



ELECTION REFORM LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2008

League Of Women Voters Of New Mexico

*The League of Women Voters believes that voting
is a fundamental citizen right that must be guaranteed.*

Voting Systems: The League of Women Voters of New Mexico supports the establishment of procedures to guarantee the integrity of all statutory methods of voting in New Mexico. Standards to ensure low error rates must be in place and must be supported both by pre-election testing and by post-election audits of voting systems.

Voter Identification: The League supports efforts to increase voter participation, and opposes all legislation making it harder for citizens to exercise their right to vote. The League believes that an improved centralized voter registration system and cooperation by all in the transfer of information is the best way to address the fear of voter fraud.

The League of Women Voters opposes any voting requirement that discriminates or potentially discriminates against any group. The extension of voter identification requirements beyond the current HAVA mandates would disproportionately impact the elderly, minorities and low-income citizens, discourage voters and depress voter turnout. The League supports the repeal of the provision passed in 2007 that substituted a multi-digit randomly generated “unique identifier” for HAVA identification.

Statewide Standards: The League supports statewide uniformity in the conduct of all elections. The League supports uniform standards for issuing, processing and counting provisional ballots, clearly stated and uniformly applied. Provisional ballots should be counted for all races for which each voter is eligible. The state should establish a procedure by which a voter can learn whether or not his provisional ballot has been counted together with an appeal process.

Funding: The League supports funding of both the State Bureau of Elections and the election process in each county to meet the requirements of the laws and to serve the needs of the voters, in order to ensure that elections are conducted accurately, fairly, and efficiently.

Same Day Voter Registration: The League of Women Voters supports permitting same-day voter registration as a complement to current voter registration efforts. Same-day Voter Registration will require a larger, better trained and more diverse election workforce. The League supports increased efforts to develop such a workforce and a uniform poll worker training system.

Contact Information:

Katherine Campbell (505) 662-3913
Josephine Porter (505) 858-3160

ksmithcamp@cybermesa.com
joporter@nmia.com