dollars.
  - 74% of Texas’ unplanned births are publicly funded, and research shows that unintended pregnancies cost Texas taxpayers $2.9 billion. For every dollar invested in contraception, taxpayers see a return of $7.09.

CONTINUED ON THE BACK PAGE »

IMPROVE WOMEN’S ACCESS TO SAFE LEGAL ABORTIONS

Oppose legislation that

- Removes severe and irreversible fetal abnormality as a permissible reason for abortion in the 3rd trimester.
- Requires burial or cremation of fetal tissue, and issuance of fetal death certificates by health care facilities.
- Imposes prevention and reporting requirements and penalties in cases of purported “coerced” abortions.
- Bans insurance coverage of abortions.

Support legislation that

- Eliminates the waiting period before an abortion can be performed.
- Requires information in informed consent materials to be supported by accurate research.

CONTINUED »
Government
Achieve an efficient, effective, responsive state governmental system through legislative action.


Administration of Justice
Action: Achieve an equitable system of criminal justice in Texas for adults and juveniles which includes:

Capital Punishment Reform, Drug Laws, Domestic Violence, Gun Safety, Human Trafficking, Immigration, Juvenile Justice, Pay Day Lending

Social Policy & Human Resources
Achieve equal rights for all; combat discrimination and poverty; and provide equal access to housing, employment, quality education, and health care.

Child Abuse & Neglect, Child Health, Equal Opportunity, Behavioral Health, Health Care for those of Lesser Means

Natural Resources
Achieve conservation, protection, and judicious development of the state’s natural resources.

Air Quality/Climate Change, Energy, Hazardous Waste, Land Use, Transportation, Water

Other Issues that LWV- Texas will support during the 2019 Legislative Session

THE LEAGUE PROMOTES

Elections resulting in honest & accurate results
- Transition to voting equipment renewal and required paper-trail for post-election audits.
- Mandatory uniform training for election workers.
- Assure enforcement of election laws.

MODERNIZATION OF VOTING SYSTEMS
- Supplement outdated paper registration with direct voter registration – a proven 21st century system.
  - Takes advantage of improved Texas statewide registration system.
  - Maximizes voter registration integrity.
  - Offers accuracy more than five times better than transcribed paper forms.
  - Significantly reduces county transcription & state printing costs.
- Encourage renewal of county election equipment and standards.
  - Incentivize conversion to reliable, safe and secure equipment.
  - Ensure county election personnel’s compliance with security standards.
- Improve accessibility to ballot-by-mail program and assure its integrity.
  - Redesign forms for clarity and compliance.
  - Adjust time period and mechanisms for requesting ballots by mail.
- Fair and effective redistricting
  - Provide maximum opportunity for public scrutiny.
  - Support an Independent Citizens’ Redistricting Commission.
  - Districts apportioned on equal population.
  - NOT drawn to dilute the strength of minority populations.
  - NOT drawn to favor a political party or incumbent.
  - Based on a fair and accurate census.

A school finance system that ensures taxpayer equity and a fair distribution of funds to provide
- Safe and secure facilities.
- Highly qualified, certified teachers and staff.
- Programs that address diverse students’ needs.
- Pre-school.
- Up-to-date textbooks, supplemental materials and libraries.
- Current technologies.

Opposition to vouchers in any form
- Vouchers are costly, requiring taxpayers to fund both public and private school systems.
- Vouchers circumvent the taxpayers’ right to know how their tax dollars, collected specifically to fund public education, are being spent.
- Private schools are not required to adhere to state standards on teacher quality, curriculum, accountability, or to accept all students.
- Vouchers transfer state funding from public schools to private schools.