

PROPOSED 2024-2025 LWVBC ACTION ISSUES

Note: The following are either issues that we have studied locally and reached consensus or action items in support of positions listed on LWVFL or LWVUS Program (also studied and consensus reached on those levels).

Additions or changes in red; Deletions are ~~crossed-out~~

VOTER SERVICES

- * To increase voter turnout and voter education by providing enhanced, nonpartisan Voter Services to include, but not limited to, voter registration, information on candidates, ballot issues, other voting issues and the use of various media including VOTE411. Emphasize voter education for homeless, ~~and~~ those with special needs, **and non-English speakers.**
- * Action to eliminate voter suppression, and to support voter registration of returning citizens.
- * Educate and advocate for National Popular Vote Interstate Compact.

BROWARD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- * Review Broward County Charter and support the changes that align with League positions.
- * Support home rule by municipalities, school boards and counties in the administration of local issues. (Per LWVFL position)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- * Support of acquisition, development, and **sustainable** management of public park lands, greenways, and open spaces.
- * Support of Broward League study criteria to determine the suitability of ~~a~~ **any** commercial enterprise in a public park.
- * Monitor and support the conservation of water and water resource areas, including Everglades Restoration.
- * Support development and implementation of a regional climate change action plan for Southeast Florida that includes a goal of transitioning to 100% clean renewable energy sources no later than 2050 and setting interim goals.
- * Support the rights of residents, businesses, local governments, and schools to reach renewable energy goals.
- * Support **and encourage** reduction, reuse, and recycling of solid waste materials, including - but not limited to - paper, plastic, glass, organics, cardboards, and metals.
- * Support the protection of our freshwater resources, that is our water quality and quantity, from - including but not limited to - saltwater intrusion, pollutants, aging infrastructure or criminal activity. Oppose oil drilling, including fracking, off shore and in the Everglades.
- * Support only projects that do not have negative environmental; **and/or** socio-economic impacts on local communities.

COUNTY-WIDE LIBRARY SYSTEM

- * Support an adequately and equitably funded county-wide public library system.
- * Support the Broward County Libraries' Friends of the Library groups.
- * Support for a Library Collection Development policy developed according to professional standards and procedures established by American Library Association. (American Library Association's "Library Bill of Rights")

CHILDREN'S ISSUES

- * Support an independent taxing district in Broward County to fund children's services pursuant to FL statutes 125.901 and monitor the Children's Services Council.
- * Advocate and support effective and efficient services for Broward County children.
- * Monitor detention centers and support actions that encourage diversion and deflection programs in the Juvenile Justice system. (Per LWVFL position)

EDUCATION

- * Review changing educational needs of Broward County students.
- * Support accountability in all schools receiving public funds.
- * Promote adequate and equitable funding of public education and oppose expansion of public funding of private education. (Per LWVFL position)
- * Support a curricular framework that has broad common standards developed by educational experts that serve as a guide to local districts. These frameworks should promote diversity and nondiscrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, nationality, and ability status and also include the historic mandates to teach Holocaust, antisemitism and African American History. Curricular standards must apply uniformly to ALL publicly funded schools. (Per LWVFL position)
- * Support Civics Education to increase civic engagement among young people.
- * Support non-partisan elections of School Boards.
- * Support intellectual Freedom in all publicly funded K-12 and post-secondary schools: All students have the right to materials and educational experiences that promote open inquiry, critical thinking, diversity in thought and expression, and respect for others.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS ISSUES (Per LWVFL and LWVUS positions)

- * Support equal opportunity, equal pay for equal work, and all equal rights, regardless of gender identification.
- * Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and efforts to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA. Support equal rights for all under state and federal law regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, disability, or economic status.
- * Actively support pro-choice policies and reproductive freedom, including the right to make reproductive choices, the right to privacy in making those choices and the availability of services.

HUMAN ISSUES (Per LWVUS positions)

- * Support equal rights for all under state and federal law regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, marital status or disability.
- * Support establishment of laws that prosecute and penalize human traffickers and abusers, and strict enforcement of existing laws.
- * Support the safe rescue and rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking and the education of the public about this issue.
- * Promote a health care system for the US that provides access to a basic level of quality care for all US residents, includes behavioral health and controls health care costs. Support Medicaid Expansion for FL. (Per LWVFL position)
- ~~* Support affordable housing programs and projects.~~
- * Support programs that aim to protect and support victims of abuse and sexual harassment.
- * Advocate for social justice reform in every level of government to eradicate systemic racism and the harm that it causes. (Passed by delegates at the 2020 LWVUS Convention.)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING (Per LWVUS and LWVFL positions)

- * Support affordable housing programs and projects.
- * Educate public about Broward affordable housing needs and possible solutions.
- * Protect the Sadowski Fund so it can only be used for affordable housing.
- * Identify, support, and monitor local dedicated funding sources for housing.

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION (Per LWVFL and LWVUS positions)

- * Actively support ~~governmental~~ efforts to promote gun safety legislation and programs.
- * Support efforts to educate Broward residents **and students** on gun safety issues.
- * Actively support the “Lock-It-Up” program, and other safe storage initiatives.
- * Oppose firearms legislation that is detrimental to public safety.

Adopted at Annual Meeting ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Background Notes: Those local issues we have studied and reached consensus on in Broward County are:

- Broward County Government: Charter and Charter Changes
- Environmental Issues: Parks, Criteria for Parks, Water, Recycling
- County-wide Library System
- Children’s Issues: Independent Taxing District
- Education: Accountability
- Gun Safety

Other items are action/support for positions taken State-wide, or Nation-wide, which we can always use locally. They are listed to show that we are actively working locally in support.

Please read the complete: ~~2023~~ 2024 Background and History of Broward Action Issues