

Natural Resources

Action: To achieve conservation, protection, and judicious development of the state's natural resources which includes:

Air Quality

Support air quality and climate change legislation.

Energy

Promote incentives for renewable and clean energy sources and energy conservation. Monitor the building of coal fired plants and nuclear power plants. Promote energy policy to reduce global warming.

Hazardous Waste

Support safe transportation handling and disposal of radioactive materials. Support legislation promoting recycling efforts, in particular for electronic waste.

Land Use

Increase county authority to regulate land development. Support full funding for Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept.

Transportation

Increase funding for public roads, mass transit, and light rail.

Water

Support funding for safe and adequate water supplies, using sound ecological/economic strategies that emphasize conservation. Support enhanced protection for environmental flows; Texas rivers, bays and estuaries.



League of Women Voters of Texas
1212 Guadalupe #107
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 472-1100 | (512) 472-4114 Fax
lwvtexas@lwvtexas.org |
www.lwvtexas.org
Office Hours: M-F, 9am-5pm

Issues that LWV-Texas will support during the 2011 Legislative Session

Government

Action: To achieve an efficient, effective, and responsive state governmental system through constitutional revision and legislative action which would include:

Constitutional Revision

Support the revision of the State Constitution to make it a framework of basic law.

Election Laws and Voting Rights

Support election laws that facilitate citizen participation and voter convenience as well as monitor all legislation relating to HAVA.

Financing State Government

Promote adequate, fair funding for major state responsibilities such as public education and transportation.

Judicial Selection

Support the appointment/retention method and/or nonpartisan election of the judiciary.

Open Government

Promote transparency and public participation in government.

Political Campaign Process

Support fair campaign finance laws to reduce the perceived influence of large contributions to candidates and office holders.

Public Policy on Reproductive Choice/Women's Health

Promote and protect women's access to health care, including all aspects of reproductive health.

Public School Funding, Testing and Accountability

Promote adequate state funding for public schools, and changes in the state's accountability rating system to make it fairer and less punitive.

Redistricting

Support transparency and public input in the 2011 redistricting process.

State and Local Relations

Support increased county authority in order to enable better manage growth in urbanizing areas.

Administration of Justice

Action: To achieve an equitable system of criminal justice in Texas for adults and juveniles which includes:

Capital Punishment

Promote a moratorium on the death penalty while an official study is conducted. Support the option of life sentence without parole in capital cases.

Criminal Justice

Support a professional parole and probation staff and work to decrease their caseload. Provide a secure prison environment with maximum education opportunities.

Drug Laws and Policies

Support treatment programs for drug abuse and addiction as an alternative to incarceration.

Immigration

Support state services for undocumented immigrants, especially in the area of education and healthcare. Monitor any attempt to curb civil rights of immigrants.

Juvenile Justice

Support and fund substance abuse treatment, mental health needs, and education for youth at risk and for those incarcerated.

Social Policy and Human Resources

Action: To achieve equal rights for all; to combat discrimination and poverty; and to provide equal access to housing, employment, quality education, and health care in Texas which includes:

Health Care For Those of Lesser Means

Support providing basic health care services for those who are unable to pay. Basic services include emergency care, primary care, preventive care, care Support the development and implementation of adequate legislation, policies, services, and programs to protect children from abuse and neglect.

Child Abuse and Neglect

Support the development and implementation of adequate legislation, policies, services, and programs to protect children from abuse and neglect.

Early Childhood

Support early childhood education professional development. Expand access to high quality pre-kindergarten. Improve safe care for infants and toddlers.

Child Health

Ensure that state budget cuts do not undermine children's access to health care. Improve enrollment and retention for CHIP and Children's Medicaid and maintain effective delivery systems for both. Preserve Texas' public health safety net.

Equal Opportunity/Income Assistance

Support policies that improve well-being for families in poverty, programs that provide job training for living wage jobs, and equal education opportunities from preschool to higher education.

Health Care for the Elderly

Support increased funding to provide adequate programs to serve the elderly.

Services for the Seriously Mentally Ill

Maintain and increase funding for services to persons with serious mental illness, and include post-crisis and crisis prevention community care.