

Mission of the League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We do not support or oppose any political party or any candidate. We do, however, take action on selected government issues in the public interest.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, has fought since 1920 to improve our systems of government and impact public policies through citizen education and advocacy. The League's enduring vitality and resonance comes from its unique decentralized structure. The League is a grassroots organization, working at the national, state and local levels.

There are Leagues in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Hong Kong, in addition to the hundreds of local Leagues nationwide. The League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters Education Fund operate at the national level with grassroots support from state and local Leagues.

The League of Women Voters is strictly nonpartisan; it neither supports nor opposes candidates for office at any level of government. At the same time, the League is wholeheartedly political and works to influence policy through advocacy. It is the original grassroots citizen network, directed by the consensus of its members nationwide. The 900 state and local Leagues - comprising a vast grassroots lobby corps that can be mobilized when necessary.

Over time, the League's legislative priorities change to reflect the needs of society and critical issues of concern. The organization remains true to its basic purpose: to make democracy work for all citizens. The League of Women Voters makes a difference in the lives of citizens because of the energy and passion of thousands of members committed to our principles.

Principles are concepts of government, supported by the League as a whole, which constitute the authorization for adoption of national, state and local Program.

The League of Women Voters believes...

- * in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States.

- * that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.

- * that responsible government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems which affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy, and adopt domestic policies which facilitate the solution of international problems.

- * that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.

- * that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems, and that the development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.

- * that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education which provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic, or administrative discrimination.

Our grassroots organization follows issues in the following categories:

- * Government
- * Natural Resources
- * Social Policy
- * Sustainable Communities
- * Growth Management
- * Children and Family Issues

Butte County League of Women Voters is focusing its attention on developing a shared vision for Butte County and a General Plan that protects our water for residents and farmers. We brought regional planners from EDAW to present tools for planning at the Toward Sustainability conference at the university and organized a workshop for city and county governments on collaborative community planning. Forty-three elected officials, planners, and planning commissioners participated. We want to develop a long-range plan that seeks to meet current economic, environmental, and social demands through equitable and democratic means without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Health care - Senate Bill 840 - The California Health Insurance Reliability Act (CHIRA)

Education - funding, community participation in setting agendas, calendars, educational priorities

Contact information: 895-8683
P.O. Box 965
Chico, CA 95927
Office: 635 Flume Street
cburr@csuchico.edu