



2021 BIENNIAL CONVENTION PROGRAM PROPOSALS RECOMMENDED AND NON-RECOMMENDED

Thank you to members who submitted 2021-2023 program proposals. Both recommended and non-recommended (indicated) are listed below.

Article XI of League bylaws are below proposals for reference of adoption of amendment of LWVFL positions. [Click here to view the 2019-2021 LWVFL State Program.](#)

Please contact info@lwfvl.org with any inquiries.

Program Proposals (Recommended):

Government in Florida

Add Issue for Action:

- Ensure that Fair Districts Standards are adhered to for the Redistricting of Congressional and Florida Legislative Districts.

Election Law

- Revise initial statement under "Election Law" heading by inserting "for" before "fair methods" and add a period at the end of sentence.
- In the second bullet point of "Issues for Action," replace "absentee" with "vote-by-mail."
- Remove ninth bullet point
 - Support retention of 1968 Florida Constitutional Amendment for home rule by municipalities and counties in the administration of local issues
- Remove thirteenth bullet point
 - 13th Bullet: Support the updating of the Electronic Registration Information Center.

Add Issue for Action:

- Support state funding of return postage for vote-by-mail ballots in all counties when Congressional and Florida legislative offices are on the ballot.

Education

Establish a statewide Civics Education Subcommittee under the state Education committee.

Add Issue for Action:

- Promote adequate and equitable funding of public education by:
 - Use a multiyear approach to bring Florida's total per-pupil funding to at least the median in the National Education Association's (NEA) Ranking of the States, providing school districts adequate funding and the flexibility to implement programs and adopt spending plans that best meet their communities' needs.
 - Resolve the inequities in capital improvement funding.
 - Oppose the use of public funding for the expansion of funding of private education, including through voucher programs.

Social Policy in Florida:

Add Issue for Action:

- Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) by the Florida Legislature and passage of a resolution by the U.S. Congress to remove the deadline to ratify the ERA.

Gun Safety

Support regulations concerning the purchase, ownership and use of handguns and long guns that balance as nearly as possible individual constitutional rights with the general interest and welfare of the community. Support changes in law to allow local communities to enact ordinances for greater gun safety in their jurisdiction.

Add Issue for Action:

- Support changes in the law to make lying on a background check punishable by law.

Sustainability in Florida

Add Issues for Action:

- Support the development of state, regional and local climate change plans.
- Request the Governor join the US Climate Alliance by 2023
- Request Florida mayors to join the Climate Mayors by 2023.

Natural Resources

Add Issue for Action:

- Protect our natural springs from nutrient runoff and unsuitable uses. (i.e., commercially bottled water).

Land Use

Add Issues for Action:

- Support the preparation and implementation of a new state growth management plan that addresses current needs.
- Support the implementation of the Water and Land Legacy Amendment consistent with the intent of the adopted language.
- Take steps to ensure that land uses are exemplary of environmental justice.

Energy

Add Issues for Action:

- Support the adoption of relevant energy alternatives.
- Support public transportation that does not rely on fossil fuels.
- Advocate statewide reduction of greenhouse gas emissions while maintaining a robust economy that is in line with the UN and Paris Accords (i.e., reduction of 45% by 2030 and 100% by 2050).
- Back placing a price on carbon emissions whether cap-and-trade or carbon tax/fee, while ensuring equity in its implementation.
- Support the adoption of relevant energy alternatives.
- Support public transportation that does not rely on fossil fuels.

Freshwater Resources

Add Issues for Action:

- Update the study of groundwater resources to ensure they are adequate to meet future needs.
- Support septic to sewer conversion and state tracking of septic inspections.
- Request maximum support for Everglades Agricultural Area funding.
- Support enforcement of agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) regarding releases to surface water.

Coastal Management

Add Issues for Action:

- Advocate for an equitable transition plan to move people from high-risk areas where climate change mitigation is not feasible.
- State support of coastal communities in developing localized responses to Sea Level Rise and salt-water intrusion into drinking water wells.

Environmental Protection and Pollution Control

Add Issues for Action:

- Take positions to preserve our wetland ecosystems.
- Discourage use of single-use, non-essential, disposable plastics from fossil fuels

Program Proposals (Not Recommended):

Election Law

- Remove third point under “Issues for Action.”
 - Third Bullet: Support Florida’s participation in the Electronic Registration Information Center including notification of all citizens who may be eligible but are not registered.
- Based on the criteria foundation of the LWV United States position on Voter Representation/Electoral Systems (adopted 2020), LWVFL concurs with the position on Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) prepared by Oregon to endorse RCV for municipal elections in Florida.

Affordable Housing

- Housing Protect the Sadowski Fund so it can only be used for affordable and attainable housing.

Criminal Justice

- Support a criminal justice system that emphasizes diversion and deflection, rehabilitation, and alternatives to incarceration and competent personnel.

Farmworkers

- Farmworkers Support measures to provide adequate and equitable living and working conditions for farm workers.

For Reference:

ARTICLE XI -- Program Sec.1. Principles. The governing principles adopted by the national Convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of program. **Sec.2. Program.** The program of the LWVF shall consist of: action to implement the Principles and positions of the LWVUS and LWVF; and those state governmental issues chosen by the Convention or Council for concerted study or concurrence and action. **Sec.3. Program Selection.** The Convention shall select the governmental issues for concerted study and action using the following procedures: (a) Local League and Member-at-Large Unit boards may make recommendations for a program item, which must be received by the Board of Directors at least ninety days prior to the Convention. (b) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations and shall formulate a proposed program which shall be submitted to the local League and

Member-at-Large Unit boards at least sixty days prior to the Convention. (c) In order for a local League to propose the adoption or amendment of an LWVF position by concurrence on the floor of Convention, the local League shall give notice to all local Leagues, Member-at-Large Units, and the LWVF of its intent to do so at least sixty days before the beginning date of that Convention. The local League must also provide written notice to all local Leagues, Member-at-Large Units, and the LWVF of that proposal, together with background information (including pros and cons on the issues and an explanation of the rationale for using this form of member agreement) at least sixty days before the beginning date of that Convention. A two-thirds vote is required to amend or adopt an LWVF League position by concurrence on the floor of Convention. (d) Recommendations for changes submitted by local League and Member-at-Large Unit boards and received by the Board of Directors at least three weeks before the opening of the Convention shall be considered by the Board prior to the Convention, at which time the Board may change the proposed program. Such changes may not be voted on by the Convention on the same day on which they were proposed.

(e) Any recommendation for the program submitted to the Board of Directors at least ninety days before Convention, but not proposed by the Board, may be adopted by the Convention provided that consideration is ordered by a majority vote and that on the following day the proposal for adoption receive a majority vote. (f) Program is presented to the Convention in the following order:

Recommended Program items, Not Recommended Program items for a consideration vote, any concurrence items. A majority vote shall be required for the adoption of each program item, with the exception that a two-thirds vote is required to amend or adopt a League position by concurrence. All voting takes place on the day following presentation. **Sec.4. Member Action.** Members may act in the name of the LWVF only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors of the LWVF. **Sec.5. Local League Action.** Local Leagues and Member-at-Large Units may take action on state governmental matters only when authorized to do so by the Board of Directors of the LWVF. Local Leagues and Member-at-Large Units may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, positions taken by the LWVF.