LWVCC February Updates

Hello Everyone!

We hope all of you are keeping safe and staying healthy during the cold snowy days of February. You may not have noticed it yet, but daylight is lasting a little longer each day. That is a sure sign spring really is coming and we are all ready for that!

Please share this information with family, friends and coworkers in PA. Please feel free to share with any other organizations of which you are a member. This is the type of educational, nonpartisan information we will be sharing with other community organizations and publishing in the CDT.

HB 38, Judicial Redistricting, was tabled. It will NOT be on the Primary ballot. However, that bill, or a version of it, may be resurrected for the November election. We will continue to monitor.

There will be three other constitutional amendments on the ballot:

- 1. Emergency Declarations Amendment
- 2. Equal Rights Regardless of Race or Ethnicity Amendment
- 3. Legislative Resolution to Extend or Terminate Emergency Declaration Amendment

Learn about these amendments at <u>ballotpedia.org</u> (search: Pennsylvania 2021 ballot measures).

We saw the clear impact that citizens could have on the fate of legislation when they made their views known on Judicial Districts, HB38. We strongly encourage you to continue to voice your concerns by emailing or calling your state legislators. If you are speaking about a particular bill, contact the bill's primary sponsor as well, even if they are not your legislators. Write letters to the editor or an op-ed. As a LWV member, we do **insist** that you remain nonpartisan and respectful of all legislators. Don't be shy about thanking legislators of either party who sponsor or support good bipartisan legislation. On the other hand, don't be shy (but remain respectful!) about letting them know when they sponsor or support bad legislation.

For example, there are currently proposals in the legislature to abolish mail-in-ballots, require voter ID at the polls, require signature verification on mail ballots, and eliminate ballot drop boxes. The LWVCC opposes any bill that suppresses eligible voter participation in our democracy. LWVCC favors bills that promote eligible voter participation such as mail-in-ballots, early in-person voting, and ballot drop boxes. LWVCC also supports pre-canvassing of mail ballots by county election workers. We recently received a letter from Senator Jake Corman regarding an op-ed piece we had published in the CDT about legislative rules. Legislators do pay attention. We the people must do the same!

Information and upcoming events

February 21 – State College NAACP fundraiser at Applebee's. <u>Click for additional information and your coupon</u>.

February 25, 6 to 7:30pm – "International Perspectives on Women in Society," presented by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), will present a panel discussion featuring 3 Penn State Humphrey Fellows. <u>Click for additional details and to register.</u>

<u>February 25, 4:00 pm</u> - McCourtney Institute for Democracy. Presentation by Danielle Allen: Our Common Purpose, Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century. <u>Click here for more info and to register.</u>

<u>March 3 at 4:00 pm</u> - FDPA Town Hall - March toward Transparency: LACRA Next Steps. <u>Click for more info and to register</u>.

<u>March 4 at 6:00 pm</u> – Hosted by LWVCC, Debbie Trudeau of FDPA presents "An Antidote to Partisan Poison." Please try to attend and invite all of your PA family and friends! <u>Click here for details and to register.</u>

<u>April 29</u> – Redistricting Day of Action – A LWVUS initiative to shine a light on the redistricting process and demand fair maps. <u>Get details!</u>

May 3 – Last day to register to vote or to change your registration

May 11 – Last day to request absentee or mail-in ballot

May 11-12 – Centre Gives 2021

May 18 - Primary Election

LWVCC February Membership Updates

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Use our website, <u>lwvcentrecounty.org</u>, for information about issues, resources, and updates.

Information and upcoming events

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February 25, 6 - 7:30p.m. - "International Perspectives on Women in Society," a panel discussion presented by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and featuring three Penn State Humphrey Fellows. Get details and register.

<u>February 25 at 4:00 pm</u> - McCourtney Institute for Democracy. Presentation by Danielle Allen: Our Common Purpose, Reinventing American Democracy for the 21st Century. You may register here:

https://sustainability.psu.edu/event/mccourtney-institue-for-democracy-presents-danie lle-allen-our-common-purpose-reinventing-american-democracy-for-the-21st-century/

<u>March 3 at 4:00 pm</u> - FDPA Town Hall - March toward Transparency: LACRA Next Steps. Register here:

https://actionnetwork.org/events/march-toward-transparency-advocacy-townhall?sour ce=direct_link&

<u>March 4 at 6:00 pm</u> – Debbie Trudeau of FDPA presents "An Antidote to Partisan Poison" Registration and Zoom details to follow soon. Please try to attend and invite all of your PA family and friends!

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