

Impact on Issues 2022 – 2024

Introduction.....	1
Taking Action.....	2
Working Together to Influence Public Policy	2
Principles.....	10
Summary of Public Policy Positions.....	11
Representative Government	11
International Relations	12
Natural Resources.....	13
Social Policy	14
REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.....	16
Voting Rights.....	23
Citizen's Right to Vote.....	23
DC Self-Government and Full Voting Representation	32
The Election Process.....	35
Apportionment.....	35
Redistricting.....	38
Money in Politics.....	42
Selection of the President.....	49
Voter Representation/Electoral Systems.....	51
Citizen Rights.....	52
Citizen's Right to Know/Citizen Participation.....	52
Individual Liberties.....	55
Public Policy on Reproductive Choices.....	57
Evaluating Constitutional Amendment Proposals and Constitutional Conventions.....	61
Constitutional Amendment Proposals	61
Constitutional Conventions.....	62
Congress and the Presidency.....	63
Congress.....	63
The Presidency.....	66
Privatization.....	67
Digital Equity.....	69
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS.....	70
United Nations.....	71
Trade.....	77
US Relations with Developing Countries.....	80
Arms Control.....	84
Military Policy and Defense Spending.....	87

(Continued on next page)



NATURAL RESOURCES.....	90
Resource Management.....	93
Environmental Protection and Pollution Control.....	96
Air Quality.....	96
Energy.....	97
Land Use.....	97
Water Resources.....	98
Waste Management.....	99
Nuclear.....	100
Transfer of Federal Public Lands.....	109
Climate Change	110
Public Participation	112
Federal Agriculture Policies	114
SOCIAL POLICY.....	118
Criminal Justice.....	120
Equality of Opportunity.....	122
Employment	125
Fair Housing	126
Federal Role in Public Education.....	132
Fiscal Policy.....	134
Health Care.....	137
Immigration.....	143
Meeting Basic Human Needs.....	145
Child Care.....	151
Early Intervention for Children at Risk.....	152
Violence Prevention.....	153
Gun Policy.....	153
Urban Policy.....	155
Death Penalty	157
Sentencing Policy.....	157
Human Trafficking.....	158



Introduction

Impact on Issues is designed to help League members use LWVUS public policy positions effectively at the national, state, local, and regional levels. The intention is to inspire Leagues to use national positions to act in their own communities.

Impact on Issues has been organized so that “Taking Action” is front and center, followed by the League Principles. Then, for quick reference, the LWVUS public policy Positions in Brief summarize the more detailed positions presented in the sections that follow. For each of the major issue areas, the listing gives the full official statement of position in bold type. The history sections provide background for each position and trace significant actions and achievements.

Since 1920, the League of Women Voters has been an activist, grassroots organization whose leaders believed that people should play a critical role in democracy. The League of Women Voters was founded by Carrie Chapman Catt in 1920, just six months before the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified, giving women the right to vote.

Throughout the years, the League has continued its dual purposes of education and advocacy, engaging in studies on representative government, international relations, natural resources, and social policy. Although our history of advocacy goes back to our beginnings, this version of *Impact on Issues* covers our advocacy efforts beginning in the 1960s.

Impact on Issues is an indispensable resource for League members. A clear understanding of LWVUS positions, how they interrelate, and how they can complement and reinforce state, local, and regional Inter-League Organization (ILO) positions, strengthens the League’s impact on issues at all levels of government.

In applying LWVUS positions to national, state, local, and regional issues, each appropriate League board – depending on the level of action – is responsible for determining whether member understanding and agreement exists and whether the action makes sense in terms of timing, need, and effectiveness.

