



The Virginia Voter

100+ Years Strong

League of Women Voters of Virginia
1011 E. Main Street
Suite 214A
Richmond, VA 23219
United States

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President's Message

"Defending the United States Constitution is Not a Partisan Task"

It may appear that the National League calling a "Constitutional Crises" is us breaking from 105 years of nonpartisanship. However, it is important to look at the reasons for this declaration. It stems from their observation of the principles of checks and balances, the rule of law, and fair elections being under attack. Rule of law, fair elections, checks and balances? Nothing partisan about them. Indeed, they are among the backbones of our government.

Instead of being partisan, the work we do is pro-Constitution. Sadly, we sometimes take our system a bit for granted. It is not a perfect document (ahem, the Electoral College) but it is an aspirational document and the cornerstone to our freedom, and it is a truly American thing to support it!

Now, we do have to watch if protests target certain politicians or parties, however, we can and should defend our founding documents.

It is good for all of us to read the [Constitution from time to time.](#)

Thanks for all you do.

Joan

Tomorrow Is the Last Day to Register for our Convention!

Our Biennial Convention will be held in Fredericksburg June 13 - 15. The **absolute last time to register is 5PM on June 2.**

For information and registration information, use this [link.](#)

There will be no registration at the door.

LGBTQ Pride Month

Carolyn Caywood - LWV South Hampton Roads

Among the many facets of human diversity that the League DEI policies embrace are gender identity and sexual orientation. With that in mind, your League may want to make an extra effort to connect during Pride Month. (Note, for various reasons not all localities celebrate Pride in June. If you don't see announcements for upcoming local events, investigate further.)

LGBTQ+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, plus anyone marginalized for their gender or sexuality. You may also see LGBTQAI or other letters that include people who are asexual, intersex, and others. LWV has League logos and social media for Pride month

Common Ground Issues

At this current political moment there is great overlap of League issues and LGBTQ+ concerns:

Voting Rights – the SAVE Act would affect trans people who have changed their names or appearance.

Reproductive Rights Amendment – not everyone who can get pregnant identifies as a woman.

Marriage Equality Amendment – assure LGBTQ+ young people that they too will be able to marry.

Education – concerns include policies on the treatment of trans students and censorship of curriculum and in school libraries.

Housing, employment, childcare, all basic needs are affected by discrimination and income inequality.

Violence – LGBTQ+ people are four times more likely to be the victims of violent crime.

The LGBTQ+ Agenda: all people have a fair chance to pursue health and happiness, earn a living, take care of the ones they love, be safe in their communities, and participate in civic life.

[Attached](#) you will find several LGBTQ+ organizations in Virginia.

The League of Women Voters of the US Urges Members of the House to Oppose Federal Land Sales

With the urging of several State Leagues including LWV Virginia, LWV US sent a [letter](#) to the Members of the US House of Representatives to oppose the sale or transfer of Federal lands. This project was initiated by the League of Women Voters of New Mexico.

Stop Cuts to Medicaid During the Congressional Recess

Congress will be on recess from **June 16-20**. This is a great time to make an appointment with your US Senators and Representatives about the Budget Reconciliation Bill, as well as the so-called Save Act. **(RepresentUS has developed a [handy quiz](#) to determine if the Save Act will affect your ability to vote.)**

The House passed its “big, beautiful bill” this week in the very early hours of Thursday morning. The reconciliation power now goes to the Senate, where they will most likely rewrite the bill and send it back to the House for final passage and then to the President for signing. They will need to pass the bill before the August recess.

In addition to cuts to Medicaid, the bill included ideological riders covering the declaration of nonprofits as “terrorist organizations” and a provision barring courts from enforcing contempt citations for violations of injunctions or temporary restraining orders unless a bond has been paid.

LWV US will have more materials on this soon.

If you cannot visit, at least alert them of your opposition with the LWV US [link](#).

EVENTS

LWV Montgomery County - Virtual Program on the National Popular Vote Act

June 3 11:45 AM

Should every vote count equally in electing future presidents? Our current Electoral College system has resulted in five U.S. Presidents being elected without winning the most popular votes nationwide.

The majority of Americans want the president to be elected by a nationwide popular vote. National Popular Vote is a bill that makes that change without amending the U.S. Constitution. The League of Women Voters has said the bill “stands as a beacon of hope for a more democratic electoral system, one that aligns with the core principles of equality and voter empowerment.”

A representative of the National Popular Vote grassroots organization will explain the nationwide campaign to reform the Electoral College to elect the president by national popular vote. Local League Member Nancy Kolb will also share her perspective.

[Join here.](#)

Tour of Black History Museum and Culture Center

June 7 - 10 AM

In celebration of Juneteenth, the LWV-VA DEI Committee in partnership with the LWV of the Richmond Metro Area DEI Committee is sponsoring a guided tour at the Black History Museum and Cultural Center of Virginia at 122 W. Leigh Street in historic Jackson Ward in Richmond on Saturday, June 7th from 10 am to 11:30am.

The tour includes all the permanent exhibits with topics such as emancipation, reconstruction, Jim Crow, Brown v Board, massive resistance, Civil Rights, Richmond 34/Woolworth's Cafe, Leigh St. Armory Building, and a 35-foot timeline of Black history facts. Also tour the “Bodies of Labor: Hands That Built a Nation” – Virginian artists' exhibition interpreting the theme of Black people in the labor force throughout the years.

Registration is required with a \$10 admittance fee. Don't wait to sign up, as the guided tour is limited to thirty people.

Parking is available on St. Peter's or Leigh Streets, as well as at Ebenezer Baptist Church across the street. Plan to eat lunch after the tour at one of the many restaurants in Jackson Ward.

[RSVP](#)

Voter Registration Training:

July 1, 7 - 8 PM

And League Specific Voter Registration Training 8:00 - 8:30 PM

This is mandatory training conducted by the State Board of Elections - for anyone conducting voter registration training from July 1, 2025 - July 1, 2026.

To get the link - [RSVP](#)

Immediately after there will be a special training for LWV Virginia members on how to conduct a nonpartisan voter registration event. Since the training from The Dept of Elections is public, you will need to sign off from that training and sign onto ours.

This will begin immediately after the Dept of Elections Training
8:00 - 8:30 PM

To get the zoom link to this League only event [RSVP here.](#)

Join Our Friends at All Americans Vote for a Juneteenth Celebration

June 8 - 12- 4 PM

If you are in or around the Norfolk area, join All Americans Vote, for their Juneteenth Celebration!

Juneteenth Chrysler Cookout

Sunday, June 8 | 12-4 pm | Chrysler Museum Memorial Garden and Grass

1 Memorial Pl

Norfolk, VA 23510

Build community and honor the legacy of the earliest Juneteenth celebrations.

Museum Link: <https://chrysler.org/event/juneteenth-chrysler-cookout/>

12:00 – 4:00 pm

AAV Community Art Activity

Beats by Peep the DJ

Art Market, Exhibition, and Photobooth curated by Good Society

Lawn Games

Power Pinwheels with SuperFood Parents

12:30 and 2:30 pm

Set of 3 short films by Black filmmakers in Kaufman Theater

1:00 pm

Welcome remarks from Stacey Shelnut-Hendrick, Chrysler's Deputy Director of Public Engagement and Learning

Remarks from Tamer Mokhtar, Executive Director of AAV

Performances by singer [Amber Garrett](#)

Virginia Women's Voices United - Legislative Update

June 3, 7 - 8 PM

Join Virginia Women's United for a legislative update. Our own Janet Boyd will be updating voting and elections legislation.

This is a virtual event. [RSVP](#)

LOCAL LEAGUE NEWS

LWV - Charlottesville Area



Lisa Hilgartner, president of LWV-CVA, all dressed up in early 1920's pseudo garb for the 50th year of the Batesville Day Parade .

Also in C'ville...



At the Charlottesville May Day protests, defending Democracy.

Kerin Yates, Evette Barton, Sue Lewis, Carol Cutler and Lisa Hilgartner.

LWV Falls Church Co-hosts Forum on “How to Be a Candidate” for Local Office



The League of Women Voters of Falls Church (LWVFC) and a nonpartisan group that promotes responsible local government joined forces May 1 to co-host a forum on “How to Be a Candidate.”

The event’s goal was to help prospective candidates for the Falls Church City Council and School Board races learn the mechanics, or the “how,” of running for office. Accordingly, the forum addressed the filings Virginia requires for an individual to be on the ballot, the financial reporting obligations that every candidate must fulfill, and the many campaign strategies candidates might consider using – from knocking on doors to designing a website.

Longtime LWVFC Member and Past President Ellen Salsbury and Citizens for a Better City (CBC) President Hal Lippman introduced and moderated the panel, which included City Registrar David Bjerke and City Treasurer Jody Acosta. Mr. Bjerke covered the fine points of qualifying to run for office, while Ms. Acosta addressed the necessary state financial reports and filing schedule for the first part of the forum.

The discussion then turned to the panel of citizens who have taken on the task of running for local office and who generously shared their experiences in doing so current: City Council Members Erin Flynn and Justine Underhill, former School Board Member Erin Gill,

and candidate in last year's City Council Special Election John Murphy.

Issues covered included how to qualify to run and what you need to report.

The event was videotaped and is available on the [LWVFC website](#). The League also produced a handout for attendees that describes the races on the ballot this fall, provides a link to the state website for candidates.

Getting Ready for the June Primary

On our [website](#) you can find 2025 Election Information for the June 17 primary and the Nov 4 general election translated into Spanish, Amharic, Arabic, Filipino, Korean and Vietnamese. Partners feel free to download and print out.

Donate to the League of Women Voters of Virginia

There has never been a better time to [DONATE TO LWV VIRGINIA!](#)

LWV US Litigation Updates

Conley v. Hirsch

In a sweeping decision issued May 5, a federal district judge blocked attempts to throw out ballots from the 2024 North Carolina supreme court race and ordered the election to be certified based on the original vote tally. The ruling marks a decisive victory for the plaintiffs in *Conley v. Hirsch*, brought by four impacted voters and **The League of Women Voters of North Carolina**.

League of Women Voters Education Fund v. Trump

The Trump Administration will not appeal a federal court's April 24 order blocking part of the illegal Executive Order that required the EAC to require documentary proof of citizenship on the federal voter registration form. The League sought this relief in a motion for preliminary injunction. The case will continue to a final resolution toward the end of 2025.

Milligan v. Allen

Victory for the VRA and Black Alabamians

On May 8, 2025, in a scathing 571-page opinion a three-judge federal district court panel found the Alabama legislature intentionally discriminated against Black residents when it repeatedly drew only one majority-Black congressional district, despite court orders demanding a map compliant with Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. The court has ordered a new map and could even place Alabama back under federal preclearance for the next redistricting cycle. The case is likely to head to SCOTUS.

Read the [League's Amicus Brief](#) in support of the *Milligan* plaintiffs the last time the case went to SCOTUS.

June 2025 Calendar

LGBTQ Pride Month

June 2- Anniversary of Indian Citizenship Act of 1924

June 14 – Flag Day

June 19 – Juneteenth

[unsubscribe](#)
