



LWV Jacksonville First Coast

LWVJFC 2022 - 2023 Program

September 7, 2022

Education LWVFL Program

Support a free public secular school system for Florida with high standards for student achievement and with equality of educational opportunity for all that is financed adequately by the state through an equitable funding formula.

LWVJFC Issues For Action:

- Establish Observer Corps reporting for school boards in our 4 county area.
- Advocate for all publicly funded charter schools and private schools receiving voucher monies to provide accountability and financial transparency as a requirement for funding:
 - Support requirements that state and local capital outlays and the assets they purchase must be able to be recouped by the school district before capital funding can be released to charter schools.
 - Advocate for requirement that charter schools and private schools receiving voucher funds must follow the same teacher certification and testing requirements applicable to other publicly funded district schools with similar accountability standards.
 - Advocate for requirement that charter schools and private schools receiving voucher funds follow the same turn around rules as district-run public schools if they get a D or F grade for two consecutive years.
 - Oppose any legislation that increases vouchers or charters at the expense of district-run school funding including capital outlay funding
 - Advocate for any pre-k or post-secondary school that receives public funding to provide financial transparency on spending.

- Create a spreadsheet listing the yearly FLDOE school grades for charter schools in Duval, St. Johns, Clay, and Nassau counties
- Oppose any legislation to make school board races partisan.
- Oppose any legislation that takes away the authority from the locally elected school board to hire and fire the superintendent of the school district.
- Support all efforts to mandate factual historical teaching in all publicly funded schools.
- Promote diversity and nondiscrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, citizenship, socioeconomic status, and ability status in all schools receiving public monies.

Healthcare

LWVFL Program

Support legislation that builds a health care system that provides access to comprehensive quality care for all Florida residents. Work to promote a health care system that strives to reduce costs without limiting services or quality and one that also provides access to a basic level of quality care for all citizens.

Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all and promote social and economic justice to ensure the health and safety of all Americans.

Support measures to implement Florida health care in a manner consistent with the LWVUS position on Healthcare reform.

LWVFL Issues For Action:

- Support and advocate for increased funding for mental health resources.
- Support the Constitutional right of women to make reproductive choices, secure women's healthcare privacy and have access to reproductive healthcare services.
- Support the education of Floridians regarding application for healthcare coverage.
- Support Medicaid Expansion to provide access to health insurance for low-income Floridians
- Advocate for oral health services to include dental therapists as providers.
- Protect the Affordable Care Act (ACA) including Medicaid Expansion to improve access to affordable comprehensive health insurance for all Florida residents.

Natural Resources LWVFL Program

Support governmental action that results in environmental sustainability: Meeting the needs of the present without endangering the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Environment, society and the economy must be integrated and balanced to achieve a sustainable Florida.

Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest by recognizing the inter relationship of air quality, energy, land use, waste management and water resources.

LWVFL Issues For Action:

- Water Resources: Monitor septic tank replacement in Clay and Duval Counties.
- Saltwater Intrusion: Advocate for the removal of the Rodman Dam and monitor the dredging and widening of the Jax Port.
- Superfund Sites: Monitor the status of hazardous site cleanup, especially in residential communities and water access areas.
- Continue to work with local coalition groups to advocate and monitor progress of riverfront public spaces.
- Clean Energy: Advocate for utilities to set renewable energy goals and for the removal of barriers that discourage the community expansion of renewable energy.
- Continue to develop and support local coalitions working to resolve flooding, groundwater, and land use issues.

Voter Registration and Education LWVFL Program

Support measures to protect, extend and encourage voter registration and voting through community education and advocacy and supporting legislation that protects the integrity of voting systems without creating barriers to residents.

LWVFL Issues For Action:

- Encourage League and community members to participate in LWVFL CLE (continued legal education) training and to volunteer to assist returning citizens regain voting rights. Training and volunteer sign up can be found at: <https://lwwfl.org/returning-citizens/>
- Encourage all members to participate in Voter Registration training and volunteer in all voter registration activities.
- Increase activity in Get Out the Vote, observing our nonpartisan policy.
- Support Vote411 by educating candidates and community members about its existence and value. Engage candidates to participate in a questionnaire. Encourage League members and community members to become poll workers.
- Collaborate with community organizations and legislators to identify those without adequate identification needed to qualify to vote and work in partnership with them to help these potential voters obtain identification and then register to vote.
- Work with the local Supervisor of Elections to increase awareness of election and voting issues.
- Identify precincts with high numbers of unregistered persons and develop an outreach strategy to increase voter registration.

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Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

This policy will be observed in all aspects of work we do:

LWV is an organization fully committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in principle and in practice. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central to the organization's current and future success in engaging all individuals, households, communities, and policy makers in creating a more perfect democracy.

There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, gender identity, ethnicity, race, native or indigenous origin, age, generation, sexual orientation, culture, religion, belief system, marital status, parental status, socioeconomic status, language, accent, ability status, mental health, educational level or background, geography, nationality, work style, work experience, job role function, thinking style, personality type, physical appearance, political perspective or affiliation and/or any other characteristic that can be identified as recognizing or illustrating diversity