

JEAN PIERCE (LWV CENTRAL KANE COUNTY) ISSUES AND ADVOCACY

CONVENTION 2021

Jean became active in the League in 2008, after retiring as a Professor of Educational Psychology. Her first League involvement came from being invited to lead the equity portion of the National League's study of the Role of the Federal Government in Funding Education. Following that experience, she was invited to join the LWVIL Issues and Advocacy Committee, with a focus on education funding. Since 2013, Jean has chaired or co-chaired that committee, saying she has found it to be some of the most fulfilling full-time volunteer work she has ever done. Because of that role, she has served on the LWVIL Board of Directors since 2013. Jean also serves as a co-leader of the Central Kane County League.

WHY I WANT TO SERVE ON THE LWVIL BOARD

I want to continue serving on the Board because I would like to continue serving as co-chair of the Issues and Advocacy committee. This committee coordinates actions addressing one of the two main foci of LWVIL. I am passionate about social justice causes. I find that helping to educate the League's members about opportunities to advocate for causes and lobby for bills which address voting rights /election processes, climate change/ environmental justice, and equitable approaches to meeting basic human needs in Illinois is incredibly fulfilling. LWVIL has a strong and respected voice in our state, and I am proud to be able to do my part to help that voice be heard.

MY GOALS FOR THE 2021-2023 BIENNIUM

I would like to continue finding ways in which the State League can connect with local Leagues, particularly those which are downstate. This includes working on how to create a "hybrid" version of the Issues Briefing such that people can meet face to face but also connect via zoom. I would also like to continue finding ways in which Issues and Advocacy can work with the Communications committee to reach our members in timely and effective ways. As the League migrates to 501(c)(3) status, I want to ensure that LWVIL continues to have a strong advocacy and lobbying presence in our state.