



**League of Women Voters
of Texas**

**TESTIMONY
HB 9
House Transportation Committee
April 21, 2009**

The League of Women Voters of Texas supports **HB 9** the Texas Local Option Transportation Act (TLOTA.) **HB 9** and **SB 855**, its companion bill passed by the Senate, would allow local urban areas to respond to transportation needs identified by citizens. Metropolitan Planning Organizations will be able to choose the most feasible financial funding options for their area.

As Texas continues to expand its population, transportation needs continue to grow. Non-attainment of federal ozone standards that result in health concerns for citizens can be mitigated by optional transportation choices. Metropolitan Planning Organizations have developed anticipated needs in their 2030 plans; however the financial resources are not available to meet those needs. **HB 9** allows local voters to decide these important priorities and funding options.

The League appreciates the legislature's ongoing concern for transportation in Texas in both rural and urban areas.

LWV-TX urges you to support **HB 9**. Thank you.