

Testimony House Privileges and Elections Committee February 23, 2024

<u>SB377</u>

Campaign finance; prohibited personal use of campaign funds, complaints, hearings, civil penalty.

The League of Women Voters supports SB 377, as we do its companion in the House, HB 40. Currently, Virginia has no legal restrictions on how candidates can use their campaign funds, except for surplus funds at the end of a campaign or term of office. As such, Virginia has rightfully earned its rank of 46 out of 51 on the non-partisan Coalition for Integrity's S.W.A.M.P. Index.

<u>SB406</u>

Political campaign advertisements; advertisements sponsored by a person or nonparty committee.

The League of Women Voters supports SB 406. Tightening and clarifying the conditions for producing and distributing sample ballots, and in particular requiring that sample ballots include the names and affiliations of their sponsors, further reduces the temptation to "buy" votes and confuse voters. The League supports increased transparency around sources and content of campaign funding and materials.