
LWVUS POLICY AND ADVOCACY:

Democracy Issues Update

LWVUS Webinar

April 28th, 2020



Advocacy and Litigation Team
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE U.S.

Housekeeping Items

- Everyone enters the webinar muted
- Use the questions box to ask questions throughout the presentation
- If you want to ask your question at the end of the presentation, raise your hand and a panelist will call on you
- Make sure to identify yourself (name, League & state) when asking questions
- A short follow-up email will be sent with materials highlighted on the webinar

Welcome to the Webinar!

Today we will be briefing you on the current Status of Democracy Issues

- Legislation we are watching
- Progress so far
- Lobbying for Stimulus 4
- Planning for the next session of Congress



Presenters



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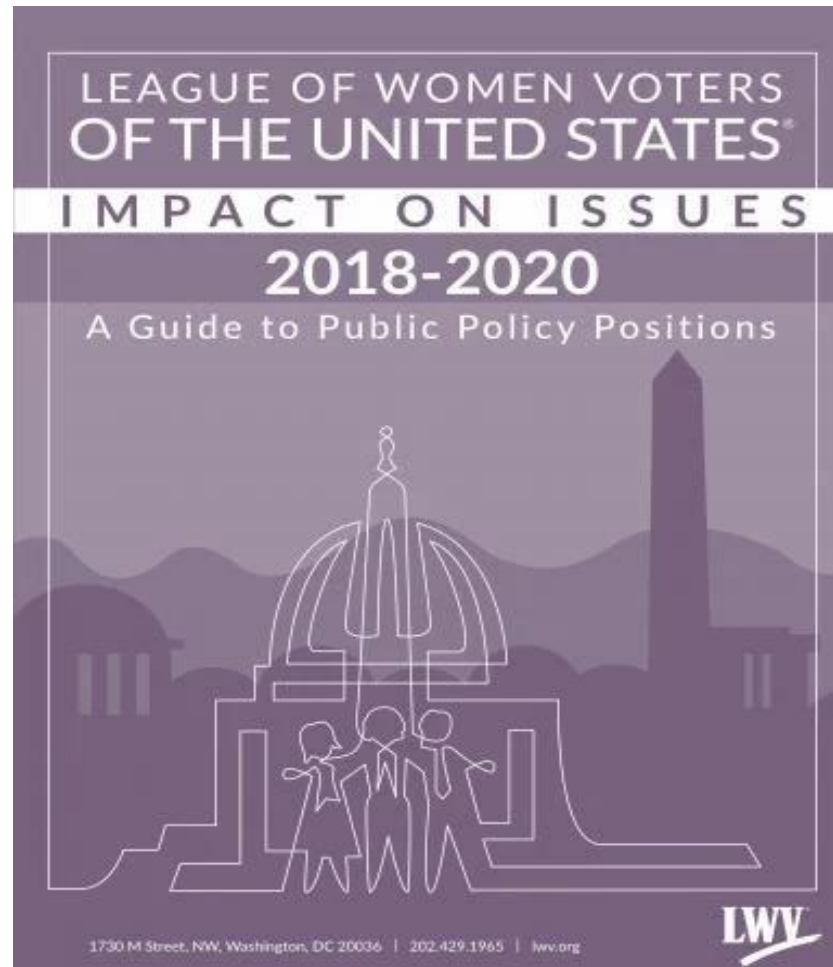


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Overview of Democracy Reform

- Democracy reform looks like...
 - Making voter registration accessible
 - Making voting easier
 - Getting money out of politics
 - Fairly drawn electoral districts
 - Greater Transparency
 - Protections and Remedies for violations

What do we support?



What legislation are we watching?

- H.R. 1 For The People
- H.R. 4 Voting Rights Advancement act
- Native American Voting Rights Act
- Disclose Act/Money in Politics legislation

And...

- \$4 Billion in funding for Elections 2020



H.R.1: For the People Act



Protecting and
Expanding
Voting Rights



Increasing
Election Security



Reducing the
influence of
money in politics



Small donor
public financing



End Partisan
Gerrymandering



Ethical and
Accountable
government

H.R. 1: What we've done



For The People Act Grantee Work
2019

Nationwide Ad campaign

Action Alerts

Lobbying and Meetings on the hill
with legislators

Coalition work and advocacy

H.R 4 Voting Rights Advancement Act

Modernizing Voter
Registration in
21st Century

Changes to to
VRA's
Preclearance
formula

Increased federal
protection and
oversight on voter
discrimination

Requires States to
provide reasonable
notice to any
changes in voting

What we've done so far



Virginia Kase testified in front
of Congress on the VRAA

Leadership Conference Letter

Passed the House in
December 2019

VRAA Grantee

Native American Voting Rights Act

Allowing use of Tribal IDs

Tribal Governments establish
polling locations and voter
registration sites

Expanded language options



LWVUS on NAVRA



NAVRA Lobby Corps

Pushing for hearing and
greater Action on NAVRA

Rachel Appel interview with
Navajo Nation Leader on
Voting Rights

Money In Politics



DISCLOSE Act



Supporting Public Financing pieces in HR
1



Small Donor Financing



Greater transparency

LWVUS work on Money in Politics



Public Finance Working
Group



Support for H.R. 1



Submitting federal
comments on campaign
finance regulation



Writing to the FEC

Stimulus 4 Democracy funding Asks

- \$4 Billion to help fund upcoming primaries AND general election in November
 - Transition to no-excuse absentee/vote by mail
 - Sanitization of polling locations
 - Expanded early absentee Voting and in person voting options
 - Increased hiring of poll workers

The amount was calculated to include the cost of state primaries, and need for emergency funding to allow state board of elections to make the necessary changes and transitions .

What can you do to help?



Contact YOUR member of Congress



Get involved in local voter protection efforts



Continue participating in townhalls and virtual events on democracy reform

Contacting your Legislators

Call the district office to leave comments



Comments and feedback from constituents is the priority right now



Specific ask for \$4 billion in elections assistance for upcoming primaries and general election .

Census Update 2020:

- Changes to Census Operations and Timeline
- We are now looking at Census Data to be released to States by July 31st 2021.
- Census deadlines are statutory; They will need clearance from congress
- How will this affect redistricting? Can vary by state
- Monitoring the situation, and creating resources
- We appreciate your feedback on this issue

Planning for the 117th congress

What if we get a more reform minded congress?

Pushing for more hearings on legislation

Use this time to secure and build relationships so that we can get more meetings in the future

Make sure this remains a priority for the next session

Leverage and pressure to push democracy reform through



A Call to Action:



CONTACT YOUR FEDERAL
REPRESENTATIVES:



PARTICIPATE IN
TOWNHALLS AND
FORUMS



VOTER PROTECTION
EFFORTS

Resources

- Blogs
- Upcoming Virtual Town Halls:
 - Arizona: Friday, May 1
 - Colorado: Wednesday, May 6
 - Georgia: Week of May 11th | Date & Time TBD
- LTE, Op-ed and Action alert templates on League Management (coming soon)

Questions?



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