

## **Nonpartisanship Policy of the League of Women Voters of Alabama**

The League of Women Voters established and maintains its nonpartisanship policy for the purpose of furthering its political effectiveness. The record of nonpartisanship on candidates and parties is one of our best tools for effective participation on issues.

The League of Women Voters of Alabama follows the broad policy of nonpartisanship as laid down by the national League. This policy states:

- a. The League neither supports nor opposes any political candidate or any political party
- b. It takes a position on issues only.
- c. It arrives at a position on an issue from membership consensus and/or concurrence based on study and discussion.

The Board has the responsibility of maintaining the nonpartisanship of the League of Women Voters of Alabama.

2. The following Board members shall resign to run for or hold elected office, or to take an active and visible campaign role for a political candidate: President, Voter Service Chair, Legislative/Action Chair

3. Other Board members who plan to run for or hold elected office or to engage in active and visible political activity shall notify the State Board. She/he shall resign if the State Board decides that the activity would affect the community's perception of the League's nonpartisanship.

4. When a Board member resigns to work actively for a candidate or to run for office, the announcement should be made in the newsletter. The replacement should be announced at the same time.

5. Members in leadership roles representing the League of Women Voters have the responsibility to insure the nonpartisanship of any meeting and its environment.

6. When acting in public as a League representative, Board members should be sensitive to their responsibilities and must not allow partisanship to be discernible.

7. The political activities of a spouse or household relative of a Board member shall be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of a board member.

8. Conflict of Interest Policy: Board members shall not lobby for a position in opposition to, or in conflict with, an LWVUS or LWVAL position, except as provided below. Board members do have the right, as individuals, to lobby their own representatives or Members of Congress on any side of an issue making clear that they do not represent the League of Women Voters.

*Readopted July 10, 2021 and every two years prior back to 2005.*

*Amended and readopted July, 2005.*