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Significant Progress Made on LWVAL's GS-00 BOTO Project

The League's ambitious BOTO project, entitled GS-00 (pronounced in Latin it is Alabamian Congressional District 3), is well underway.

LWV of Greater Birmingham volunteers preparing potential campaign at Hillsboro Brewery. Another 5000 cards ready to go out to potential voting volunteers!

The LWVAL's BOTO project for Alabama 2nd Congressional District seated as a pioneer in the use of VPN, State Board Treasurer Stephanie Butler. The GS-00 BOTO Project became an opportunity to partner with Believe Incorporated organization, the NAACP Alabama. The project is ambitious in its conception: design and print 27,000 postcards, 5000 of which will be mailed to potential voters in Black American voters in CD3's rural counties. Not a course for the LOW the addressed, recruit volunteers to write messages and address the postcards, develop mechanism to ensure quality control with respect to the non-partisan nature of the work, package postcards to be transported to volunteers around the state and return to some in other states, and encourage volunteers to offset training and printing expenses.

With a campaign kickoff on July 31, John Lewis Commemoration Day, to raise a total of $12,000 pledges have been delivered to volunteers who will hand write messages and addresses. The number pledged represents the number of years John Lewis represented the CD3 The Center for Community Change is thrilled to support the League with the project and delivered the addresses for the campaign.

Regional project leaders will collect postcards from volunteers the last week of September. They will be mailed to voters the first week of October. If you have questions concerning postcard deliver, email mary@lwval.org.

Sign up to write postcards or donate to the project

LWVAL and GS-00postcards

In Memoriam

Kathy Byrd receiving a certificate of appreciation and commemorative tree from annual award in her honor at the LWVAL Convention in 2023.

Kathy Chris Byrd
1947-2024

I joined the League during Kathy's tenure, she wasn't doing a whole lot of in-person events. I got involved, in a "back office" kind of way, helping with the Voter Guide, and I was in awe of her knowledge of voter communications and technology. Also strong that path. I kept bumping into the name Kathy Byrd in a LOT of places.

Then, the year prior, the state Nominating Committee chairman wanted to know if I would be interested in the President's seat in AL. I said, "I'm not, but I know someone who is, and she's been around, and I'll go serve on the committee with her." Kathy Byrd.

It was obvious to me, from the get go, who the person was. In each meeting, she spoke with impressive, almost fearless, best practice, pitfalls, etc etc. I knew I was in the presence of "league history." Kathy Byrd. Kathy Chris Byrd.

It wasn't that she and I shared information from a knowing place. It was, even this year, the spring, her last spring, she was calling people and asking them to do things. Kathy Byrd. Kathy Chris Byrd. I was participant in anything she commanded. I snapped - and I

So - From my perspective - I am so very honored I served on a committee with Kathy Byrd. That I got to experience her. And, I might point out, this only happened because I got out of my comfort zone and expressed willingness to be the Nominating Committee chair.

My cautionary remark as a young League: grab the people who have the "spirit" and the "knowledge" and the "ability to communicate" and the "ability to organize." Kathy Byrd. Kathy Chris Byrd. Because we will not have them forever.

Thank you, Kathy Byrd, for your leadership and service through the years. Simply stated, this League has your fingerprints all over it. And I'm a young League. Know that.

Thinking Kathy's family is the light she has lived through this transition period.

Kelly Grimes

Link to Obituary:
https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/kathy-chris-byrd-birmingham-al-obituary?pid=206843&fhs=1

Senate Bill 1 (SB1) Update

Several League members attended the Wednesday, July 31 hearing at the Hugo Black Federal Courthouse in Birmingham on the state's redistricting plan. Attendance was standing room only, with the committee seating people with an abundance of sympathy for an absentee ballot.

Judge Proctor presided. The state's attorney Deacons LaCour the same person who argued unsuccessfully in front of the SCOTUS, and Ms. Shelia Bedi represented the plaintiffs. Bedi is the person who argued successfully in front of the SCOTUS against the state's motion to dismiss the SB1 lawsuit. Three of the attorneys for the Plaintiffs that includes the Bedi, Deuel, and Walker families. Proctor is a Trump appointee, but he may be the Corporate lawyer who represented the deceased.

The hearing lasted over 3 hours. Both sides have submitted their filings on Friday August 2, per Judge Proctor's instructions. We are waiting to hear the judge's decision on the motion to dismiss. If he rules against the motion, a hearing will be set for the plaintiff's request for an injunction.

Here's a more article about the hearing:
https://www.yahoo.com/news/alabama-attorney-claims-redistricting-266000000.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cDovLzEyNy0wLjEtMSZzcmM9dGFiZ3JvdXAtMTAtMTAtMTUtMTAtMTAtMTA