



LWV

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF CHICAGO

League 101

10 September 2022

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

Join the League!

*We promote active citizens,
educated voters,
and good government.*

Foundations of the League

The League of Women Voters was founded in Chicago on February 14, 1920 by Carrie Chapman Catt to help educate women on their right to vote.



Don't let the name
fool you —

LWV is for *everyone*



Our Mission

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan civic organization encouraging informed and active participation in government.

LWV influences public policy through education and advocacy.

LWV Principles and Values

- Representative government
- Individual liberties
- Separation of powers
- Transparency in government
- The right to vote
- Free and fair elections



Strength in diversity

Diverse perspectives are critical for responsible and effective decision-making in democratic organizations.

We are committed to:

- Removing barriers to participation for any League activity on the basis of age, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, religion or national origin; and
- Actively seeking to be inclusive.

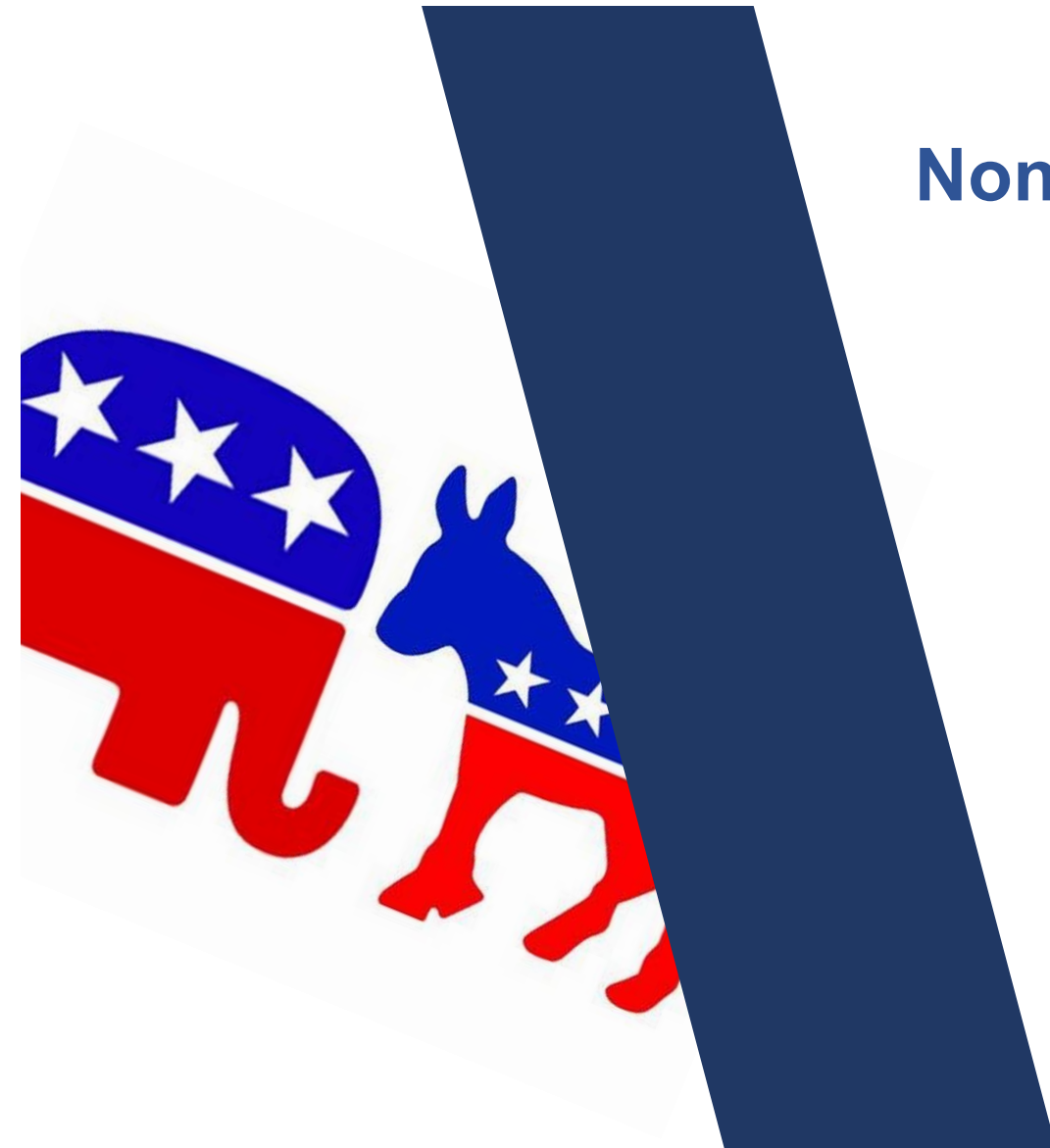


Nonpartisan—*not* apolitical







The League is a nonpartisan organization, and never support or endorse candidates or parties.

But nonpartisan does not mean apolitical. The League takes positions on specific policy issues.



We are not bystanders—we stand up for our democracy and work actively to protect and expand voting rights.







Officers

					
<u>Jane Ruby</u>	<u>Catherine Mardikes</u>	<u>Betty Magness</u>	<u>Tracy Staniel</u>	<u>Shirley Moscow Michaelson</u>	<u>Hollis Burgess</u>
President 2022-2024	Executive Vice President 2021-2023	Vice President: Citizen Engagement 2021-2023	Vice President: Operations 2022-2024	Secretary 2021-2023	Treasurer 2022-2024

Directors

				
<u>LeTina Brady Pettis</u>	<u>Julia Kline</u>	<u>Vanessa Bush Ford</u>	<u>Wytriss Richardson</u>	<u>Deborah Halpern</u>
Advocacy 2021-2023	Collaborations & Partnerships 2022-2024	Communications 2021-2023	Diversity & Inclusion 2021-2023	Environmental Action 2022-2024

				
<u>Sharon Welch</u>	<u>Molly Bartlett</u>	<u>Elona Vaisnys</u>	<u>Diane Atkinson</u>	<u>Helene Gabelnick</u>
Events 2022-2024	Fund Development 2022-2024	Membership 2021-2023	Neighborhood Units 2022-2024	Voter Service 2022-2024

League structure

LWV Chicago is a 501(c)3 organization.

We are a constituent part of a much larger organization:

The League of Women Voters of the United States



The League of Women Voters of Illinois



The League of Women Voters of Chicago

When you join LWV Chicago, you automatically belong to ALL of these Leagues!

Membership Dues

\$75 Individual Membership

\$120 Household Membership

\$0 for members after 50 years

The lion's share of membership dues are paid to the national and state organizations, so we must rely on other funding sources to finance most of our activities



Other Funding Sources

- Donations
- Bequests
- State of the City
- Grants
- Event sponsorship
- Condo board elections

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Our Positions

National: [Impact on Issues](#)

State: [Where We Stand – Illinois](#)

Local: [Where We Stand – Chicago](#)

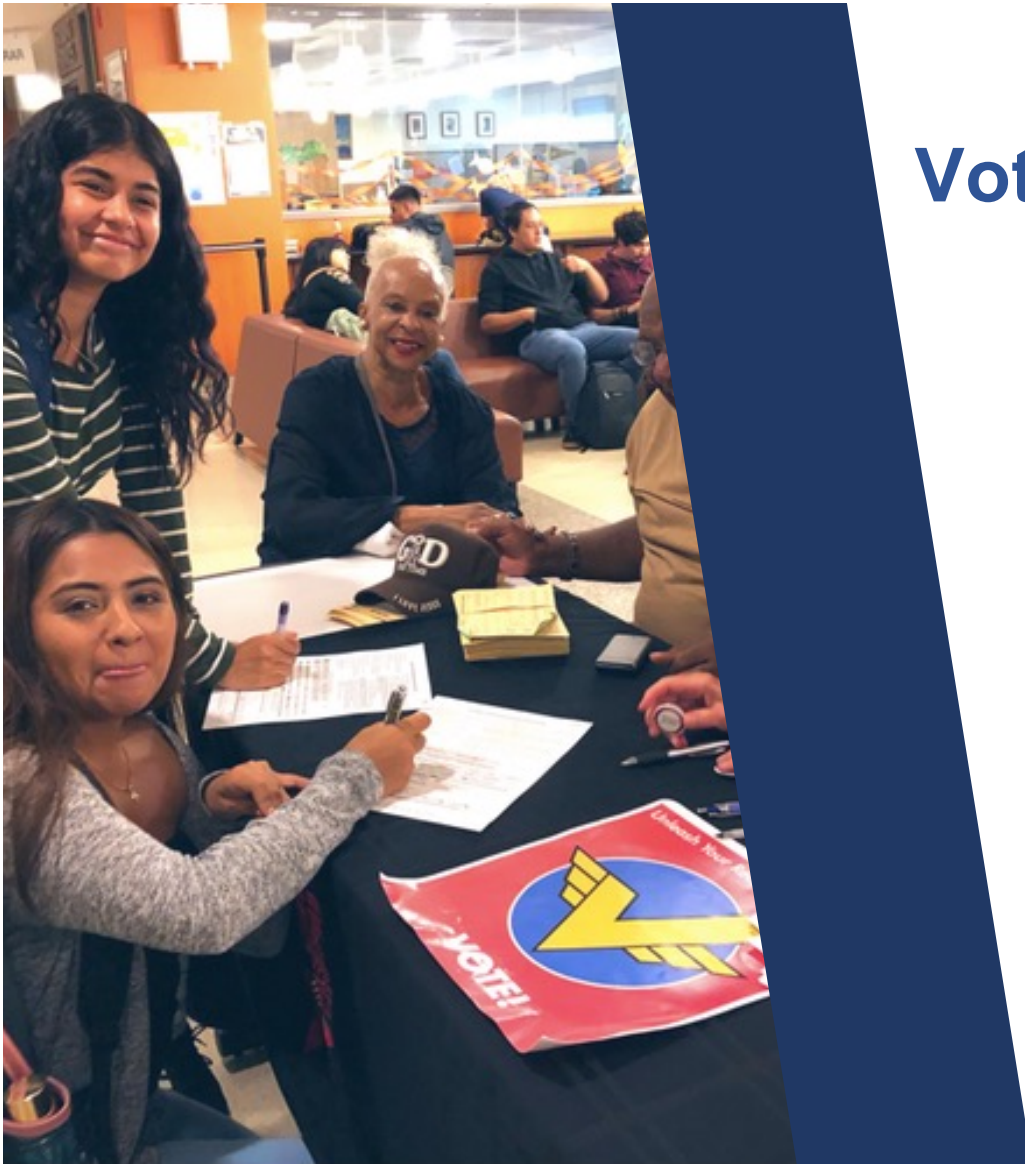
The Issues Process

- Study
- Briefings
- Consensus
- Lobbying
 - on behalf of the League
 - as individuals



Voter Service

- Registering voters
- Distributing information about election dates and offices
- Presenting to schools and community organizations
- Conducting candidate forums/debates with community partners
- Watching polls on Election Day



Events and activities

- Committee meetings
- Unit meetings
- Briefings
- Chicago in Focus
- Drinks and Dialogue
- Annual Meeting
- State of the City



Current advocacy priorities

Voting Rights

Electoral Reform

Reproductive Rights

Environmental Action

Police Reform and Public Safety

Transparency in City Government



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Thank You!