



League of Women Voters® of Indiana

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy

Co-Presidents' Notes August 2015

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Co-Presidents' Remarks

Dear LWV Leaders,

Thank you for taking the time last month to talk with Lisa and Erin as they attempted to call local leaders from each League. If we still haven't connected . . . we will!

Our goal was simply to reach out to make a personal connection and to let you know we're always a phone call or email away if you need support. We've also made new local league liaison assignments for LWVIN board members and once a month you should be hearing directly from "your" liaison. They'll help remind you of upcoming events, study deadlines, MLD tips and more.

Thanks for all you do!

Erin Kelley & Lisa Plencner

95th Anniversary Event

Many LWVs across the state have Women's Equality Day events planned on or around August 26. It has been exciting to learn about your plans and the LWVIN board wishes you great success!

We hope you'll have time to recover from your hard work to join the LWVIN on **Saturday, September 26** in Indianapolis for an LWV 95th Anniversary celebration. There will be commemorative displays, music, guest speakers, and life members will be recognized.

The event will occur at the historic Athenaeum in downtown Indianapolis (401 E. Michigan Street) from 12 noon to 2:30p.m. A buffet lunch from the Rathskeller restaurant will be provided and the registration cost is \$26 (includes meal and parking).

Please distribute the [RSVP form](#) which can be found at www.lwvin.org and return it to LWVIN offices (1500 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis, IN 46202) before September 18.

Redistricting Reform Efforts

The study committee on redistricting reform has not yet been fully formed. Only a few appointments have been made with [Rep. Jerry Torr](#) (R-Carmel) and [Sen. Brandt Hershman](#) (R-Buck Creek) appointed as Chair and Co-Chair, respectively. Evan Bayh's former Chief of Staff [Tom Sugar](#) has also been appointed to the committee. As more appointments are made, we'll do our best to update you.

In the meantime, you can continue to support redistricting reform efforts by:

- Organizing "house parties" to watch the 2010 documentary [Gerrymandering](#), produced by Jeff Reichert. *Gerrymandering* is an engaging and informative movie that has proven to be an excellent way to educate citizens concerning redistricting.
- Begin organizing teams from the nine congressional districts who will be ready to attend committee meetings and help organize citizens across the state.
- Working your mayor, city or town council to pass a proclamation in support of redistricting reform.

The LWVUS Task Force on Redistricting has created user friendly resources that are available on the national website that local leagues can use to help keep their membership informed about the issue.

LWVIN & LWVUS Studies

The LWVIN homepage (www.lwvin.org) has been updated to include important information and resource links on the statewide Education Study. As a reminder, the deadline on concurrence for the position statement, "League of Women Voters of Indiana supports a free, publicly-funded, non-sectarian system of schools serving all the state's children from pre-school through 12th grade," is January 2016.

The website has also been updated to include information and timelines on the LWVUS Constitutional [Amendment study](#) and the LWVUS [Money in Politics review](#). Consensus reports on the Constitutional Amendment study are due in December of this year and the Money in Politics consensus reports should be filed by February 1, 2016.

Use the navigation on the left of the LWVIN website and click on [LWVUS Positions Studies](#) for more information about the national studies.

MLD Tip of the Month

Be visible!

Starting with Women's Equality Day in August and on through the fall with our voter registration efforts, candidate forums, and voter guides, the League of Women Voters is highly active. But are we as *visible* as we can be?

One of the easiest ways to get in the public eye is to put out a press release leading up to an important day or event. Remember to tie in your message to important work your League does and why the League is an asset to the community. Of course, always remember to include information on how people can get in contact with your League.

Never written a press release? Refer to this [set of instructions](#) and video from wikiHow. You can also check out this great [tip sheet](#) from the LWVUS on media outreach.

Indiana Coalition on Human Services

Paulette Vandegriff serves as the LWVIN's liaison on the Indiana Coalition on Human Services (ICHS). Earlier this year Paulette was approached by the coalition to serve as their president. We are very proud of Paulette and the important work she is doing on behalf of the League of Women Voters.

Those interested in learning more about the ICHS are invited to a panel discussion of human services from a Bicentennial perspective: **How will programs and services for children, adults, people with disabilities and seniors evolve in the next 2, 25 or even 100 years?**

Participating legislative members include: Sen. Ron Grooms, Sen. Jean Breaux, Rep. Ed Clere, and Rep. Greg Porter.

WHEN: Thursday, Aug. 27 from 10a.m. to Noon (Registration opens at 9:30a.m.)
 WHERE: Indiana State Library, History Reference Room, 315 W. Ohio Street, Indpls.
 COST: \$10 for ICHS members, \$15 for non-members (includes light snacks)

Register online [here](#).

LWV of Indiana

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