



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF JOHNSON COUNTY, IN NONPARTISAN POLICY

The League of Women Voters of Johnson County, IN (LWVJC) may act on public interest, governmental measures, and policies when the issues are based on merit rather than politics. However, it shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

Nonpartisan includes being involved in controversy. The LWVJC will be a strong and effective political force to the degree that it can deal with and accept controversy and avoid using its nonpartisan policy as a shield for not getting involved. Effective planning, accurate information and respectful language can defuse controversial issues.

The LWVJC will collaborate with other groups and coalitions who share our nonpartisan standards.

NON-BOARD MEMBER

We encourage non-board members, as individuals, to support or oppose proposed legislation and policies, to be active in political parties, to find and support candidates for public office, and to seek election to public office because we recognize that our democratic system of government depends on informed and active participation of all citizens and the League of Women Voters (the League) experience equips members for public service.

Any League member who holds or seeks a partisan elective office or is active in a political campaign shall not function as an official spokesperson or representative of the League.

BOARD MEMBER

Board members must conduct activities in a manner that preserves the League's nonpartisan position.

- **Community Involvement**

A Board member may serve on any public board, commission, committee, or coalition; however, that Board member does not represent the League unless officially designated as a League representative by the League board.

A board member may serve as a poll worker for any election where party affiliation is not required to be declared.

Political activities of a spouse or other relative of a Board member are considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the Board member.

- Elected Office

A Board member shall resign from the Board before declaring or filing for a partisan elective office. League notices will report the resignation and will be carefully worded to avoid the appearance of endorsing the resigning Board member's candidacy.

- Specific Leadership Board Roles

Co-Presidents, Vice President, Voter Services Chair, Membership Chair and Spokesperson must preserve the nonpartisan position of the League at any level of government; therefore, they will not:

- Express their political affiliations or candidate preferences in the media, including social network sites or other public venues that identify them as a member of the LWVJC board.
- Make personal contributions to candidates, political parties, or other entities including PACS identified with a specific party or candidate.
- Political Campaigns

Board members shall not participate in action that publicly identifies them as supporting any candidate for office or any political party. This includes all aspects of campaigning and fundraising.

Members shall present questions to the LWVJC when the foregoing policies do not cover specific situations. The LWVJC has authority to interpret and decide questions.

The LWVJC will discuss the Nonpartisan Policy statement annually and update it as necessary.

Approved January 2022