



Partner Spotlight

Founded as a result of the “radical notion” that women deserve the right to vote, this 98-year old organization is no stranger to the front lines of activism.

“People need to know that the League is involved in issue advocacy, not simply voter registration and education,” says Bonnie Cox, LWVIL President. Today’s LWV is a nonpartisan political organization dedicated to educating voters about current issues and preventing voter disenfranchisement.

“Educated voters tend to be actively engaged in making their voices heard. The League’s long history of well-researched, nonpartisan advocacy means that legislators listen seriously when the League takes a position,” Cox says.

Many women are finding the LWV a great way to work together on issues they find important. Membership in Illinois is up nearly 20 percent since 2017, with more than 3,300 members in more than 40 leagues statewide.

Recent work by local leagues included critical participation in important successes such as:

- Illinois’ ratification of the ERA;
- Renaming Chicago’s Congress Parkway to honor civil rights leader Ida B. Wells;
- Banning coal tar pavement sealant in many municipalities;

- Suburban Wilmette opting in to Cook County's Minimum Wage Law, which increases wages to \$13 by 2020.

In the months ahead the LWV will focus on critical matters such as finding common sense solutions for curbing gun violence, working on immigration issues (LWVUS stands against including a citizenship question on the census), and creating fair voting maps to counter redistricting and partisan gerrymandering.

LWVIL recently launched their [Illinois Voter Guide](#), which includes information about candidates and referendums on ballots statewide and sends voters automatic reminders before elections. Sign up to be notified when [Illinois Voter Guide](#) goes live with 2018 midterm election information.

For more information visit lwvil.org.

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