



For Immediate Release

August 30, 2010

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Texas Voters Ill-Served When Candidates Refuse to Debate Says LWV-Texas

Texans will decide who will lead the state for the next four years in the November 2 General Election. To cast an informed ballot, voters must learn the views of those vying for office and are ill-served when candidates are unwilling to debate or to participate in processes the public relies on for information about candidates and issues.

The League of Women Voters of Texas calls on all candidates in races from governor on down the ballot to be available to the public and to the media, without imposing arbitrary conditions, so that Texans can cast an informed ballot in this election.

According to LWV-Texas President Karen Nicholson,

Voters are turned-off and don't vote when those running for office aren't available, and voter turnout in recent Texas elections has been disappointing—Texas was 46th among the states in turnout of voter eligible population in the 2008 election. We must do better, and candidates who make themselves available to voters are crucial to improving voter turnout.

The League of Women Voters has been agitating and educating for active, informed public participation in government for all of its 90 years. There is no more important form of public participation than voting, which must be encouraged, not suppressed.

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