



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

## TESTIMONY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**HB 1237**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017**

I am Barbara Frandsen, testifying as a member and on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Texas on HB 1237. We appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today. Thank you for allowing us to share the League of Women Voters of Texas position on this bill.

Our position on public education, like other League positions, is derived through a lengthy and thoughtful process involving the participation of 25 local Leagues representing more than 5,000 members and supporters throughout the state of Texas.

The establishment of Pathways in Technology offers many positive qualities. The League supports the following:

- The establishment of an Advisory council and a written commitment between schools and institutions of higher education.
- A course of study that enables a participating student in grade levels 9 through 12 to combine high school courses with postsecondary courses.
- An opportunity to gain access to work-based training.
- Priority interviewing for jobs.
- The possibility of health, liability, and automobile coverage.
- Flexibility in class scheduling.

One Item of Concern: The League questions the advisability of allowing the commissioner to accept gifts, grants, and donations for the P-TECH program from sources, including private and nonprofit organizations. The basis of concern focuses on potential conflicts of interest.

**For additional information, please contact: Diann Andy Issue Chair, [diannandylwv@gmail.com](mailto:diannandylwv@gmail.com) (210) 262-1499**

The League of Women Voters of Texas (LWV-TX) is a nonpartisan citizens' organization that has fought since 1919 to improve our government and engage all citizens in the decisions that impact their lives. It represents more than 5000 members and supporters throughout Texas.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties. The member-driven organization of women and men encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and seeks to influence public policy through education and advocacy of positions based on extensive issue study and consensus.