

LWVIL COALITION MEMBERSHIP POLICY

The LWVIL joins coalitions in order to strengthen and magnify its voice. Most coalitions are formed for particular advocacy goals, but coalitions are also formed for community education purposes. The LWVIL is stronger in concert with those affected by policies, with other groups working on an issue, and with groups that have the public's attention.

1. The coalition's primary objectives should be in alignment with League policies and positions and be nonpartisan, though there need not be a League position on every issue with which the coalition is concerned. The aims of the coalition must not conflict with League positions.
2. The goals of the coalition should be in accord with prioritized League initiatives and have a statewide or significant regional reach.
3. The coalition's activities should bring added effectiveness to the overall efforts to achieve the League's organization, advocacy or educational goals.
4. The members of the coalition should be organizations with which the League can work effectively. The League should have confidence in the leadership of the coalition and may serve in a leadership capacity.
5. The necessary budget and resource capacity must be available.
6. The LWVIL Board will either designate a task force or a board committee will present a proposal to the LWVIL Board, establishing the case to join the coalition, including the information listed below under LWVIL Coalition Evaluation.
7. Joining or resigning from a coalition is approved by the Board.
8. Coalition membership is to be reviewed at a minimum biannual basis or prior to a dues renewal, and evaluated for performance against goals.

LWVIL COALITION REPRESENTATIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The LWVIL President is the default representative and spokesperson of the League for all coalitions.
2. Additional LWVIL representative(s) to a coalition will be approved by the LWVIL Board and reviewed annually, when applicable. The representative must be a current LWVIL Board member or LWVIL Board committee member.
3. If sign-on to a letter of support or any action item is to be proposed by the coalition, the representative would inform the LWVIL President or his/her designee.

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4. Being a League representative to a coalition does not make the individual a spokesperson to the public for LWVIL (LWVIL President excepted).
5. The League representative(s) is responsible for submitting a report of coalition activities to the LWVIL Board for regularly scheduled LWVIL Board meetings, including progress towards advancing LWVIL goals.
6. Must adhere to the LWVIL committee purpose and responsibilities policy.
7. A League representative to a coalition can be removed by the LWVIL Board with or without cause.

Document History

Previously Approved or Amended April 2013, titled Guidelines for Joining Coalitions

Current: Updated and Approved May 8, 2021, retitled

Attachment: LWVIL Coalition Evaluation

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LWVIL COALITION EVALUATION

Before joining or renewing membership to a coalition, the LWVIL Board will be provided a proposal on the benefit of the coalition. The proposal should provide the following information, although the proposal is not limited to only these items.

- What is the goal of this coalition?
- Is it clearly stated, and is there agreement on the goal?
- Does joining in the coalition help move towards a League goal?
- Is this a League priority?
- Does working in this coalition make better progress toward our goal than working alone?
- What will be the goals and measurement criteria used to evaluate the effectiveness of the LWVIL involvement in the coalition?
- Is the coalition the right mix of organizations to achieve our goal?
- Is LWVIL the appropriate LWV representative organization, vs national or a local league?
- What is the structure of the coalition?
- How are decisions made?
- What role will the League play in the coalition?
- Is there a formal memorandum of understanding for the coalition?
- What financial obligation does the League have to the coalition?
- What other League resources will be required to support the work?
- Is anyone suggested as a League representative(s) at this time? What are their qualifications to be the League representative?