

# THE VOTER

# THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CENTRAL YAVAPAI

LWVCYC.org ♦ <u>LWVCYC@gmail.com</u> • P. O. Box 11538, Prescott, AZ 86304 ♦ October 2021

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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928-533-5297

# **Director Voter**

# Services:

Open

# Nominating Committee

Tina Blake, Chair



# One-Stop Shop for Voting Rights

Saturday, October 9, 2021 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon by Zoom

Register in advance for this meeting:

# Register Here

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

- ☐ Voter Information from the Yavapai County Recorder's Office
- ☐ Update on the Arizona Legislative Session
- ☐ Information on the League's VOTE411
- ☐ For the People Act now the "Freedom to Vote Act"



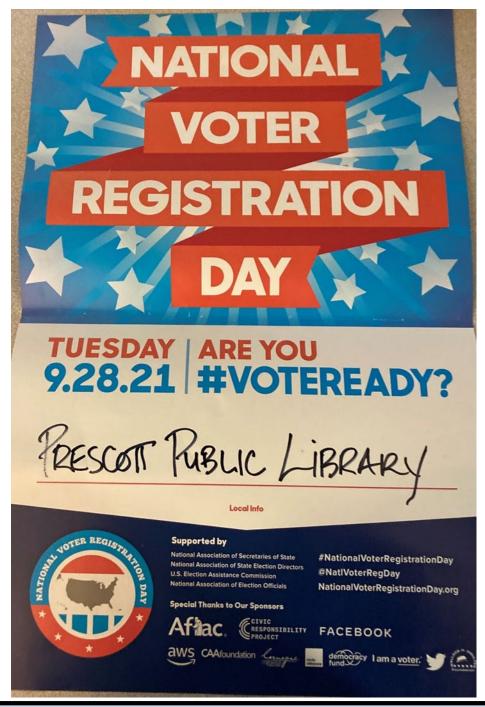




Our Mission: Empowering voters. Defending democracy.

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZllfuioqzsuGdTsyt5 8 lc8xeJ6 ONzdMa



# We 've Got it Covered! Please help Promote!

(we do need to wear masks)

- ☑8:30 a.m. Terri Farneti (set up)
- 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. Cory Shaw (upstairs), Loraine West (downstairs
- 10:00 Noon Joyce Haas
- √ 11:30 1:30 p.m. Deb Dillon
- ☑ 12 Noon 2:00 p.m. Karen Sullivan (Upstairs), Janet Steven (downstairs)
- 2:00 p.m. Terri (pick up boxes!)



# Annual Member Meeting and Speaker Program

# Monday October 4, 2021 via ZOOM

4:30-5:00 PM: Annual Member Meeting 5-6:30 PM: Speaker Program

This program is free and everyone is welcome. To register, CLICK HERE

# The Honorable Coral Evans presents My Experience in Arizona Politics

Coral Evans will speak about her experience running for office, holding office, and effecting change as a woman of color



Former Flagstaff Mayor Coral Evans is a social and public policy entrepreneur who believes in the concept of thrive-ability as it relates to individuals, neighborhoods, and communities. Ms. Evans has over 25 years of experience in the field of community redevelopment and investment. In addition to serving on the Flagstaff City Council for almost 13 years she is the Executive Director of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association of Flagstaff, Inc., a resident-driven social profit (nonprofit) organization. Ms. Evans is currently serving as the Northern Arizona Director for US Senator Mark Kelly. Ms. Evans holds a master's degree in Business Administration, a master's level certificate in Public Management, a Bachelor's degree in Business Management. Ms. Evans is a Hunt-Kean Leadership Fellow, a Babson College Social Innovation Fellow, and a Flinn-Brown Foundation Center for Civic Leadership Fellow. As Mayor she was recognized by the Arizona Business Magazine as one of Arizona's "Most Influential Women in Business" in 2018, other recognitions include: Arizona Community Action Association's Margie Frost Champion Against Poverty Award, Coconino Hispanic Advisory Council Cesar E Chavez Community Award and the Greater Flagstaff Chamber of Commerce Athena Award.

Co-sponsored by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiative and the Voter Education Program

**Click Here:** To Register for the Speaker Program



Did you Miss the Meeting on Effective Policing in our Communites on Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup>?

Here's the Link to See what you Missed!



# Here's the link if you missed it!:



Medical Aid in Dying (MAID) Issues and Perspectives

\*Free and Open to the Public\*

If you missed this meeting here's the link:

https://www.facebook.com/lwvgreatertucson/videos/2134346113371639



League Supports New Senate Voting Rights Bill, the Freedom to Vote Act

The US Senate introduced new legislation that protects and expands the right to vote, decreases the influence of money in politics, and curbs partisan gerrymandering. The *Freedom to Vote Act* will set national standards to make sure all Americans can cast their ballots in the way that works best for them, regardless of their age, race, sex, language, or zip code.

Together other civil rights, voting rights, and partner organizations, the League of Women Voters strongly endorsed the legislation when it was introduced on September 14. The bill is not perfect, but it has carried over or strengthened many of the reforms that the League supported in the For the People Act, which passed in the US House but was unable to get past a filibuster in the US Senate. This new legislation is cosponsored by Senators Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Angus King (I-ME), Joe Manchin (D-WV), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Jon Tester (D-MT), and Reverend Raphael Warnock (D-GA).

#### PROTECTING AND EXPANDING THE RIGHT TO VOTE

The biggest barrier to voting is ensuring that voters are registered to vote. Many of the reforms included in the *Freedom to Vote Act* expand opportunities for voters to both register and increase access to voting in the way that works best for them. Reforms in the legislation that the League has long supported include:

- Same Day Registration: Ensures that every voter who shows up on election day can register and vote. If the bill passes, this provision will go into full effect by 2024;
- **Automatic Voter Registration**: Allows voters to be automatically registered to vote when they do any business through all state motor vehicle agencies;
- Online Voter Registration: Guarantees that voters can register on the internet and access their registration online to update their address and contact information;

- **Expanded Early Voting**: Requires states to offer 15 consecutive days, including weekends, prior to Election Day where voters can cast ballots in person prior to Election Day; and
- **Creating criteria for voter roll maintenance**: Creates standards for updating voter rolls based on reliable and objective evidence.
- Authorize registration at naturalization ceremonies: Establishes a process for authorizing the chief state election official in every state to share voter registration information at the end of any naturalization ceremony.

In addition to the key reforms that the League has been fighting for listed above, the legislation contains other important provisions that will strengthen the freedom to vote. The legislation will expand access for the disabled, Native Americans, and underserved communities who face unique challenges when voting. The bill also ensures voter-verified paper ballots are used, establishes election security standards for voting equipment vendors, and protects state and local election administration officials from undue influence or control.

# **ELIMINATING THE INFLUENCE OF DARK MONEY**

Americans deserve to know who is trying to influence their vote. Whether it's a foreign entity or a bigmoney contributor, voters deserve to know where the money is coming from. That's why the provisions in the *Freedom to Vote Act* shine a light on the influence of money in our elections. These provisions include:

- The DISCLOSE Act: The Democracy Is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections Act of 2021 requires organizations that spend money in federal elections, such as labor organizations, Super PACs, and corporations, to disclose their donors. This will allow the American people to see who is attempting to sway their votes and gain influence in our government;
- Small dollar financing of US House elections: Provides funding to states that can be used if candidates elect to receive a 6:1 match on small dollar contributions. Prohibits the use of taxpayer dollars from being used to fund the program.
- Reporting foreign interference in our elections: Requires campaigns to disclose certain foreign contacts; and
- **Stopping illicit Super PAC coordination**: Ensures single-candidate super PACs do not operate as arms of campaigns.

The money in politics provisions will stop foreign and domestic interference in our elections and ensure Americans know who is trying to influence their votes.

# **CURBING PARTISAN AND RACIAL GERRYMANDERING**

The *Freedom to Vote Act* establishes specific criteria for congressional redistricting and makes judicial remedies available for the states by:

- Establishing criteria for congressional redistricting: Ensures that maps comply with the *Voting Rights Act*, consider communities of interest, cannot consider incumbent addresses, and comply with the "one person, one vote" clause in the US Constitution;
- Ensuring states have access to judicial remedies: Allows partisan gerrymandering claims to be
  appealed to the federal district court in the state or to the DC Circuit court. This would make these
  courts an intermediary and provide a way to make constitutional challenges without going to the
  US Supreme Court.

- Appointing an independent demographer to redraw maps: Empowers the court to appoint an
  independent demographer to draw maps that fit state criteria and requirements instead of sending
  challenged maps back to the state legislature; and
- **Mandating transparency**: Requires state redistricting entity to hold hearings in different regions of the state before and after releasing proposed plans so that the public can provide input.

Through the League's initiative to build People Powered Fair Maps™, state and local Leagues have engaged the public on the need for fair redistricting processes. The provisions in this bill will ensure that maps drawn in the 2021-22 cycle are fair and represent the needs of voters, not politicians.

#### WHAT'S NEEDED FOR THE BILL TO PASS IN THE SENATE

A vote on this legislation is expected during the week of September 20. Due to the current rules of the Senate, it will need to get 60 votes to overcome the Senates filibuster rule.

Senator Manchin, who helped put together the framework for this legislation, has been working to get support from colleagues across the aisle. If he is unable to get ten republican legislators to support the bill when it comes to the floor, it will be necessary for the Senate to change the rules to pass this and other key voting rights legislation like the *John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act*.

The League will continue to push both chambers of Congress to pass this legislation. We also continue to put pressure on President Biden to use all his influence and power to ensure that voting rights legislation is delivered to his desk for his signature. We cannot afford to wait any longer or hear any more excuses; the American people demand equal voting rights now.

# **News from Co-Treasurer, Kate Robbins**

Non-Dues donations to the local league can be made in one of 3 ways:

# 1. Operational Donations:

The local league operating fund. This is a taxable donation and funds are used for operational and educational expenses in the normal course of league programs. Checks would be made payable to LWVCYC.

# 2. Non-Taxable Education Fund Donations:

The Unrestricted Ed Fund is a fund from which the local league can withdraw for any form of public education or other purpose allowed under the tax laws.

The Elisabeth Ruffner Scholarship fund is a restricted single purpose fund. Starting 2022 we will be awarding a \$500 scholarship each year. The scholarship will be awarded to an area high school senior based on submission of an essay on a voting/public policy related topic. A committee of League members will read the submissions and select a winner. This fund was started a few years ago, but the details were not finalized until recently.

Checks would be made payable to LWVAZ - ED Fund and then either Scholarship or general written on the memo line to indicate your preference.

### 3. Donations on our web site:

We have now re-vamped the LWVCYC web site and donations through pay-pal will be routed to the correct fund, based on your selection. Ed fund Donations will be routed to the LWVAZ ED Fund page, where you will indicate the fund preference.

# IMPORTANT WEBSITE REFERENCES

LWVUS www.lwv.org

LWVAZ www.lwvaz.org

LWVCYC www.lwvcyc.org

- ★ We recommend you check out these websites —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 2021!

Join the Board as Voter Service Director!

Become a Voter Registration Volunteer







VMTE4



# LWV MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION 2021-2022

Membership in the LWV is open to any person 16 and over who subscribes to the purposes and policies of the LWVUS. Dues for 2021-2022 cover payment for local (\$15.00), state (\$13), and national (\$32.00) memberships.

Name:
Address:
City/Zip: Phone:
Email:
Note type of membership, and make check to "LWVCYC" - or pay online with Pay Pal at LWVCYC.org
\$60/yr Individual Membership \$40/yr for members under 40
\$90/yr Household Membership Free for students under 26
Plus, suggested donation:
\$Contribution to our local League (not tax deductible)
\$*Contribution to LWVAZ Education Fund (tax deductible)
* Donations to the <u>LWVAZ Education Fund</u> must be made by <u>separate check</u> to preserve tax deductibility. These donations support our webpage and Voter Service activities. Thank you!
Please include this form with your check New member or Renewal
Please mail this form and all checks to: LWVCYC. PO Box 11538. Prescott. AZ 86304