



The Voter

" . . . to promote informed citizen participation in government."

Membership: (949) 718-9626, League Phone: (949) 451-2212, Website: <http://orangecoast.ca.lwvnet.org>

December 2016-January 2017

Calendar of Events

Monday, December 5th, 9:45am. LWV Orange Coast Board Meeting & Holiday Party
Location: 10 Petaluma, Irvine, CA 92602. A light lunch will be provided. All members welcome.

Call 208-284-9167 or barbjsocal@gmail.com to RSVP and for more information.

Friday, December 9th, Noon to 2:30pm. Lunch with League

Where: Mimi's Cafe, 1835 Newport Ave., Costa Mesa.

Speakers: Shadi A. Shaffer, Esq. and Justine Palmore, Director of the Orange County Stand Up For Kids. Donations to the kids appreciated, check out the list of recommended items.

RSVP: call 208-284-9167 or barbjsocal@gmail.com. See page 3 for more information.

Thursday, December 1st, 3-5pm. CAPO Unit: Clip & Come

Call: [949-496-1858](tel:949-496-1858) or mjob35@gmail.com, for location and information.

Monday, January 9th, 9:45am LWV Orange Coast Board Meeting

Location: St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Bonhoeffer Room, 2200 San Joaquin Hills Road, Newport Beach, CA 92660 All members welcome.

Call 208-284-9167 or barbjsocal@gmail.com for more information.

Thursday, January 5th, 3-5pm. CAPO Unit: Clip and Come

Call: [949-496-1858](tel:949-496-1858) or mjob35@gmail.com, for location and information.

Thursday, January 19th, 3-5pm. CAPO Unit Book Club

Book: "My Own Words", by Ruth Bader Ginsberg

Call: [949-496-1858](tel:949-496-1858) or mjob35@gmail.com, for location and information.

Saturday January 21st, 10:00am-1:00pm. LWVC Program Planning & Discussion of Goals

Location: Brandman University, Irvine campus, Room 110, 16355 Laguna Canyon Road, Irvine 92618

Menu: Beverages provided, please bring snack to share.

RSVP: Required, 208-284-9167 or barbjsocal@gmail.com. See page 7 for information.

All members or guests are welcome at any of the meetings in this calendar

President's Message

The election, whether you agree with the outcome or not, is finally over!!!

Please read the articles in this newsletter that describes all the pros and cons presentations, candidate forums, and voter registration activities of the wonderful volunteer members of the Orange Coast League. (See page 4.) Thank you, thank you, thank you, for all the hours you devoted to defending and ensuring voters rights.



One hundred years ago Jeannette Rankin was the first woman elected to Congress. She was an at-large member from Montana and served from 1917 to 1919, in spite of the fact that she could not vote in Federal elections. This election season, we saw the first female major political party candidate for President of the United States. Although Hillary Clinton did not win the Electoral College vote, and therefore the Presidency, by winning the majority popular vote, she created many millions more cracks in that glass ceiling!

The history of the League parallels the arc of these two women. As we approach our 100 anniversary; 1920 to 2020, we have much to celebrate, and many who came before us, to honor.

Program Planning is our opportunity to review, discuss, and plan our activities for next year. At the top of the list should be activities to spotlight the suffragettes and all that they have inspired our League members to accomplish. Considering the rancor of this past election, restoring civility in public discourse also needs to be considered. Continuing to defend the right to vote is always a priority for the League.

As stated by Jeannette Senecal, LWVUS, “we must continue to defend the rights so many have fought and died for, rebuild our communities” that may have been fractured by this election, and “continue to create a more perfect democracy”.

Together we must continue our important work. So please bookmark your calendars for Program Planning on January 21, 2017, 9:30 am at Brandman University, Irvine campus, Room 110, watch your email for additional materials and information. (See page 7.) Watch your email for additional details. Bring your ideas, help plan our goals and actions for next year, and begin the celebration of our 100 birthday!!

In League,

Diane Nied, President

Orange Coast League Cities:

Aliso Viejo, Costa Mesa, Dana Point, Huntington Beach, Irvine, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Sunset Beach, Laguna Woods, Laguna Niguel, Lake Forest, Mission Viejo, Newport Beach, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, and Seal Beach

December 2016 Lunch with League

Friday, December 9th, noon

Topic: "Helping the 35,000 Homeless Children in Orange County"

Speakers: Shadi A. Shaffer, ESQ and Justine Palmore, Director of the Orange County Stand Up For Kids



Shadi Shaffer received her B.A. and M.A., in Law & Society from U. C. Santa Barbara. She received a Juris Doctorate U.C. San Diego in 2002 and was proudly admitted to the State Bar of California. After practicing law for two years, she realized she was meant to serve her clients better and knew the only way to achieve this was to build her own law practice. She provides countless hours of pro bono legal representation to those in need and is serving as a Big Sister with the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County. Shadi is also involved in other community organizations promoting charitable work."



Justine Palmore served as the National Interim CEO of Stand Up For Kids (SUFK) from January 2013, and currently serves on the National Board of Directors. Palmore is the Executive Director of SUFK Orange County since October 2008. She studied Human Services at the University of Phoenix and has an Associate Degree in Family Services from Saddleback College. She is a CCAR Recovery Coach, and a Christian Counselor. She worked as a program coordinator with Bridge of Hope, a nonprofit organization assisting at-risk youth through life skills workshops and tutoring. She is married and the mother of three children."

If you would like to donate to the kids of SUFK here are some suggested items you can bring: Black socks, \$10 gift cards to Taco Bell, McDonalds, Subway, El Pollo Loco, Target, Walmart, or Ross, OCTA bus passes.

Where: Mimi's Cafe, 1835 Newport Ave., Costa Mesa

Menu: Quiche Lorraine or Florentine, Roasted Turkey or Grilled Chicken Guacamole Sandwich, Bacon & Blue Cheese Salad. All with fruit (except salad), choice of Caesar Salad or Onion Soup.
Cost: \$20

RSVP required: contact 949-786-1669, or beckynewman2222@gmail.com.

January, 2017 LWVC Program Planning & Goal Setting for LWV Orange Coast

Saturday, January 21st, 10:00 am-1:00pm

Where: Brandman University, Irvine campus, Room 110, 16355 Laguna Canyon Road, Irvine 92618

Menu: Beverages will be provided. **Please bring a snack to share.**

For more information contact Barb at 208-284-9167 or barbjsocal@gmail.com

See Page 7 for further information.

↵ **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF LOCATIONS** ↶

VOTERS SERVICE:

By Vickie Chenevey, Director

LWV Orange Coast had a very busy October! We conducted 29 Pros and Cons Presentations to a wide variety of community organizations on the 17 statewide propositions on the November ballot, held 7 candidate forums for city councils and school boards, participated in 4 voter registration events at colleges and community events, and contributed to Voters Edge. We reached over 1,500 voters in person and received nearly \$2,000 in donations to the Education Fund to continue our work. This was made possible by the efforts of a dedicated group of volunteers, including our main speakers: *Armida Brashears, Stephanie Campbell, Vickie Chenevey, and Chris Collins; CAPO Unit: Gail Benda, Nonie Fickling, Laurie Jacobs, Judy Jones, Marsha Medina, Petti Van Rekom. Our main assistants, Joy Adams, Nancy Kriz, Speakers Bureau Director Carolyn Martin, Judy Standerford, Barb Wood, Candidate Forum coordinator Grace Winchell, Voters Edge Orange County coordinator Petti Van Rekom, and the Voters Edge team Kay Cotton, Sister Martha Ann Fitzpatrick, Mary Fuhrman, Susan Guilford, Patty Santry, Judy Standerford, and many others too numerous to list here.* We truly lived our mission of encouraging informed and active participation in government, and our gratitude goes out to all of you!



Post-Election Rundown: A 51 hour journey of a single ballot



November 12, 2016 - It's a bit more complicated than that - stop for a minute and understand what it takes to process a single ballot and it will help to shed some light:

1. Ballot dropped off on Election Day must come together with nearly 200,000 others in a massive sorting operation (so that the ballots are organized, all facing the same direction, in mail trays). Try doing that in an hour (it actually took about 30 hours to complete working overtime).
2. Once this is complete the ballots head to our automated sorting equipment. The ballots pass through this machine at high speed and the record of the ballot is recorded and activated and a digital image is captured of the signature.
3. These files, in groups of 25,000, take about 90 minutes to create (between sorting and file preparation).
4. The files are distributed to human operators, who then examine signatures on the envelope (four at a time) with the original signature of the voter that is on file. This takes about 2 hours to complete.
5. The ballots are then loaded back into the automated sorting device and begin the same journey as before, through the high-speed sorter, but this time they are sorted by precinct and "out sorted" by good or bad (meaning it will be opened or escalated for further review). This process takes about 2 hours to complete.

6. The good ballots head to our automated extracting machines - we can open these ballots at a rate of about 5,000 - 6,000 per hour. So the group of 25,000 will take about 4 hours to fully open.

7. Once they are opened they head to manual processing stations where they are unfolded, flattened and "married" up to the second page. For the group of 25,000 it takes about 4 hours to complete - it's time consuming because they must be prepared with care for scanning.

8. Following the "flattening" process they move to another station where they are rolled (to take out any curl) and final checks are made for any extraneous marks, paper clips, staples, etc. For the group of 25,000 it takes about 2 hours to pass through this station.

9. Finally they are moved into our scanning operations, where they are scanned at a rate of about 6,000 per hour. If a ballot does not read automatically they are then out sorted for manual resolving - where a human being looks at the contest in question and ensures the ballot is marked correctly.

10. Once they are scanned they move to our Tally operations, where the preparation, downloading of the data, and processing of the actual tally takes about 90 minutes.

So that single ballot went on a 51-hour journey. Of course we are processing ballots in multiple layers, so it moves as efficiently as possible, but you get the idea that we don't just "count" the ballot - there's much more to the process.

And after all, if that was your ballot, you would want that level of care taken for sure!



Orange County Superior Court Leadership Academy

By Chris Collins, Social Policy Director

As chair of Social Policy of the Orange Coast League of Women Voters, I attended the leadership academy which is presented annually by the Superior Court of Orange County in six sessions. The CA CODE of JUDICIAL ETHICS, CANON 3B(9) stipulates, "Judges are permitted to explain, for public information, the procedures of the court to promote **public understanding** of and confidences in the administration of justice." Hence, this academy is designed as an outreach tool with the community and those chosen to participate are expected to act as a liaison between the organizations represented, which in this case is the Orange Coast League of Women Voters, and the Orange County Superior Court for at least one year after completion of the academy. Participants were asked to provide feedback about the Court and its programs.

Topics included in the academy were:

- Superior Court overview and Self Help Services.
- Juvenile Delinquency & Dependency, and Family Court.
- Community Court & Collaborative Court Programs.
- Unlawful Detainers (Evictions), Small Claims Court, Probate and Mental Health Courts, Elder Abuse, and Civil Court.

- Criminal & Traffic Court.
- Jury Services Court Interpreters, Court Funding Overview, and People vs. Modesta Avila.

Since four of the six academy presentations take place at Central Justice Center in Santa Ana, the issue of homelessness around this facility was addressed. The City and County have taken various steps to mitigate concerns. The City of Santa Ana recently began issuing a limited number of citations for illegal camping and other minor crimes to the more egregious occupants in the area. The plan is for citations to be heard in Homeless Court where the objective is to connect people with services that can address the reasons they are homeless and help them get to a better place. The City of Santa Ana is in the process of arranging for housing for a significant number of homeless people in a multi-unit residence in Santa Ana. Participants of the OC Superior Court Academy got to observe proceedings in the Homeless Court. It was impressive to see how services are being made available on site at the Community Court to assist those being seen by the Homeless Outreach Court with Superior Court Judge Mary Kreber, presiding.

It was been heartening to learn about these programs – which offer therapeutic, life-changing alternatives to the revolving door of incarceration and re-arrest – which include adult and juvenile Drug Courts, DUI Court, mental health courts, Veterans Treatment Court, Homeless Outreach Court, Truancy Court, and supportive programs for youth in the dependency system.

Of note is the fact that providing therapeutic treatment instead of incarceration results in **substantial savings** in costs of locally-served jail and prison bed days. In 2015, the stayed sentences of adult and juvenile program graduates resulted in **67,539** custody days saved before application of custody credits, which translates to a savings of nearly **\$11.2 million**.

Additionally, processing cases through Collaborative Court yields cost savings when compared with processing them through “business as usual”. Specifically, researchers for the California Judicial Council found that every **\$1.00 invested in Drug Court** for the Central Justice Center jurisdiction in Santa Ana resulted in a **cost savings of \$7.30**.

These outstanding results and benefits of Orange County’s Collaborative Court programs are made possible through the steadfast support of the Board of Supervisors, and the dedication of judicial officers, as well as management and staff of the partner agencies.

The Orange County Superior Court Leadership Academy provided an important overview of the insightful role of courts in a democracy.



< In Memorium >

Janet Reno, the first female Attorney General of the United States. Reno took the unprecedented action of sending federal marshals to protect 12 doctors who were under threat after the 1994 shooting deaths of abortion Doctor John Bayard Britton and his escort, James Barrett, in Pensacola, Florida.

Gwen Ifill the first African American woman to host a prominent political television show, Washington Week in Review. Ifill covered seven presidential campaigns over the course of her career and served twice as the debate moderator in the vice presidential debates and recent primary debates.

League of Women Voters California Program Planning for 2017-2019

plus

League of Women Voters of Orange Coast Program Planning and goal setting for 2017

WE NEED YOUR HELP and YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT SETTING GOALS FOR LWVC DURING 2017-2019 AND OUR LOCAL LEAGUE DURING 2017!

The League of Women Voters is a grassroots political organization which works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. These advocacy positions are adopted only after extensive study of an issue, and a consensus process of our membership.

In January, all Orange Coast League members will receive, via email, a list of LWVC positions, with descriptions, in a chart form. For members who don't have computer access the information will be mailed. On the chart you will be asked to mark and return answers to these questions:

- (1) Should each position be retained, dropped or updated?
- (2) Which 3 of the current issues/positions should be chosen for the CA State League advocacy and education in 2017-2019?
- (3) Is there a new issue Orange Coast League would like to recommend for study, understanding that our League would have to be willing to spearhead the effort?

At the January 21st meeting a summary of our members' recommendations will be presented and discussed. We will come to a consensus as to which 3 issues/positions should be given emphasis for advocacy and education, which should be updated, dropped or retained, and whether or not we should spearhead the study of a new issue, keeping in mind that any recommendation for a new study will only be considered by the Board of Directors of LWVC if we can find funding to conduct the study. Our consensus will be reported to LWVC before the Convention in Sacramento June 1-4, 2017. A summary of all local Leagues' reports will be the basis for decisions made there for 2017-19! **THE LEAGUE IS TRULY A GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION!**

THE REST OF THE MEETING WILL THEN BE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION OF WHERE OUR LOCAL LEAGUE'S MEMBERS SHOULD PUT THEIR TIME AND EFFORT OVER THE NEXT LEAGUE YEAR (2017-2018). WE WILL DISCUSS:

- (1) How can our League have a positive impact on a problem in our area or at the state or national level?
- (2) How can our League and our Board work more efficiently?
- (3) Should we continue with our monthly meetings?
- (4) What topics are important to you? Civil discourse? Supporting aging out foster children? And more??
- (5) Should we ask other organizations to co-sponsor meetings and our other efforts? Strength in numbers for our work?
- (6) How can we make our group more diverse in age and ethnic parameters?
- (7) How should we plan to commemorate LWV's 100th birthday in 2020? With what other groups?
- (8) How can we effectively reach out, offer our services to our area's schools and Community Colleges?

When: Saturday, January 21st, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
Where: Brandman University, Room 110, 16355 Laguna Canyon Road, Irvine 92618
Menu: Please bring a snack to share, beverages will be provided.
RSVP or for more information: contact Barb at 208-284-9167 or barbjsocal@gmail.com

Directions to Brandman University from the 405 freeway traveling North or South: Take the Sand Canyon Ave/Shady Canyon Drive Exit 3.
If driving NORTH on 405, turn right onto Sand Canyon Avenue.
If driving SOUTH on 405 turn left onto Sand Canyon Avenue.
Take the 1st right onto Alton Parkway (Kaiser Hospital is on this corner).
Turn right onto Laguna Canyon Road. Turn right onto Pasteur. Turn right into first driveway, building will be on the right, with ample parking behind the building.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE OC BOARD OF SUPERVISORS?

By Wanda Shafer, Observer Corp LWVOC

The new director of Orange County Care Coordination, Susan Price, has released her "Homelessness Assessment". The Jan. 28, 2017 required biennial "Point in Time" count of the homeless will offer a more correct number of homeless. Her findings are:

1. There's a lack of regional and localized coordination.
2. County resources are not easily navigated by the homeless.
3. Stakeholders are not working together.
4. Specialized residential treatment facilities for acute mental health and for detox units for substance abuse have not been matched with necessary resource development.
5. Software used to manage info and services is not able to meet basic functions of HUD requirements.
6. Existing emergency shelters, transitional housing and permanent housing do not meet the current needs of Orange County.
7. 71% of emergency shelter resources are for families, single mothers or pregnant women.

There is a safety net for homeless females with children, but fewer resources for single, chronically homeless men and women. Her recommendations are:

1. Hire a manager to restructure Commissioner to End Homelessness, replace client management software, and improve system navigation to find more successful options and plans for Unified Funding Agency designation.
2. Improve coordination by creating North, Central and South Orange County regions; formalize protocol across county for responding to encampments and engagement with cities.
3. Increase emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing solutions. Target assistance for homeless veterans, continue funding the transitional housing and encourage increased development of affordable housing options.
4. Collaborate w/partners to improve outcomes and develop intra-County departmental workgroups to manage specialized initiatives.

Ms. Price stated, "It is imperative for regional collaboration between County, City and community-based resources. The County can act as a convener which will be critical to ensure resources are having the maximum intended impact."

The ACLU of Southern California presented their 41 page report, "Nowhere to Live: the Homeless Crisis in Orange County and How to End It". They state that on any given night, over 4,400 people in Orange County are homeless; this is a 20 % increase over the course of a year. They felt the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness in Orange County was well planned but the Board of Supervisors did not carry out finding "safe and affordable permanent housing as an immediate response to their crisis." Their findings state: NOT ENOUGH BEDS. Almost 90% of all Orange County homeless do not meet the federal definition of chronic homelessness and face 4 to 8 year waiting lists for affordable housing. NOT ENOUGH FUNDING. The county allocates very little of its own revenue for housing and assistance, relying on federal and state funds. NOT ENOUGH RELIEF. Orange County's General Relief Program (giving a little more than \$300 a month) is simply not enough for most basic needs much less for rent in expensive Orange County.

The county and 33 of its 34 cities have responded to the crisis with a ban on camping, sleeping or resting in public on the homeless, also issuing fines, jail times thereby giving the homeless a criminal record which causes even more chaos. The ACLU's recommendations are:

1. Develop a plan for permanent, supportive housing.
2. Close the housing affordability gap for those not disabled or long-term homeless.
3. Create a dedicated source of housing fund.
4. Take the lead in decriminalizing homelessness.

"Studies show it costs more to jail, treat in emergency rooms, etc. than it does to house them. And coincidentally, the Ten Year Plan is required by the federal government." FIND THE FULL REPORT: aclusocal.org/nowhere-to-live



Membership News:

Say a big League HELLO to new members: Gloria Glanville and Laurie Jacobs both of San Clemente, and Royce Sheila Daniels of Laguna Hills.

<A Thank You Note>

Dear LWV Friends,

My husband Pat, my son Curt and I want to say thank you for the cards and their verses and the warm thoughts you sent us.

Craig's passing was a shock to all of us. We are working to get over our loss. We have many fond memories and are keeping them in our day to day thoughts. Craig was a talented young man and liked by many. Pat, Curt and I will miss him dearly.

Fondly,
Marilyn O'Brien (his mother)

HELP BUILD IT! Turning Point Suffragist Memorial

Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association (TPSM) is building a national memorial to American suffragists – with a special focus on those imprisoned at Occoquan, VA, who endured harsh conditions and abuse to win voting rights for American women. The memorial will honor these brave women and provide awareness and education about how their courage, methods and commitment led to the passing of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. We owe these women the honor of a Memorial. For information: <http://www.suffragistmemorial.org/>



Milholland as the mounted herald leading the great suffrage procession.

“The suffragists engineered the greatest expansion of democracy on a single day the world had ever seen, and yet...the leaders built no monuments to themselves, and too many of their names have been lost to history”. “Founding Sisters and the Nineteenth Amendment” by Eleanor Clift.

As Leaguers we should ever be mindful of the fact that we are a LIVING LEGACY of those suffragettes. The League of Women Voters was founded by Carrie Chapman Catt in 1920 during the convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, just six months before the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, giving women the right to vote after a 72-year struggle.

The League began as a "mighty political experiment" designed to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters and to use their new power to participate in shaping public policy. From the beginning, the League has been an activist, grassroots organization whose leaders believed that citizens should play a critical role in advocacy. It was then, and is now, a nonpartisan organization. League founders believed that maintaining a nonpartisan stance would protect the fledgling organization from becoming mired in the party politics of the day. However, League members were encouraged to be political themselves, by educating citizens about, and lobbying for, government and social reform legislation. You can learn more about the League's history here: <http://lww.org/history>.

Your board of directors of LWV Orange Coast has voted to become a Friend of the memorial so, we are raising \$1,000.00, to have our League's name engraved on the donor wall. To make it a total League effort we are asking our members to help out by donating any amount you want but if you donate \$10.00 or more we will give you a free gift of a picture of Inez Milholland that can be worn as a pin, pendant or a keychain fob. Above is a sample of the pendants we are offering. You will have a choice of square, oval or rectangle, plus other options on how to wear it. We will have a display of the pendants at Lunch with League starting in December.

Inez Milholland Boissevain, was a prominent New York suffragist and attorney. She was only 30 when she collapsed on a Los Angeles stage during a grueling 1916 speaking tour for equal suffrage. Her death on November 25 of pernicious anemia saddened, angered, and inspired her fellow suffragists, who began picketing the White House on January 10, 1917, just weeks after her memorial in the U.S. Capitol.

How to Effectively Talk to Your Member of Congress **Should I send a letter or make a phone call?**

- 1) Tweeting or writing on Facebook is ineffective. Staffers may or may not record them depending on whether or not there is a pattern of messages.
- 2) A letter to the district office is better than sending a letter to or emailing the D.C. office. It will get noticed, but you will probably only get a return form letter WRITEN BY THE STAFF.
- 3) Calling the D.C. or local office is the surest method to getting your voice heard. You will likely talk directly to a staffer if you call the local office.
- 4) If your Congressperson has a system where you leave a voice message it may or may not be listened to by a staffer **but leave a message anyway**.
- 5) Before you make your call **WRITE YOURSELF A SCRIPT**. Remember what your Mother said: "Be polite". But be **firm**.
- 6) If you are a member of a group get your members to call. When the office gets lots of calls on a topic they take notice.
- 7) If you really want to talk to your Congressperson show up at a Town Hall and bring some friends. Pack that place and ask questions. Crowds get attention. How do you know when they are having a town hall? Subscribe to their newsletter.
- 8) If you are a member of an advocacy group invite Congressional staffers to your events. You might teach them something and they sometimes like to get out of the office.
- 9) Should you call a Congressperson that does not represent you? ABSOLUTELY!! If you see or hear them say something you violently disagree with or hotly approve of, call their local or D.C. office. Call with praise or call with anger, but be **FIRM AND POLITE**.
- 10) Now get out there and take some action!

Note: portions of this article are from an article by Emily Ellsworth former Congressional staffer (found here: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/contacting-your-congressional-representative_us_582a0965e4b060adb56f8e95?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Politics%20111416&utm_content=Politics%20111416+CID_1fbf10b92c4d0d76a010318ac2d3bde1&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Heres%20How%20To%20Make%20Sure%20Congress%20Hears%20You), and Charlotte Pirch (Editor of *The Voter*) based on her personal experience.


Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to one and all!!


LWV of California Update:

These wins aren't possible without your support! Thank you to everyone who responded to our action alerts and made your voices heard in Sacramento:

1) Money in Politics

- SB 1107 removes the ban on public financing of campaigns and helps level the playing field for candidates.
- SB 1349 modernizes the state's online database of campaign finance and lobbying information.



2) Climate Change

- SB 32 and AB 197 reduces greenhouse gas emissions and protects disadvantaged communities and those most affected by this pollution.

3) Voting Rights and Redistricting

- AB 2466 makes it less likely for Californians to be unfairly denied their voting rights after a criminal conviction.
- SB 450 makes voting more accessible with vote-by-mail ballots, early voting, and vote centers, starting in 14 counties in 2018.
- AB 958 establishes a Citizens Redistricting Commission for Los Angeles County, and SB 1108 allows all other California cities and counties to have these commissions too.
- AB 350, AB 2220, and AB 2389 promotes better representation and protect voting rights when local governments change to district-based elections.
- AB 2010 helps local candidates reach voters with more affordable, online options for displaying their statements in official election materials.

4) PreK-12 Education and Juvenile Justice

- AB 1014 and SB 527 reduces truancy and serve students at risk of dropping out of school, as required by Proposition 47.

5) Immigration

- AB 2792 protects the rights of immigrants in local custody.

6) Natural Resources and the Environment

- SB 122 supports the public's voice in land-use decisions by streamlining the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.
- SB 7 promotes conservation by requiring individual water meters in new multifamily housing.
- SB 1262 prevents the overuse of groundwater in new developments.
- AB 2480 puts funding of watershed restoration projects on an equal basis with other water infrastructure.

LWVUS Making News

Washington DC Voting Rights and Statehood News and December 8 Webinar: On November 8, the citizens of the District of Columbia overwhelmingly passed an advisory referendum supporting statehood for DC. The LWV of the DC met with selected state and local Leagues over the next few weeks, but all League members can support this effort by signing up for the December 8, 7pm EST webinar by the LWVDC and the LWVEF to learn how to “Fix the Hole in Our Democracy.” [Register for the Webinar now](#) and hear how you and your League can educate your communities on the need for full representation and statehood for DC. Additional materials on the project can be found on the League management site. For questions or assistance on signing up for the webinar contact Betsy Lawson at blawson@lww.org.

LWVUS Welcomes Two Leagues: Congratulations to the [LWV of The Villages/Tri-County Area \(FL\)](#) and [LWV of Bloomington \(MN\)](#) that were recently recognized as local Leagues by LWVUS. Both groups have a record of impact in their communities and a growing membership. We welcome them to the League family and extend a special thanks to the LWVs of [Florida](#) and [Minnesota](#) for their mentoring and support.

Leagues in the News: the LWVUS has been mentioned in more than 2,950 media reports. From Chris Carson’s op-ed on [restoring the Voting Rights Act](#), to Wylecia Wiggs-Harris’s [blog urging black voter turnout](#), we have seen great leadership from the League on many topics. Leagues in every state have remained focused [informing more voters than ever about the issues](#). League presidents have published letters to the editor on [ballot issues related to voter ID laws](#) and [the importance of free and fair elections](#). League leaders conducted TV interviews about [election integrity in New Jersey](#), [background checks for ammunition in California](#), and [voter advocacy in North Carolina](#) and in [Ohio leaders participated in an Election Day podcast](#). We made [our final push to inform voters about our state guides](#), [promote VOTE411.org](#) and [the election protection hotline](#). [The history of the League](#) and [women’s right to vote was in the spotlight this election](#) as many [women born before the 19th amendment cast their ballots for a female candidate](#). Chris Carson penned an [op-ed about the moment for women’s history](#).

UNITED NATIONS: The LWVUS’s official observer, Rosalee Keech, to the United Nations is very pleased to announce that our “[intervention](#)” (aka written statement) on stopping the demand side of forced labor and human trafficking to the ECOSOC High Level Political Forum has been published in all 6 official languages of the United Nations! Click on the link “intervention” in the first sentence to see the document in English. The NGO Branch Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs has provided a link to the NGO statements submitted for the 2016 High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council: <https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/events/2016/ecosoc-high-level-segment-implementing-post-2015-development-agenda-moving-commitments>.

In League,





**League of Women Voters
of Orange Coast
Board of Directors**

President	Diane Nied
V. P. Admin.	Grace Winchell
V. P. Program	Barbara Wood
Secretary	Beth McConaughy
Treasurer	Judy Standerford
Government	Armida Brashears
Natural Resources	Open
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