



Approved June 1, 2021

LWV of Sharon-Stoughton Nonpartisan Policy

The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose any political party or candidate at any level of government. The League's effectiveness lies in its ability to take strong positions on issues in the public interest without regard for partisan affiliation. The League also encourages informed and active participation in government.

Elected or Appointed Office

The President (or Co-Presidents) and Voter Services Chair shall not serve in any position or elected office in a political party at any level. Other Board members may run for elective office. Any Board member may accept appointment to public office or committee with approval of the Board.

Support of Candidates for Public Office

The President (or Co-Presidents) and Voter Services Chair shall not under-take any action that will cause them to be identified publicly as supporting or opposing any candidate for office or any political party.

At the local level, The President (or Co-Presidents) and Voter Services Chair may not sign nomination papers for a candidate. The President (or co-presidents) may not serve on a candidate's campaign committee, publicly endorse a candidate, or attend a fundraising event for a candidate. They may not make a financial contribution of more than \$50 to any candidate's campaign.

At the state and national level, The President (or Co-Presidents) and Voter Services Chair may sign nomination papers for a candidate, but may not serve on a candidate's campaign committee, publicly endorse a candidate, post on social media about a candidate, or attend a fund-raising event for a candidate. They may not make a financial contribution. Other members of the Board of Directors do not have these limits on their support of candidates for public office.

Campaigning for an Issue

Once the League (Local, State, or National) takes a position on an issue, The President (or Co-Presidents) and Voter Services Chair may not identify themselves as League members in publicly expressing an opinion that is in opposition to or compromises a League position. They may also not publicly endorse an issue with no League position. Other members of the Board do not have limits on their ability to campaign for or against an issue as an individual.



Unless approved by the board, no board member should represent themselves as speaking for the League or representing the League's position.

League members are encouraged to be involved in political activities.

Most members have League activity as part of a range of activities and are not identified as spokesmen for the League.

A member may support or oppose candidates for public office and may run for public office, endorse candidates, sign or carry nomination papers, or contribute money or time to campaigns. The member may support organizations working for the passage of legislation.

In doing so, of course, the member will not be identified as a League member or use the name of the League publicly except in support of League positions.

League members representing the League as appointed members of a commission or committee are bound by League positions and the nonpartisanship policy.

Should the committee or commission take a position contrary to League positions or become involved in an election campaign, the member should discuss the conflict with the full Board.

League members who are appointed to commissions or committees as citizens and not as representatives of the League may act with ordinary discretion