

*Approval Document 2: 2020 – 2021 Proposed Program Priorities LWV La Crosse Area*

**LWV US: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**

**LWV La Crosse Area will be recognized as a leader in citizen empowerment to actively participate in the democratic process and to promote positive solutions to public policy issues through education and advocacy.**

Priority Program Issues	LWV Action Opportunities
<p><b>LWV US/LWV WI Redistricting</b>                      Congressional districts and government legislative bodies should be apportioned substantially on population. We oppose partisan and racial gerrymandering that strips rights away from voters. We promote transparent and accountable redistricting processes and to end hyper-partisan practices that don't benefit constituents. We believe responsibility for fair redistricting should be vested in an independent special commission, with membership that reflects the diversity of the unit of government</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advocacy for state legislation</li> <li>- 2020 Census - advocacy to insure all persons are counted</li> <li>- "Politics of Resentment" rural/urban/suburban impact on politics</li> </ul>
<p><b>LWV US Voting Rights</b>                      Voter rights protection and mobilization; oppose voter suppression                      Voter Registration: Wisconsin Online Voter Registration education and outreach                      Wisconsin election laws should provide citizens with maximum opportunity for registration, voting at the polls, and absentee voting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ed/Advocacy re: WI Election Commission</li> <li>- OVR and voter outreach</li> <li>- National Popular Vote</li> <li>- Universal Mail-in Voting</li> </ul>
<p><b>LWV US Campaign Finance/Money in Politics</b>                      Support positive campaign finance reform proposals and fight attempts to cut back on existing campaign finance laws. LWV US also supports the We the People Democracy Reform Act of 2017 which includes legislative solutions to many of the money in politics issues the U.S. faces. Provisions include small dollar fundraising, disclosure, defining coordination and overhauling the Federal Election Commission (FEC).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Build on La Crosse United to Amend referendum</li> <li>- Ed/Advocacy "We the People" Democracy Reform Act of 2017</li> </ul>
<p><b>LWV Advocacy – Citizens Right to Know</b>                      Transparency and accountability for government and elected officials                      Public education and outreach to empower citizens to effectively advocate, monitor, and act on public policy with elected officials                      Diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI): The LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local issues examples:                          DEI – core to empowering voters                          City Housing plan; COVID impact on UW system and WTC; regional transportation; women's health issues</li> <li>- National: passage of ERA</li> </ul>

**LWV WI Environment Protection**

Effective citizen engagement in natural resource protection such as water issues, climate change and protecting the Upper Mississippi River Basin.

- LWV ILO UMRB participation
- Watershed Plan for La Crosse and Monroe Counties
- Climate change effects on local economies