NONPARTISAN POLICY

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWARD COUNTY shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate. However, we value the many skills and types of experience that individual board members bring to the League, including those learned in public life through elective or appointive office. Involvement in public and political life is something that the League of Women Voters recommends for all citizens and other members of the public.

ALL LEAGUE MEMBERS are encouraged to seek an active role in all aspects of the political process. At the same time, the Board recognizes the necessity of imposing a few basic limitations on Board members’ political activity in order to protect the nonpartisan reputation of the League. With these goals in mind, the LWVBC Board adopts the following guidelines:

1. **League Sponsored Meetings.** It is the responsibility of each member to guard the League’s reputation for nonpartisanship. The League discourages all members from making partisan comments at League meetings which would tend to inhibit discussion by people with opposing views or political persuasions. The League endorses open and free discussion of political events which allows all points of view to be voiced. Members in leadership roles at League meetings have the responsibility to ensure the nonpartisanship of the meeting and its environment. Members and guests who are running for political office may not campaign at League meetings, however, they may identify themselves as candidates. Questions of a political nature, such as those concerning petitions, and distribution of pamphlets must be brought to the attention of the President or designee for approval.

2. **Elected Office.** A Board member who intends to be a candidate for public office must resign in writing at the time their campaign account is opened.

3. **Partisan Activities:** The President, Action Chair and Voters Service Chair(s) shall not serve in any position in a political party; shall not chair or administer fundraising or political campaigns, chair a campaign event or work in a significant way in the campaign of a candidate for office at any level; may not attend political fundraising events or make campaign contributions for candidates. Other Board Members may attend political events and make campaign contributions as individuals.

4. **Social and Other Media.** Board members and committee chairs shall not indicate her/his political affiliations or candidate preference at any level of government in the media, or on social networking sites or at public events where he or she is identified as a board member or committee chair of the LWVBC.

5. **Participation in Marches, press conferences and the like** is acceptable with Board Approval. Because of heightened political activism, all Board Members should be very aware and concerned about perception of partisanship. Participation is acceptable when event aligns with League’s core values of Making Democracy Work, is nonpartisan and advances League’s key priorities. For events not appropriate for any official League participation, members who want to take part, may do so as individuals with no League branding.

6. **Additional Clarification.** Board members shall present questions about specific situations to the Board where the foregoing guidelines do not resolve the question.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a Board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from activities of the Board member.

**Note:** Official League position statements are issued only by the President or designee. Action on issues should be done as an individual, not as a League member.

*Adopted June 15, 2013; amended March 17, 2018; amended October 19, 2019*