

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CENTRAL YAVAPAI

LWVCYC.org ♦ LWVCYC@gmail.com • P. O. Box 11538, Prescott, AZ 86304 ♦ March 2024

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Review of Prop 211 Voters' Right to Know Act with Terry Goddard



Saturday, March 2, 2024 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Yavapai College, 1100 E Sheldon St, Prescott Building 3, Room 119

In 2022, the voters of Arizona overwhelmingly passed a ballot initiative establishing the nation's most comprehensive election spending transparency law - Proposition 211, or the Voters' Right to Know Act. Terry Goddard, former AZ Attorney General and Phoenix Mayor worked for several years to get the initiative on the ballot and passed into law. The Act will be effective in the 2024 election. Mr. Goddard will discuss the challenges to get the initiative on the ballot, passed into law and what the voters can expect to change in the upcoming campaign season.

Last Call! We expect it will be a popular topic and we want to ensure League members register now via the link below soon. The meeting will be held in-person and via Zoom, so be sure to register for the correct option! We hope to see many of you there either in person or by Zoom.

The link for registration:

https://www.campusce.net/prescottolli/course/course.aspx?catId=2640



Calendar of League Events

Saturday, March 2, 2024 ★11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Prop 211, Voters' Right to Know with Terry Goddard Yavapai College, Building 3, Room 119 See Map

Saturday, March 2, 2024 ★1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Count Every Vote: A Virtual Ballot Tabulation

Tour with Yavapai Elections

Register here: https://rb.gy/dg8j4p

Monday, March 4, 2024 ★ 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Voter Registration at Embry Riddle

Monday, March 9, 2024 ★1:00 p.m.

Prescott Women's March on the Courthouse Square
"LWVCYC will have a voter registration table at the event. We urge members to stop by."

Tuesday, March 10, 2024 ★ 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Happy Hour at the Hilton! Please join us! RSVP.

Thursday, April 4, 2024 ★ 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Voter Registration at Embry Riddle

Need (2) Volunteers, Please let Loraine West

Thursday, April 4, 2024 ★10:00 – Noon by Zoom
An Update on Healthcare in the Quad Cities
More details forthcoming.

know if you can help.

local positions in May.

Saturday, May 4, 2024 - Annual Meeting Location to be Determined.

We hope you have looked at the PowerPoint in the email regarding Public Policy Review. It provides all the information you need to understand this League Business. Your input will be voted upon at the National Convention in June, and at our Annual Meeting on



Get Reproductive Rights on the Ballot!

The Arizona Abortion Access Act amends the Arizona Constitution to establish a fundamental right to abortion that the State may not deny, restrict or interfere with (1) before the point in pregnancy when a health care provider determines that the fetus has a significant likelihood of survival outside the uterus without extraordinary medical measures unless justified by a compelling governmental interest (defined by the act as a law or regulation enacted for the limited purpose of improving or maintaining the health of an individual seeking abortion care, consistent with accepted clinical standards of practice and evidence-based medicine, and that does not infringe on that individual's autonomous decision-making) that is achieved by the least restrictive means, or (2) after that point in pregnancy if a health care provider determines an abortion is necessary to protect the life or health of the pregnant individual; and under which the State may not penalize individuals or entities for assisting a pregnant individual in exercising their right to abortion.

We need more League Member Support Please take out a petition and gather signatures!

Please contact Terri Farneti terri.farneti@gmail.com
or Loraine West Loraine West Loraine.west@yahoo.com to get your petition, clipboard, pen and help get your friends and neighbors to sign it!

If you haven't watched the training presentation – here it is: Petition Gatherer Training

What is Public Policy Review?

- Public Policy Review planning is an essential League tool for focusing and prioritizing our work and ensuring that League resources, human and financial, from our grassroots volunteers to our professional staff, are engaged where they have the most impact.
- Public Policy Review is your opportunity to make your voices heard.
- What will our top priorities for the coming year be? For which policies should we advocate, educate, and inform?





League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County MEMBER WORKSHEET FOR LOCAL AND NATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY REVIEW **FEBRUARY 2024**

Objective:

Identify and discuss which positions should be revisited (update, restudy, or drop) and identify topics for new studies. We will start off by assuming we wish to retain all studies on both the local and state levels. Discussion is to

focus on what we wish to change.
For each position statement title, use these numbers to indicate what you wish to see be changed.
1 = UPDATE 2 = RESTUDY 3 = DROP
LOCAL PUBLIC POLICY POSITIONS (readopted annually at the LWVCYC Annual Meeting)
In the League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports the continuance and introduction of programs for children (birth to age 18) in the areas of health, mental health, care and supervision that are provided by parents, public, and voluntary agencies. These programs must be funded, timely, appropriate, coordinated, available, and accessible by public transportation.
Meeting Basic Senior Needs The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports the continuance and introduction of programs and services for seniors in the areas of health, care giving, jobs, recreation/socialization, transportation and affordable housing to be provided by private and public entities, the goal of these programs and services should be to pursue coordination, build coalitions, educate the public, and to oversee and monitor the process and results.
Water The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports the effective use of water and effluent, controlled development, and use of alternative water sources (all sources other than ground water) increased water conservation and education and cooperation of communities in Central Yavapai County. New policy adopted at LWVAZ State Convention, May 2023 on pages 5-7. Workforce Housing
The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports affordable housing for the workforce that provides vital community services in the areas of education, health care, public safety, and retailing.
Transportation The League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County encourages and supports the establishment of an affordable and accessible regional public transportation system to serve the needs of residents and visitors in Central Yavapai County.
Recommendation for New Local Study
Describe and explain why:
Programs You Would Like Our League to Present In '24 - '25:

NATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY POSITIONS (readopted every two years at National Convention)

Recommended Program: The Campaign for Making Democracy Work®

The LWVUS Board recommends that Program 2024-2026 continue the Campaign for Making Democracy Work® with Leagues throughout the country working on:

- Voting Rights
- Improving Elections
- Money in Politics
- Redistricting
- Abolishing the Electoral College

Check up to 3 Topics you'd the National League Focus on:		
DC Self-Government and Full Voting	Nuclear Issues	
Representation	Public Participation	
Apportionment	Agriculture Policies	
Redistricting	Equality of Opportunity	
Money in Politics (Formerly Campaign Finance)	Employment	
Selection of the President	Fair Housing	
Voter Representation/Electoral Systems	Nondiscrimination and Affirmative Action	
Citizen's Right to Know/Citizen Participation	Pay Equity	
Constitutional Amendment Proposals	Equal Rights for Women	
Constitutional Conventions	Same Gender Equality	
Individual Liberties	Education	
Public Policy on Reproductive Choices	Federal Role in Public Education	
Congress	Fiscal Policy	
The Presidency	Funding of Entitlements	
Privatization	Health Care	
United Nations	Immigration	
Trade	Meeting Basic Human Needs	
Developing Countries	Income Assistance	
Arms Control	Transportation	
Military Policy and Defense Spending	Housing Supply	
Natural Resources	Child Care	
Resource Management	Early Intervention for Children at Risk	
Transfer of Federal Public Lands	Violence Prevention	
Air Quality	Gun Policy	
Solid Waste	Urban Policy	
Nuclear Waste	Death Penalty	
Climate Change	Sentencing Policy	
Human Trafficking		

WATER

Consensus 1975, 1979; Revised 1995, Amended 2009, Revised 2023.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The League of Women Voters of Arizona believes that clean surface water and groundwater are essential, finite public resources that all citizens hold in common, and these resources should be managed sustainably for the long-term benefit of all residents and ecosystems of Arizona. Overwhelming scientific evidence indicates that climate change and increasing human demand for water in Arizona are reducing the quantity and quality of surface and groundwater resources throughout the state. The chronic overallocation of Colorado River flows and long-term drought have made the future of water inputs increasingly uncertain.

The League believes that Arizona should pursue policies that halt declining groundwater levels throughout the state, protect our watersheds and riparian natural habitats from degradation, require conservation by all water users, uphold our commitments to the Colorado River compact and reconcile competing claims on our finite water supply for the benefit of all citizens. The League believes that a strong statewide water management policy is essential to ensure Arizona's future quality of life and the economic well-being of our state. To reach these goals, the League supports immediate and sustained action by the Arizona Legislature and the Executive branch to develop and implement statutes, policies and programs that promote comprehensive long-range planning to regulate and sustainably manage all water resources in the state and to ensure their equitable use.

Water Resources and Supply

Arizona's water resources are contained in our rivers and springs and in the geological layers that hold our underground aquifers. To sustainably manage these precious resources the state must understand their inputs, withdrawals and interconnections. The League endorses the following principles:

- Base water policy at every jurisdictional level on a scientific understanding of the direct linkages between climate, precipitation, surface water and groundwater.
- Monitor the hydrology, including groundwater levels, stream and spring flows, surface water diversions, and groundwater withdrawals from all new and existing wells in all aquifers and watersheds of the state.
- Monitor water quality across all state watersheds and enforce strict water quality regulations to prevent harmful contamination of our surface and groundwater supplies.
- Undertake remediation to remove pollutants from compromised water supplies. The cost of this remediation should be borne by the polluter.
- Recognize the protection of streams, springs, and riparian habitats as "beneficial use."
- Protect and restore stream and riparian habitats.
- Use data-based, predictive, scientifically accurate hydrological models for all groundwater basins and watersheds to predict water sustainability and to measure progress toward long-term sustainability goals.
- Make up-to-date, science-based statewide data on hydrology and water quality available to the public and provide Arizona citizens with information on water issues and choices.
- Evaluate proposals for augmentation of Arizona's water resources based on feasibility, cost, energy efficiency, environmental impacts, and the likelihood that it will enhance the availability and equitable distribution of affordable water to all citizens of the state.

- When augmentation is pursued to support new development, the costs of that augmentation should be borne by those who benefit directly from that growth.
- Promote and expand water recycling, reuse, and reclamation, including direct potable reuse, stormwater capture, and water harvesting.

Water Rights

The League recognizes the application of the historic "prior appropriation for beneficial use" doctrine for surface water and the historic "reasonable use" doctrine for groundwater in adjudicating water rights in Arizona. To remove obstacles that this legal framework may present to sustainable water management and the protection of riparian ecosystems, the League supports taking the necessary steps to accomplish the following:

- Accelerate the general stream adjudication process to settle claims to surface water rights.
- Facilitate reclassification of surface water rights from one beneficial use to another.
- Ensure that, when water rights are transferred or new rights are established, the new rights are compatible with existing water management goals in the region.
- Facilitate the establishment of in-stream flow rights.
- Provide mechanisms for limiting non-beneficial or wasteful surface water use.
- Ensure that riparian habitats and in-stream flows are protected when any new surface water rights are granted, when there are water exchanges or changed uses, or when groundwater withdrawals have the potential to negatively affect riparian habitats.
- Assign a permitted quantity to all groundwater withdrawal rights.
- Plan and develop a priority system for modifying permitted quantities and uses of groundwater and/or surface water in times of shortage.
- Equitably allocate groundwater withdrawal rights to landowners who share a common aquifer.

Water Planning and Management

The overarching goal of water planning and management should be long-term sustainability of all surface and groundwater resources of the state. Sustainability is achieved when groundwater levels are stabilized by balancing withdrawal and recharge, and when flows in streams and springs are maintained or restored to ecologically sound levels. In addition, water quality must be maintained or remediated in surface and groundwater water reserves throughout the state. The League supports the following actions to achieve these goals:

- Extend active water management to encompass all watersheds and groundwater basins of the state.
- Establish regional management plans for groundwater basins or sub-basins that are guided by input from the state but implemented and enforced at the local level to account for local conditions and issues.
- Create a timetable for achieving sustainability goals within each active or regional management area and provide regular reports of progress to the Legislature and citizens of Arizona.
- Develop a comprehensive statewide water management plan which assesses our current water situation and identifies policies and decisions that will move Arizona strategically toward water sustainability. This state water plan should be updated regularly to guide water decision-makers in making policy choices.
- Provide adequate funding to water agencies at the state and regional levels to enable planning, monitoring, implementation, enforcement, and educational activities for water management across the state.
- Provide adequate funding to accelerate the General Stream Adjudication process.
- Update and amend the Groundwater Management Act of 1980, as necessary, to ensure that all
 water resources are managed sustainably throughout the state for the benefit of current and future
 generations.

- Develop an equitable permitting process to regulate current and future water withdrawals within all management areas.
- Ensure that management plans allocate sufficient water to maintain the ecological integrity of their associated riparian ecosystems.
- Establish authority for regional management entities to reduce allocations or limit new permits to bring withdrawals into balance with supply in all management areas.
- Incentivize or mandate robust conservation efforts for all water users.
- Require new residential and industrial development to comply with strict water conservation and sustainability standards.
- Base decisions regarding agricultural expansion, industrial growth, and new housing developments on the availability of adequate water resources within that management area.

Governmental Process

The League supports:

- public participation at all levels of water resource management planning.
- equitable utilization of all water resources, and equitable distribution of the cost to ensure clean water among state water users.
- decision-making processes that are transparent, open to public scrutiny, and which request input from all water stakeholders.
- coordination and cooperation between federal, state, local and tribal water agencies and stakeholders.

The League believes that Arizona should continue to collaborate with other Colorado River Basin states in the Upper and Lower Basins to negotiate a fair and reasonable plan-of-use for Colorado River water. The League believes it is incumbent upon our elected officials to meet these urgent challenges.

Thank You for Your Membership!

IMPORTANT WEBSITE REFERENCES LWVUS www.lwv.org LWVAZ www.lwvaz.org LWVCYC www.lwvcyc.org • We recommend you check these out —lots of great information to help you with learning about the League of Women Voters. • Our website includes current and past Voters, an Elected Official Guide and more! We are also on Facebook and Twitter —if you'd like to follow us! Help us Get out the Vote for 2024! VOTING And promote VOTE411.org



Mail Address: P.O. Box 11538, Prescott, AZ 86304

Web: <u>LWVCYC.ORG</u> Email address: <u>lwvcyc@gmail.com</u>

2024-2025 LWVCYC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name:	
Name(s) of additional member(s) in	n household:
Street Address:	Zip Code:
Phone:	Email Address
Member information – Note ty	pe of membership and make check to LWVCYC.
<u>Voting Member(s)</u>	Non-Voting Member(s)
\$60/yr Individual Members \$90/yr Household Members	
Service and local program activities	d donations are not tax deductible. Your support helps our Voters! Please include this form with your check(s). Membership can also <u>ogmail.com</u> or through PayPal at our website, LWVCYC.org using the
Make check out to LWVAZ Educat	ducation Fund and Elisabeth Ruffner Scholarship Fund. tion fund with notation as to where it is to be used. Contributions to and must be made by separate check to preserve tax deductibility.
under this program will be used for	Elisabeth Ruffner Scholarship Fund 501(c)3. The funds you contribute the Scholarship program. eck payable to: LWVAZ Education Fund write on notation line:
Women Voters Education Fund und	Education Fund 501(c) 3 The funds you contribute to the League of der this program may be used to support the charitable and e. Make Education Fund check payable to: LWVAZ Education Fund ral
You may also make donations to the E our website: LWVCYC.org	ducation Funds through PayPal or Zelle by following the donation link on
For Membership Use: Date received:	Membership / Renewal form (05/12/2023)