

The League of Women Voters of Saratoga County

NONPARTISAN POLITICAL POLICY

Adopted July, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

“The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.” -- Article II, Section 2, LWWUS Bylaws & Article II, Section 2, LWW of Saratoga County Bylaws.

The League may take action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest. However, it shall not support nor oppose any political party or any candidate.

Recognizing that the League experience uniquely equips members for public life and wishing to encourage members to utilize their knowledge and abilities, non-board members are urged to participate fully in activities (on an individual basis). Board members activities must be limited to preserve the League’s nonpartisan position.

No board member shall run for or hold partisan political office. If a board member declares for partisan elective office the member should resign from the board.

Public notices released by the League announcing the resignation of a board member to run for political office should be carefully worded to avoid the appearance of endorsing the resigning board member’s candidacy.

The president, voters’ service director and the holder of any other board position deemed sensitive shall not undertake any action which will cause them to be identified publicly as supporting any candidate for office or any political party. Other board members shall not chair or administer fundraising for political campaigns, or chair campaign events. Board members may contribute to candidates or parties in any amount below that which will trigger public disclosure.

A board member may serve on any nonpartisan public board, commission, committee or coalition; However that board member does not represent the League unless officially designated as a League representative by the League board.

A board member may not speak or in any way work against a League position.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of a board member.

The League’s nonpartisan reputation is strong enough to ensure that contributions to the LWW from office holders or candidates can be accepted without being misconstrued as endorsements of the donors.