



**Testimony by the League of Women Voters of Texas
to the State Board of Education, January 21, 2009**

Chairman McLeroy and State Board of Education Members:

The League of Women Voters of Texas appreciates this opportunity to provide input on the latest revisions to the K-12 science curriculum in Texas.

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports a statewide, standardized curriculum that provides the academic rigor students need to succeed in college and their chosen careers. In addition, the League believes that our curriculum should be developed with broad input from Texas educators from K-12 to the university level.

Therefore, the League of Women Voters endorses Draft 3 of the proposed new science curriculum standards for grades K-12, which was written by teacher writing teams. This draft supports language that upholds the scientific processes of observation, analysis, and the ability to test concepts. In addition, Draft 3 eliminates language that would weaken instruction in the scientific concept of evolution that is widely endorsed by scientists throughout the world.

Texas is the home of NASA, as well as many high-tech industries and renowned medical facilities and universities. Let us adopt a science curriculum and textbooks that will prepare Texas students to work for these world-class employers, or for any national or international employer of world-class caliber.