



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF TEXAS

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League of Women Voters of Texas Urges Quick Remedy Following Voter ID Ruling

Austin, TX - The U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans ruled today that the Texas voter photo ID law violates the Voting Rights Act because of its racially discriminatory effects. The Court, in making its ruling, ordered the Federal District Court in Corpus Christi to find the appropriate remedy as soon as possible.

League of Women Voters of Texas President Elaine Wiant said "We applaud the Court's ruling and urge the District Court to find the quick remedy within days if possible."

The Fifth Circuit Court's ruling suggests one option is to permit voter registration cards as acceptable identification for voting. The League of Women Voters agrees. Voter registration cards are mailed to every registered voter every two years and were accepted prior to the imposition of the very strict Texas photo ID law.

Wiant said, "The League of Women Voters of Texas and many other civic organizations are busy registering voters and educating voters about the voting process. We need as much time as possible to make sure that every voter in Texas is informed about the changes well in advance of the November 2016 election." She also urges the State of Texas to move on and end its legal challenge, and expenditure of state funds. It's estimated that more than \$3.5 million has been expended appealing rulings on the subject since the law's passage in 2011.

The League of Women Voters urges every eligible Texan to register, be informed on the candidates and issues and vote in November - **"Be a Texas Voter!"**

For much more information about the [League of Women Voters of Texas](http://www.lwvtexas.org) and voting in Texas, go to <http://www.lwvtexas.org/elections.html>.

For more information about the Texas photo ID law, see http://www.lwvtexas.org/Voter_Rights_Election_Laws.html.

The complete Fifth Circuit ruling may be found at: https://www.brennancenter.org/sites/default/files/legal-work/2016.07.20_En%20Banc%20Opinion.pdf.

A summary of the ruling is available at: <http://www.courthousenews.com/2016/07/20/fifth-circuit-strikes-down-controversial-texas-voter-id-law.htm>.

The League of Women Voters of Texas has been "educating and agitating" since 1919. The League is nonpartisan - it does not support or oppose any candidates or parties. Instead, the League encourages active and informed civic participation in government and increased understanding of major public policy issues. The League of Women Voters' non-partisan Voters Guide is highly respected and sought after by voters in local and statewide elections in Texas.