

Member Bulletin

December 2022

Thank you League members!

Your dedication to the ideal that everyone should be represented in our democracy is unwavering.

Your commitment to nonpartisanship and elections which are free, fair and accessible is visible across the state of Illinois.

Your generosity of time and talent, whatever you were able to share, made a difference in your neck of the woods and set an example for communities throughout our state.

Tens of thousands of people in Illinois have benefited from the work of the League this election season.

With barely time to catch our breath, we now move forward into another set of elections - primaries in many communities and mayoral election in our nation's third largest city, followed by the entire state gearing up for April 4 consolidated elections.

We need to continue to raise the bar, to reach more voters. This is where your gift can make a difference. Together, we are more than 3500 members strong. If each one of us donated just \$5, our combined donations would significantly extend our reach.

And then, think about this...what if each of us reached out to those closest to us and asked them to show their appreciation for our passionate commitment to the League by making their own \$5 donation to LWVIL?

Thanks to the generosity of those who have already started their season of giving with a gift to LWVIL, we are on our way. We can't do it without you. [Please give.](#)

Allyson

League members give together. Combined, our gifts power our statewide efforts.

**Our joined
voices make
democracy work.**

**Amplify every
voice with a
donation to
LWVIL.**

DONATE TODAY

Time and again we see that our League is at its strongest when members give together. Whether it is time, money or both, our mission work to educate, activate and protect voters is at its most powerful because our chorus is louder than our individual voices.

Every effort and every dollar we contribute helps

- Provide nonpartisan voting information statewide
- Power the Illinois Voter Guide in multiple languages
- Protect and expand access to the ballot

As partners, we defend democracy.

Local League efforts are outstanding!

From voter registration to voter education to voter activation this election season— Illinois League members got the job done!

Local Leagues broke records educating voters using the Illinois Voter Guide. The 2022 General Election Illinois Voter Guide covered

- 102 counties
- 2,386 candidates (federal, state, county, judicial)
- 335 candidate questionnaire responses

**256 Candidates
on video**



**The looks
we got!**

Local League candidate videos included

- 66 forum videos from 13 counties
- 26 candidate statement videos
- 87 WTTW candidate videos

Illinois Voter Guide had 121,000 unique visitors in 2022 (to date) for a total of 138,000 visits.

There were 84,000 visits in the 40 days prior to election day! Visitors looked at

- 1.5 million races
- 1.9 million individual candidate pages
- 200,000 candidate issue stances
- 52,000 ballot measures



Moore v. Harper: US Supreme Court and the Independent State Legislature Doctrine

On **Wednesday, December 7**, the United States Supreme Court will look at the constitutional validity of the independent state legislature doctrine when it hears the case of ***Moore v. Harper***.

The League is closely watching this crucial election-related case, which will determine whether state legislatures have the power and authority to set their own rules for federal elections without any checks and balances from their state Supreme Courts.

LWVUS and League chapters from all 50 states and the District of Columbia filed an amicus brief in *Moore v. Harper* on October 26, 2022. LWV CEO Virginia Kase Solomón called the independent state legislature doctrine "a dangerous, fringe ideology" in a [press release](#). "Removing the power of the governor and the courts to check any action by the state legislature regarding elections would be antithetical to our American system," commented LWVIL President Allyson Haut.

According to [Courts Matter](#) Illinois, "the independent state legislature doctrine could theoretically empower state legislatures to decide the outcomes of political races themselves, **without regard to the popular vote**. It could also empower state legislatures to decide election administration rules themselves, regardless of what other agencies or the federal government says."

Listen to this historic Supreme Court hearing

- Wednesday, December 7
- 9:00 am, Central Time
- www.supremecourt.gov; click on the link to "Oral Arguments"

LWVUS will rally in front of the Supreme Court in the morning on December 7. If you will be in Washington DC, please [register and attend](#).



**LWVIL
Needs**

Are you looking to take your experience and expertise to the next level?

Apply to join the LWVIL 2023-25 Board of Directors for a biennium of continued growth and expansion. Work with League leaders from around the state as we continue to build LWVIL to be the best resource possible for local Leagues and our communities. With virtual monthly meetings, it has never been easier.

YOU!



We are particularly interested in experience in any one of the following areas: Development and Fundraising; Communications; Community Outreach and Education; Human Resources; Finance or Accounting.

Share your passion and drive with LWVIL. Take the first step and **complete this brief application today** (no later than Sunday, January 8).

Questions? Contact Nominating Committee Chair Jan Dorner, jdorner@lwwil.org.

Consider running for local office

League members make excellent candidates for office—are you one of them? Filing for the April 4 Consolidated Election runs December 12–19. (Note: Chicago local elections are February 28 with run-offs on April 4).

[The Candidate's Guide](#) published by the Illinois State Board of Elections and the [Running for Office](#) page on their website are invaluable resources. You might also consider watching this LWV of Oak Park River Forest presentation by an election attorney: [How to Get on the Ballot and Stay on the Ballot](#) .

Interested to see who is financing candidates in your local elections? Check out [campaign disclosure reports](#) filed with the Illinois State Board of Elections for the Consolidated Election.

Upcoming Education Opportunities

So What Really Happened at COP27 in Egypt?

Friday, December 9

3:00–4:30 pm

Join David Waskow, Director of the International Climate Initiative at the World Resources Institute, for his perspective on COP27, the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference held in November.

What was achieved at COP27? What wasn't? What comes next for global climate action? Waskow's work is focused on international cooperation to activate and support climate change actions in developed and developing countries.

[Register to attend](#) online or in person (Evanston). Co-sponsored by the LWV of Evanston, North Shore Village Network, and Evanston Public Library.

LWVIL Election Training Day

Saturday, January 14, 2023

The Consolidated Election season is about to begin! Get ready by joining us for a morning of election training. Hear about some new ideas for candidate forums, become a forum moderator, and learn how to write unbiased candidate questions for

forums and the Illinois Voter Guide.

[Register to attend](#) one or all of these training opportunities:

- Writing Unbiased Candidate Questions—9:30 am
- Candidate Forum Training—10:00 am
- Moderator Training—11:00 am

Save the dates

Issues Briefing

Saturday, February 18, 2023

8:30 am–3:30 pm

LWVIL's annual Issues Briefing will again be accessible statewide on Zoom. Hear from experts about issues and Illinois legislation concerning racism in schools, climate change, juvenile justice, immigrants, housing vouchers, gun violence prevention, and reproductive rights.

All participants will have an opportunity to attend two plenaries and select two additional breakout sessions. Keep an eye on LWVIL newsletters for registration information.

LWVIL Observer Training

Saturday, March 18, 2023

Mark your calendars for Observer Training and watch for registration information in upcoming 2023 issues of the *Member Bulletin*.

Get Ready for Program Planning

Make sure you are ready to participate in your League's program planning process for the 2023-25 Biennium.

Read through the [Program Planning Process:2023-25](#), found on the LWVIL website ([For Members>League Resources](#), scroll down to Program Planning). [Watch the video](#) to hear from LWVIL issue specialists about LWVIL advocacy efforts over the past two years, what is anticipated in the next biennium, and suggestions for revisions in positions.

Expand League impact, educate voters statewide

Zoom helps us take our work to all corners of Illinois. **Expand your audience** and elevate our mission to empower voters and defend democracy.

Share your League's education events on the LWVIL website calendar. Submit events on the LWVIL website calendar page, [lwvil.org>News & Events>Event Calendar](#).

Thank you for supporting our work to defend democracy and empower voters.



Support the League today!

[View as Webpage](#)