



THE LEAGUE PROMOTES

■ Expansion of the Women's Healthcare Safety Net

Ensure funding for women's preventive healthcare, including contraception.

- Roughly 1.8 million Texas women need publicly funded preventive services, yet less than 25% currently receive services.

Address the shortage of qualified family planning providers and increases providers in the state's women's health programs.

- Texas needs more providers to deliver preventive care to women, especially in rural areas.

Provide FDA-approved contraceptives, including the most effective forms – implants and intrauterine devices (IUDs).

- Women's access to effective contraception allows them to plan and space their pregnancies.

Eliminate barriers to access to preventive healthcare.

- Continuous healthcare coverage reduces unplanned pregnancies.

Allow funding to reach more women, saving Texas taxpayer dollars.

- 74% of Texas' unplanned births are publicly funded, and research shows that unintended pregnancies cost Texas taxpayers \$2.9 billion. For every dollar invested in contraception, taxpayers see a return of \$7.09.

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IMPROVE WOMEN'S ACCESS TO SAFE LEGAL ABORTIONS

Oppose legislation that

- Removes severe and irreversible fetal abnormality as a permissible reason for abortion in the 3rd trimester.
- Requires burial or cremation of fetal tissue, and issuance of fetal death certificates by health care facilities.
- Imposes prevention and reporting requirements and penalties in cases of purported "coerced" abortions.
- Bans insurance coverage of abortions.

Support legislation that

- Eliminates the waiting period before an abortion can be performed.
- Requires information in informed consent materials to be supported by accurate research.

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Priority Issues

FOR THE 2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION



Voting Rights & Election Laws

THE LEAGUE PROMOTES

■ The right of every Texas citizen to vote & participate directly in democracy

- Impartial treatment of all voters.
- Maximum use of uniform election dates.
- Efficient shared polling places.
- Convenient and accessible ballot by mail with proper safeguards.
- The integrity of a safe, secure & accurate voter registration system
 - Vigilant modernization and security of registration processes.
 - Direct voter registration for convenience, security and cost.
 - Enforcement of statewide technological safeguards & cybersecurity standards.
 - Required cybersecurity training for county election officials.
 - Statewide standards for county end-user equipment.

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Other Issues that LWV- Texas will support during the 2019 Legislative Session



Government

Achieve an efficient, effective, responsive state governmental system through legislative action.

Campaign Finance Reform/Ethics, Financing State Government, Home Owners Assn. Reform, Open Government, Payday & Auto Title Loans, State & Local Relations



Administration of Justice

Action: Achieve an equitable system of criminal justice in Texas for adults and juveniles which includes:

Capital Punishment Reform, Drug Laws, Domestic Violence, Gun Safety, Human Trafficking, Immigration, Juvenile Justice, Pay Day Lending



Social Policy & Human Resources

Achieve equal rights for all; combat discrimination and poverty; and provide equal access to housing, employment, quality education, and health care.

Child Abuse & Neglect, Child Health, Equal Opportunity, Behavioral Health, Health Care for those of Lesser Means



Natural Resources

Achieve conservation, protection, and judicious development of the state's natural resources.

Air Quality/Climate Change, Energy, Hazardous Waste, Land Use, Transportation, Water



Voting Rights & Election Laws

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■ Elections resulting in honest & accurate results

- Transition to voting equipment renewal and required paper-trail for post-election audits.
- Mandatory uniform training for election workers.
- Assure enforcement of election laws.

MODERNIZATION OF VOTING SYSTEMS

■ Supplement outdated paper registration with direct voter registration – a proven 21st century system.

- Takes advantage of improved Texas statewide registration system.
- Maximizes voter registration integrity.
- Offers accuracy more than five times better than transcribed paper forms.
- Significantly reduces county transcription & state printing costs.

■ Encourage renewal of county election equipment and standards.

- Incentivize conversion to reliable, safe and secure equipment.
- Ensure county election personnel's compliance with security standards.

■ Improve accessibility to ballot-by-mail program and assure its integrity.

- Redesign forms for clarity and compliance.
- Adjust time period and mechanisms for requesting ballots by mail.

■ Fair and effective redistricting

- Provide maximum opportunity for public scrutiny.
- Support an Independent Citizens' Redistricting Commission.
- Districts apportioned on equal population.
- NOT drawn to dilute the strength of minority populations.
- NOT drawn to favor a political party or incumbent.
- Based on a fair and accurate census.



Financing Public Education

THE LEAGUE PROMOTES

■ A school finance system that ensures taxpayer equity and a fair distribution of funds to provide

- Safe and secure facilities.
- Highly qualified, certified teachers and staff.
- Programs that address diverse students' needs.
- Pre-school.
- Up-to-date textbooks, supplemental materials and libraries.
- Current technologies.

■ Opposition to vouchers in any form

- Vouchers are costly, requiring taxpayers to fund both public and private school systems.
- Vouchers circumvent the taxpayers' right to know how their tax dollars, collected specifically to fund public education, are being spent.
- Private schools are not required to adhere to state standards on teacher quality, curriculum, accountability, or to accept all students.
- Vouchers transfer state funding from public schools to private schools.