

2018-2019 Program

League of Women Voters of Snohomish County

Adopted at the Annual Meeting in May, 2018

The Program for our League is supported by these Foundations:

- Principles of the League adopted at the national level
- Positions adopted at the national, state, or local level. Positions are developed by study and then consensus of the Leagues.
- Positions of our local League

Two activities of the League—Voter Services and Observer Corps—are standing committees and will be expanding and carrying on their work every year.

The Board of Directors of League of Women Voters Snohomish County recommends the following issues of public policy for the Program Year 2018-2019. Each of these proposals meets the criteria for Program – having a defined focus and outcome, a specific timeline, and a sponsoring committee dedicated to the work.

Civil Discourse

Using the process of concurrence, it is proposed to add to LWV-SC's position on Citizen Participation the explicit statement on civil discourse from the LWV of San Luis Obispo, California and LWV of Oregon.

Current LWV-SC Citizen Participation Position

Support of citizen participation in local government by advocating that county and local government branches provide adequate notice of proposed actions, hold open meetings, and make public records readily accessible.

To be added:

Promote civil discourse through action and education for all government bodies, staff, and citizens for the purpose of improved public policy decisions and processes. Civil discourse means, at a minimum, mutually respectful, courteous, constructive, and orderly communication.

City of Everett Districting

The Everett Districting Committee intends to continue its work to achieve representative districting in Everett through the following defined plan of work.

The committee is supporting Everett Districts Now (EDN) by gathering signatures for their 2018 petition for balloting purposes for the November 2018 General Election. In addition, the committee will be holding public educational forums on the proposed districting in the City of Everett, as well as possible debates on local radio station KSER.

The committee is working with EDN to produce a mailer to be sent to those who signed the petition in 2017, with the hope these people will come forward to sign the 2018 petition. The committee will observe public meetings held for the districting plan proposed by the Everett City Council.

These efforts will be completed with the results of the General Election in November 2018.

Homelessness and Housing

The Children's Services Committee proposes to continue its study on homelessness among children, youth, and families in Snohomish County. On completion of the study, the committee will produce a document and consensus questions for all units.

The committee envisions the outcome of this process will be an amendment to update the League's position on homelessness.

Additional Issues of Interest (Non-recommended items)

At the unit meetings, members suggested the following areas of public policy as issues that might be considered for the Program Year 2018-2019 as well.

Current Committees

Natural Resources/Sustainable Agriculture

Health Care
Transportation
Money in Politics

These four current committees indicated that at this time, they did not have proposals for focused activities and did not want to put forward specific programs, but rather preferred to continue exploring various possibilities during the next year, potentially to offer program proposals for the next Program Year, 2019-2020.

No Current Committees

Immigration
Gun Control
Internet Accessibility in rural and low-income areas
Statewide Redistricting

At the present time there are no committees working on these four issues. Therefore, no specific proposals could be made. Members interested in these topics are encouraged to explore forming committees to study the issues and bring them forward in the future.