



*We Hope You Join*  
**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS!**

**INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AT LARGE**

***What is the League of Women Voters?***

**PURPOSE:** The League is a nonpartisan organization, whose purpose is to encourage the informed and active participation of all citizens in government and politics. As a new League member, you will join over 115,000 persons in 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands who care about important local, state, and national issues. Membership in the League is open to men and women.

**POLICY:** The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. This policy of nonpartisanship has always been a source of strength to the League. The League does take action on selected governmental issues studied and agreed upon by the membership, and develops public support for the League's positions. Thus our nonpartisan policy refers to *political parties* and *candidates*, not *issues*. The president of a local or state League, or someone designated by the president, acts as the official speaker for the League on political issues. Members of the League (including members at large) may speak as individuals only, and not for the League. League members are encouraged to participate in party activities---campaigns, precinct meetings, caucuses, etc. There are, however, restrictions on the political activity of some members of state and local League boards of directors.

***How is the League organized?***

The League is organized on three levels--national, state, and local. Recognized local Leagues are functioning in 33 communities in Texas. **Joining the League at the local level---as a member at large, or a member of a community League---automatically makes one a member of the League of Women Voters of Texas and of the League of Women Voters of the United States.**

***Who is a member at large?***

Members at large reside outside the areas of, and are not enrolled in, local Leagues. Members at Large are also members of LWV-United States.

Dues for members at large in Texas are established by the board of directors of LWV-Texas, and are payable directly to the League's state office in Austin at 1212 Guadalupe, #107, Austin, TX 78701-1800. Payment of those dues also enrolls a member in the national League of Women Voters. The Annual dues of \$50.00 per member are payable on the anniversary of the month in which the member joined. When two or more members reside at the same address, they may elect to pay household membership dues (\$50.00 for the first member and \$25.00 for each additional member). Such membership entitles the household to one copy of all materials mailed. A notice will be sent when renewal is due. Unfortunately, a member will have to be dropped if payment has not been received within 60 days of the anniversary month.

***Forming a member-at-large unit***

When there are a sufficient number of interested members at large (MALs) in a community, they may work with the state League board to form a member-at-large unit of the League of Women Voters of Texas. More information is available at the state office.

Members at large are especially welcome at statewide conferences, conventions, and workshops where they will have the opportunity to work with other League members. A member at large would attend state convention or council as an observer---that is, as a visitor at the business sessions---and as a full participant in all other activities. Voting at state of national convention is restricted to delegates from local and state Leagues; each

member at large unit is entitled to one voting delegate.

***Materials furnished to members at large***

Members at Large will receive:

- a welcome packet containing important information about the League of Women Voters
- state and national *VOTERS* (newsletters)
- each new edition of the state League's publications catalog
- copy(ies) of each printing of a *Voters Guide* prior to statewide elections. *Voters Guides* are candidates' questionnaire responses and/or information about statewide ballot issues
- a subscription (if requested) to the *Legislative Newsletter* published during regular legislative sessions