

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan organization of women and men, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Our goal is to empower citizens to shape better communities world-wide.

 **The League of Women Voters:**

- Acts as a force to create positive, lasting change in our communities
- Empowers millions of voters to protect their right to vote
- Educates citizens and fosters dialogue on pertinent issues – from healthcare and climate change to openness in government
- Works to ensure that ALL votes are counted and ALL voices are heard
- Helps to make democracy work!



**REPORT FROM
STATE CIRCLE
2010**

This publication covers a broad spectrum of social, economic, environmental and governmental proposals before the Maryland General Assembly which the League will be monitoring, including the Governor's Budget and important legislative events. Sixteen reporters will cover these issues from the League perspective, including our long-considered positions and our 2010 Legislative Priorities.

Six issues are published, approximately every two weeks, starting Monday, January 27, with the Wrap-Up Issue on Monday, April 19.

Subscribers can receive *Report From State Circle* by first class mail for \$25 for non-members and \$15 for League members.

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**THE LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS
OF
MARYLAND**

**LEGISLATIVE AND
BUDGET PRIORITIES
FOR THE 2010
LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARYLAND

LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET PRIORITIES

FOR THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION OF 2010

OPENNESS IN GOVERNMENT

- We support full public disclosure of House and Senate committee votes published on the Maryland General Assembly website: mlis.state.md.us including dates and legislator votes.
- We support the elimination of fees for *Up-To-The-Minute* and the availability of this information to all Marylanders.
- We support the pod- or broadcasting of the Board of Public Works meetings and work sessions.

ADEQUATE STATE REVENUE

- We support a revenue structure for Maryland which is equitable, reliable, adequate and progressive over all. We must protect the most vulnerable residents through a safety net of basic social services.

HEALTH CARE

UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO QUALITY CARE

- We support legislation that will make a basic level of quality health care accessible to all residents that is available at an affordable cost.
- We support reproductive choice.

ENVIRONMENT

LAND USE

- We support managed land use and growth management through the principles of smart growth, which promote public transportation, protect the natural environment and provide for better water and air quality.

CLIMATE CHANGE

- We support managed land use and growth management which promotes resource conservation, public transportation, the protection of the natural environment, sustainable energy policies and protection of water and air quality.
- We support initiatives such as sustainable energy policies to reduce emissions of heat-trapping gases. These actions will reduce the threat of global warming, combat air pollution, increase energy security and create new jobs.

TRANSPORTATION

- We support public education to promote goals that provide alternative travel modes, encourage technological improvements to abate emissions from mobile sources, reduce energy consumption and protect natural resources.

LWVMD WILL ALSO SUPPORT:

- Voter Education
- Civil Liberties
- Campaign Finance Reform, including public funding
- Work Force and Affordable Housing
- Fair Campaigns and Elections.
- Redistricting

Action taken by the League of Women Voters to affect legislation is based on positions reached by the membership through research, study, discussion and consensus.

The League of Women Voters is dedicated to providing well-researched and unbiased information so that all voters may become better informed.

Visit our website:

www.lwvmd.org