

November 13th , 2025

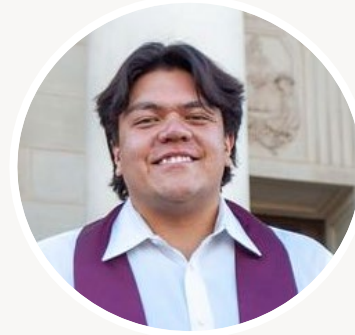
LWVUS Advocacy Presents:

Preparing for State Legislative Sessions 2026

Presenters



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Agenda

Housekeeping

Level Setting

Advocacy Planning Best Practices

Advocacy Action Kits Overview

Resources Overview

LIA During the Legislative Session

Upcoming Programs + Reminders

Q+A

Housekeeping



All trainings will be recorded to keep accurate notes to share with attendees and others after the call.



If you are not speaking, please mute yourself to minimize sound issues.



Make sure you identify yourself (name, League, State & pronouns) when asking questions



Staff will be monitoring the chat box. If you have any questions or thoughts throughout the call, please feel free to drop them in the chat box.

Community Norms



Bring your full self and limit distractions



What is learned here, leaves here



No one knows everything, together we know a lot



Don't yuck my yum



Oops, ouch, and educate



Assume best intentions

POLL!

Have you started planning and setting priorities for upcoming legislative sessions?

How prepared do you feel for 2026 legislative sessions?



October 15th, 2025 Callais Mobilization

Advocacy Planning Best Practices

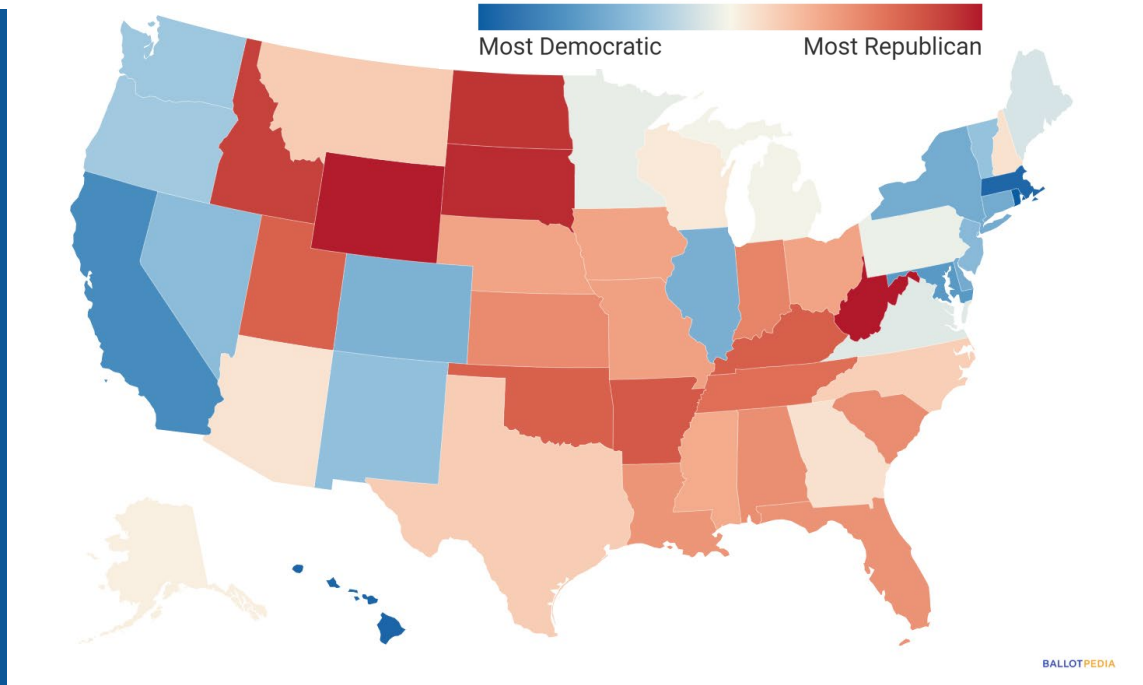
Advocacy Planning

- State Legislature Landscape
- Election Year Advocacy Considerations
- Strategy and Prep
- Outlining a Plan
- Executive and Regulatory Advocacy
- DEI & Other Advocacy Considerations
- LWVUS Advocacy + Litigation Resources



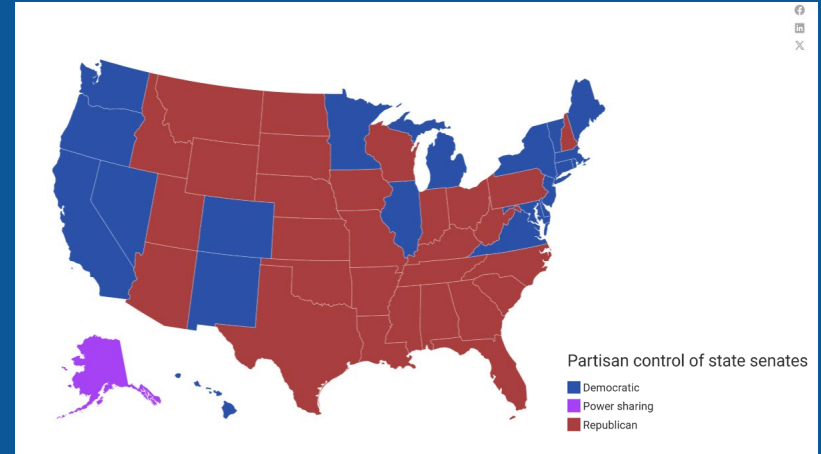
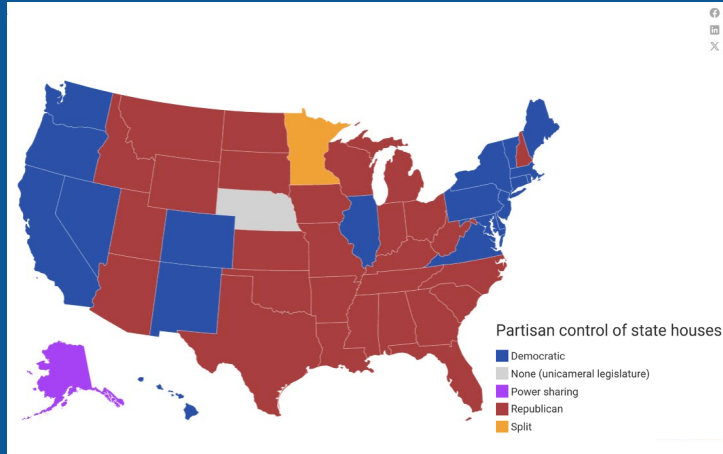
State Legislature Landscape

State Legislatures



(Source: [Ballotpedia](#))

State Legislatures



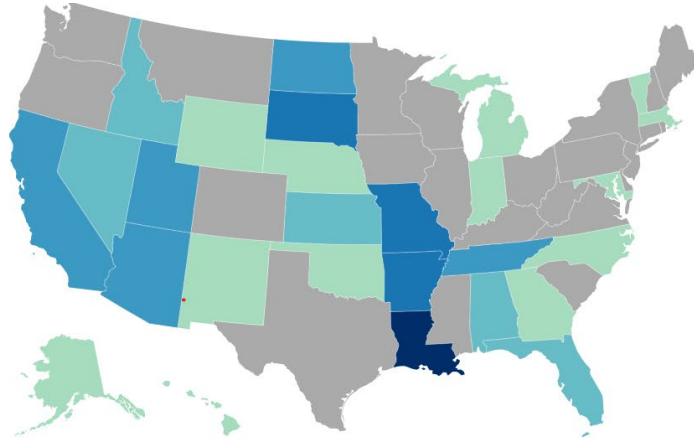
(Source: [Ballotpedia](#))

Ballot Initiatives Overview

States with statewide ballot measures in 2026

The map below shows the number of statewide ballot measures certified in each state, ranging from zero to six.

Click [here](#) to see the number of statewide ballot measures certified in 2025.



As of October 2, 2025
Source: Ballotpedia

BALLOTPEDIA

[Ballotpedia.org](https://www.ballotpedia.org)

Election Year Advocacy Considerations

- Mid-Cycle Redistricting
 - Expect these during regular sessions (IN, FL, KS, VA, MD)
- New Governors & Secretary of States
 - Effects on executive branch policy
 - Effects on future democracy and election work
- Ballot Initiatives
 - Signature Campaigns
 - Vote Yes/No
- Special/Veto Sessions
 - Strategy for forcing legislation

Strategy and Prep

- SWOT Analysis of your League and state's legislative landscape
 - What are your League's current strengths? What weaknesses do you have?
 - What opportunities exist in your legislative or executive branches?
 - What poses a threat to your work and ability to advocate?
- Pre-filed bills
 - An opportunity to get ahead of the session
- Outline your legislative and advocacy priorities
 - Keep your priorities targeted and proportional to your capacity

Outlining Advocacy Plan

Goal Planning

What is my goal?

- What are your organizational priorities?
- What is getting in the way of achieving them?
- Who can help me overcome those challenges?
- What does success look like?

Action Planning

How do I get [party] to take [specific action] by [timeline]?

- What audiences am I talking to? Who is listening?
- Where + how am I relaying our message?
- Who am I mobilizing and how?

Executive and Regulatory Advocacy



- Alternative mode of advocacy when legislative environment is especially challenging
- An area of advocacy where laws are executed and implemented
- Opportunity to comment on proposed rulemaking, influence regulation development, and advising on executive order implementation

DEI & Other Advocacy Considerations

- Harm to Specific Groups of Voters
 - Did you consider the impact on X group?
 - Did you know the law in X state had X impact on X voters?
 - How do you plan to lessen the harm on X voters caused by this bill?
- Legislators' Justification for the Bill
 - What specific problem is the bill trying to solve? Examples of this problem?
 - How will this law fix the problem?
- Take lead from partners and affected community members
- Rally and lean on your allies



Advocacy Action Kits

Action Kits Overview

- What are they?
 - Templates
 - 1-pagers
 - FAQs
 - Messaging Guidance
- How should they be used?
 - To support Leagues' actions
 - Primarily for state Leagues' use

Action Kits / October 24, 2025

ADVOCACY ACTION KITS

This page is your one-stop-shop for tools and resources--including templates, messaging guidance, and background materials--to support Leagues' action on various pressing advocacy issues.

Action Kits Overview



- Available Actionkits
 - Documentary Proof of Citizenship (DPOC)
 - 2030 Census Engagement
 - Direct Democracy
 - Federalization of National Guard
 - Mid-Cycle Redistricting
- Forthcoming:
 - Immigration, Reproductive Rights, and LGBTQIA+ Rights
- What topics will be covered in the future?
 - State VRAs
 - Democracy Restoration for Returning Citizens
 - Disability Assistance in Voting
 - Absentee/Mail-in Voting
 - Voter ID

Action Kits Overview

- Upcoming Action Kits Webinar (Dec 11th, 2025)
- Feedback + Suggestions
 - Please fill out [this form](#) to give suggestions and feedback



LWVUS Resources Overview

LWVUS Advocacy Materials + Support

Materials

- [Legislative Trends 2025](#)
- [Unite & Rise 8.5 Playbooks](#)
- [Advocacy 101 Modules](#)
- [Action Kits](#)

Support Services

- Legislative Office Hours
- Bill Tracking Support
- [Impact on Issues](#) position interpretation
- Advocacy strategy development support

LWVUS Advocacy Webinars

Evergreen Webinars

- [Executive and Regulatory Advocacy Webinar](#) (2024)
- [Urgent Issues: An Overview Webinar](#) (2024)
- [Fighting Voter Suppression Bills: Going on the Record](#) (2023)
- [Power Mapping](#) (2025)
- [Applying a DEI Lens to Our Work](#) (2023)
- [League Positions and how You Can Use Them!](#) (2025)
- [Running an Effective Lobby Day](#) (2024)
- All recordings, slides, and related materials available on LMS [here!](#)

LWVUS Litigation Resources

Services + Guides

- [Legal Center](#)
- [Litigation Office Hours](#)
- [Guidance for Leagues Considering Litigation](#)
- [What to Expect When You're Expecting Litigation](#)

Webinars

- [Records Requests with American Oversight](#)
- [Best Practices for Recordkeeping](#)
- What to Expect When You're Expecting Litigation [Pt. I](#) & [II](#) (Slides only)

Webinars / April 20, 2023

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE HOURS

The League is proud to open our virtual offices and listen to/support states legislative work. These office hours will be hosted every second and fourth Thursday of every month, from 3-4pm EST.

The League of Women Voters

LEGAL CENTER

Litigation empowers our fight for the issues that matter most to communities: protecting the right to vote, promoting fair and accessible elections, ending big-money corruption, and reinforcing the dignity that people across the country deserve.

Contact our Advocacy, Litigation, and Mobilization teams!

- advocacy@lww.org
- litigation@lww.org
- organizing@lww.org

League In Action During the Legislative Session

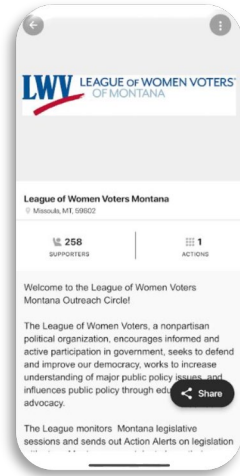
League In Action

The official LWV digital organizing platform that enables Leagues to build a digital community regardless of LWV membership.

LIA supporters can not only take action to empower voters and defend democracy but also share and invite their network into LWV's mission.



LWV Highlight: LWV Montana



Goal: To increase their impact during Montana's short and fast-paced Legislative session

Used OutreachCircle to:

- Provide updates to LWV membership
- Legislative updates with a set of actions for each supporter
- Build a Rapid Response LWV Muscle by being able to provide real-time updates on important legislation
- Added an OutreachCircle action at the end of their monthly League meeting to increase advocacy actions

LWV Highlight: LWV Kentucky

Goal: *To Increase Lobby Day participation to leverage the League's people power*

Used LIA for in-person attendees by:

- Provided logistical information (parking, directions, meeting room/location, schedule, etc.)
- Attendance check-in
- Push notifications for the start of events (press conference, etc.) conferences
- Lobby Day attendees were able to submit debrief/meeting notes after they met with legislators and staff
- Provide direct feedback on Lobby Day

Used LIA for virtual attendees by:

- Directly linked to education resources that the League has already created on the legislation they were following
- Click to call action allowing virtual attendees to call their legislators (same with email)
- Directly linked to key committee's live streams that members should tune into
- Ready to share messages to friends and family on why LWV was at the capitol

Hello
Luana



Actions you can take ...



League of Women Voters US (TEST)

8/2/2023

Volunteer Check-In ✓

Thank you for joining us to register voters.

Check-In Below to Get Started

Don't forget to pick up your name badge on the 2nd floor.



I am here



Explore



Contacts



Actions



Impact



Account

League In Action Resources/Support

- Biweekly Office Hours with LWVUS Organizing Team (*every other Wednesday at 1 pm ET*)
 - [Register here.](#)
- Monthly League in Action Admin Training (*first Tuesday of the month at 4:00 pm ET*)
 - [Register here.](#)
- Organizing Skill Training (*By Request*)
- LIA toolkits and graphics

Email organizing@lww.org with any questions or for more information

Webinars / March 3, 2025

LWVUS POLICY, ADVOCACY, AND LITIGATION WEBINAR BRIEFINGS

This is your one-stop shop to register and find resources from upcoming and past LWVUS policy and advocacy webinars.

Upcoming Programming & Reminders

- [Sign up](#) for the League Update!
- Session 1 Program Planning: Choosing LWVUS Program 2026 – 2028, **Wed 11/19 6pm ET**
 - [Register here!](#)
- 2025 Federal Advocacy Wrap, **Thurs 11/20 3pm ET**
 - [Register here!](#)
- Playbook 3 Tuesday Trainings **Tue 11/18 3pm ET** : Laying the Groundwork: Building Sustainable Partnerships
 - [Register Here](#)

POLL!

Do you feel more prepared to tackle your state's upcoming legislative session?

Q+A