



THE VOTER

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CENTRAL YAVAPAI

LWVCYC.org ♦ LWVCYC@gmail.com ♦ P. O. Box 11538, Prescott, AZ 86304 ♦ December 2022

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Wishing you all a wonderful Holiday Season!



An After the Holidays Luncheon will be Planned for
January! More details in the January Voter.

On December 5th, the League of Women Voters of Central Yavapai County will be participating in the annual "Cash for College" event held by the Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County. A volunteer is needed to assist in supporting the LWVCYC table during the event.

We will have Elisabeth Ruffner Scholarship handouts for graduating seniors that explain the Scholarship opportunity and qualification criteria. This is a great opportunity for LWVCYC to interact with Tri-city graduating seniors and introduce them to the League of Women Voters. Thanks to your generous donations, the LWVCYC Elisabeth Ruffner scholarship has increased from \$500 to \$1000 in 2023.

The event is scheduled for Monday, December 5th from 5-6:30pm at the Yavapai College, Library Building #19, Community Room. We will need to be at the event early to setup our table and be ready to greet the graduating seniors.

Volunteer to support the graduating seniors in our community. Please contact Bobbi Boyd (805) 368-3426 to coordinate logistics for December 5. Thanks again for supporting

Democracy prevailed in 2022.

This year, our freedoms were on the ballot, from reproductive rights to equal access to the vote.

Despite anti-voter laws, mis- and disinformation, election deniers, and poll worker shortages, the American voters showed up to make their voices heard. We saw record-breaking voter turnout in many states across the nation, particularly related to early voting.

This is in no small part thanks to Leagues across the country, who worked tirelessly to empower voters during this pivotal midterm season. Throughout 2022, 750+ state and local Leagues registered voters, trained volunteers, served as poll workers, and organized to get out the vote!

The following is a snapshot of LWV's impact in the 2022 midterm elections as of November 10, 2022. A complete impact report will be added to this page at a future date.



Legislative Trends 2023

LWVUS strives to provide guidance and policy outlooks to state and local Leagues around the country. As part of our ongoing resources for Leagues, the advocacy and litigation team is providing [an outlook on the trends that Leagues may see in state legislatures in the 2023 session](#). This comes in direct response to feedback from League leaders, and we hope it will be helpful as Leagues consider their legislative priorities for 2023.

Get Involved in League Advocacy

The LWV of Arizona needs Advocacy champions. Put your talent and passion to work by participating in a broad range of advocacy activities. You choose your level of commitment. Every action matters, and your involvement makes us powerful and effective

Use our one-stop sign up to participate in the opportunities listed below:

<https://linktr.ee/LWVAZADVOCACYVOLUNTEER>

- Voter Rights/Election Security & Integrity.
- Criminal Justice Reform.
- Climate Change & Environment (includes Water issues).
- Women's Rights & Equity.
- Gun Safety.
- Education.
- Ranked Choice Voting.
- RTS (Request to Speak) – RTS is the Arizona Legislative portal for public to comment on pending litigation being heard in committees. LWVAZ can set up an RTS account for you.
- Sign up to receive the LWV Arizona Advocacy and Action newsletters.

Help support our Mission: Making Democracy Work®. We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.



The State Advocacy Committee will meet on Thursday, Dec 1, at 5:30 PM to lay the groundwork for our advocacy work ahead. Please register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsduCvgjsoG9A3mxBq3J3IEeAWTOxDUUYb>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Our agenda is still evolving but will include the following:

- Overview of the state advocacy structure
- 2023 advocacy priorities
- Preparing for the 2023 legislative session, including legislative analysis work and overview of the issue teams
- Upcoming training sessions, including how to use RTS

Introduction & Overview to the Leagues on *Moore v. Harper*

A case before the Supreme Court of the United States which considers the "independent state legislature theory" (ISLT)

The League of Women Voters believes that all Americans deserve an equal opportunity to make their voices heard in our democracy. As an over 100-year-old nonpartisan voting rights organization, with representation in all 50 states, we empower all Americans to have a say in our government, including elections. Elections are our chance to stand up for what matters most to us and to have an impact on the issues that affect us, our communities, our families, and our futures. At the League, our priority will always be the rights of Americans to participate meaningfully in the political process, and we will fight any attempts to suppress those rights.

In June of 2022, the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case [*Moore v. Harper*](#), which considers the "independent state legislature" theory or ISLT. Adoption of the independent state legislature theory by the US Supreme Court would be detrimental to all Americans. It would prevent state courts from ruling on actions of the state legislature that govern federal elections, essentially giving state legislatures unchecked authority to set the rules for federal elections, including redistricting maps. State legislatures would be nearly unrestricted in their ability to choose their voters, instead of the other way around. The League of Women Voters [joined this case as an amicus](#) to alert the Court about the real-world implications of the ISLT on voters, election workers, and our democracy.

LWV is uniquely positioned to argue to the Court in this case, given our involvement in state rules around elections and educating voters in every state. Represented in over 750 communities, our Leagues rely on the uniformity of election rules to educate voters and ensure that voters can navigate the election process with ease. The LWV also relies on state courts to clarify, modify, or enjoin election laws to protect voters. A Supreme Court ruling adopting the independent state legislature theory could potentially nullify hundreds of prior state court rulings on the constitutionality of election laws. This would result in one set of rules for federal elections—where only the state legislature could speak—and another set for state and local elections—where the state courts could determine legality. Such a divided system would cause immense confusion for election workers and voters alike.

[READ THE FILING PRESS RELEASE](#)

Read the Talking Points about this case:

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/talking-points/moore-v-harper-talking-points>

There's a December 7th Moore v Harper rally in Washington D.C. \$5,000 is available to help any league member attend. (Hotel for one night, shared room with another Leaguer, and airfare up to a max of \$300. All other expenses will need to be covered by the attendees.) If you know anyone who is interested, have them email Pinny. Representatives for all state Leagues will be there!



LWVUS has supported and pushed for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment since it was first passed by Congress in 1972. Leagues across the country have worked to engage lawmakers and organize at the grassroots level to ensure equal rights for all, regardless of sex. On January 27, 2020, Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. For more background on the ratification journey of the ERA, [read our blog post](#).

Now, LWV is pushing for the ERA to cross the finish line!

In this toolkit, you will find resources and tools for

Leagues to use in our nationwide push for ERA inclusion in the US Constitution. If you have any questions, please contact rgoldman@lww.org.

Talking Points

What is the ERA?

- The Equal Rights Amendment ensures equal rights for all, regardless of sex.
- The amendment was introduced by suffragist Alice Paul in 1923. It was passed by Congress in 1972 and crossed the 38-state threshold for ratification in January of 2020.
- The text of the ERA is as follows: "Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex. Sec. 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article. Sec. 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification."

Why do we need the ERA?

- It's undeniable that women have made significant progress toward equality over the years. However, women continue to battle systematic discrimination in the form of unequal pay, workplace harassment, pregnancy discrimination, domestic violence, limited access to comprehensive health care, and more.
- Tackling these issues will take more than just reactionary solutions. We must address the root cause of inequality by amending our constitution.
- The ERA will pave the way for further legislative progress towards gender equality and will allow the courts to closely scrutinize sex-based discrimination.

What happens to the ERA now?

- Once an amendment has been ratified by the necessary 38 states, the National Archivist can proceed with final certification of the amendment.
- However, when it passed the ERA in 1972, Congress attached a deadline for ratification to the amendment. Because that deadline has passed, ambiguity exists about whether the amendment can now be certified as normal.
- Congress can vote to remove the deadline and eliminate any ambiguity so that the ERA can be certified as an official amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

LWV support of the ERA

- LWV seeks to secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. We promote social and economic justice and the health and safety of all Americans.

- LWV supports the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and efforts to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.
- LWV supports equal rights for all under state and federal law regardless of sex, race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability.
- LWV has fought hard for passage and ratification of the ERA since the 1970s.

What people can do to support the ERA?

- People can support ERA certification by [contacting their senators](#) and asking them to vote YES to remove the ratification deadline on the ERA.

Statistics to relate COVID to your ERA Advocacy Work

During this unprecedented time, when COVID-19 has threatened our health, safety, and livelihoods, we are reminded of the disproportionate and unique impact this virus has on women. In the long term, when COVID-19 has been contained, we hope our Federal Government passes the Equal Rights Amendment so that in future pandemics, Women do not bear the brunt of the effects.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) About the ERA

LWVUS has developed a page addressing common questions asked about the ERA. We hope the questions and answers, which were derived from conversations with League members and policy briefings, will serve as a guide to common questions on policy, implementation, and other issues as Leagues do their advocacy work.

Other resources: Check out this [ERA brief document from the ERA Coalition](#), of which LWV is a member.



THANK YOU to the VOTE411 Team and all League Volunteers

Thank you to all the members who made this a successful year. Those who participated in Voter Registration, Vote411 for presentations and creating content, as well as those who assisted with the debate, forums, and other league presentations. We may be small, but we are mighty. Over half of our members contributed time to our various programs and by doing so increased our local visibility. Cory Shaw, Joyce Haas, Loraine West, Kate Robbins, Gary Goddard, Tricia Powers, Marc and Cindy Wagner, Nancy Burns, Susan Hout, Cappi Comba, Anna Swigart, Tina Boden-Blake, Isabel Cerecedes, Annie Sawyer, Terri Farneti, Vivian and Norman Perry, Ellie Laumark, Deb Dillon, Mary Lea Adkins, Greg Stein, Blanche Berkowitz, and Bobbi Boyd – and anyone we may have missed!

Joyce Haas and Cory Shaw want to thank the members of the VOTE411 Team for their work during this election. Team Members: Vivian Perry, Deb Dillon, Greg Stein, and Bobbi Boyd. A special THANKS to Greg for researching the Support and Oppose positions for a state proposition.

Although VOTE411 began in 2006, this year was the first election VOTE411 has been active state-wide in Arizona. A lot of work went on behind the scenes to gather data, develop questions for each position and do research for each proposition.



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2022-2023 LWVCYC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Name: _____

Name(s) of additional member(s) in household: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Member information – Note type of membership and make check to LWVCYC

Voting Members

_____ \$60/yr Individual Membership	\$_____ Associate/ Friend of the League
_____ \$90/yr Household Membership	
_____ \$40/yr Student Member	\$_____ Contribution to our local League

operations

Local League membership dues and donations are **not** tax deductible. Your support helps our Voter Service and local program activities! Please include this form with your check(s).

Donations to the LWVAZ Education Fund and Elisabeth Ruffner Scholarship

Fund. Make check out to LWVAZ Education fund with notation as to where it is to be used. Contributions to 501 (c) 3 funds are generally tax deductible and must be made by **separate check** to preserve tax deductibility. Thank You

\$_____ Contribution to LWVAZ Elisabeth Ruffner Scholarship Fund 501(c)3. *The funds you contribute under this program will be used for the Scholarship program.* Make Ruffner Scholarship Fund check payable to: **LWVAZ Education Fund** write on notation line: **CYC-Scholarship**

\$_____ Contribution to LWVAZ Education Fund 501(c) 3 *The funds you contribute to the League of Women Voters Education Fund under this program may be used to support the charitable and educational activities of our League and to make contributions to [state 501(c)(3)] and the national League of Women Voters Education Fund.* Make Education Fund check payable to: **LWVAZ Education Fund** write on notation line: **CYC General**

You may also make donations to the Education Funds through PayPal by following the donation link on our website: LWVCYC.org.

For Membership Use: Date received: _____

Membership / Renewal form (06/20/2022)