

A Review of League Basics

Nonpartisan Policy: we do not support or oppose candidates for public office. Ever.

We do work hard to inform and educate the public:

Candidate Debates: 3 important sources from LWVUS:

League Basics

Guidelines for State and Local League Debates, including "Empty Chair" situations

Face to Face: A Guide to Candidate Debates, especially Legal Considerations section

Can be funded through the Education Fund.

Advocacy: Based on member study and agreement on selected issues. Involves concerted efforts to achieve public policies consistent with League positions. Advocating change through education of policymakers and the public is education and a legitimate use of Ed Fund money.

Lobbying: Promotes or opposes specific pieces of legislation. Can't be funded by Ed Fund.

Voter Services: Designed to provide citizens with unbiased, factual information that they can use as a basis for reaching their own decisions. Voter services materials must not contain statements of League positions, and League positions on ballot issues must not be discussed at voter services events. Ed Fund money can be used.

Citizen education activities: provide information on public issues, including those on which we have a position. By law and by League policy, it isn't necessary to present both sides of an issue in such situations.

League can present educational forums about issues on which the League has a position, provided that the discussions focus on issues of concern rather than the merits of specific pieces of legislation, no lobbying takes place and no call to action is issued. Can use Education Fund money.

Lobbying activities must be kept completely separate from voter service activities, and voters' guides and other voter services materials and publications must not contain statements of League positions.

Only the president or designee is permitted to speak for the League. All members are strongly encouraged to take action, but should not mention that they are League members in their communications.