



Legislative Priorities for Elections & Voter Rights 2015

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO

The League believes that voting is a fundamental right of citizens that must be guaranteed. LWVNM supports methods and policies that ensure election integrity.

Voter Identification: The League of Women Voters opposes implementation of voter identification requirements beyond the Help America Vote Act mandates and current state law. Mandatory photo voter ID requirements would disproportionately impact the elderly, disabled, minorities, and low-income citizens, be costly to implement, add substantial new burdens on election administrators and poll workers, and depress voter turnout. The League believes that New Mexico's current voter ID requirements adequately protect the integrity of our vote.

In the 2015 Legislative Session, LWVNM opposes:

HB 61	Rep. James Smith	Voter Verification Procedures
HB 340	Rep. Cathrynn Brown	Change Certain Voter ID Requirements
SM 11	Sen. William Payne	Study Biometric Voter ID

The League supports fair and clean elections with easy voter access to the polls and measures to improve election accountability and transparency.

The League supports severe criminal penalties for false and fraudulent voting.

The League of Women Voters supports legislation that assures citizens that people in public office or aspiring for public office act in the interest of the common good. It promotes accountability in campaign financing and eschews the influence of big money in politics.

The League supports expanding New Mexico's Campaign Reporting Act (CRA) to require disclosures from individuals and groups engaging in political advocacy independent of the candidate, in order to close the "independent expenditure" loophole in the current law.

The League supports updating New Mexico's public campaign finance law to comply with the US Supreme Court decision that ruled matching funds and "seed" money provisions to be unconstitutional.

In the 2015 Legislative Session, LWVNM supports:

SB 58	Sen. Peter Wirth	Campaign Finance Reporting
SB 195	Sen. Daniel Ivey-Soto	Uniform Military & Overseas Voting Act
SB 289	Sen. Peter Wirth	Public Funding of Legislative Races
SB384	Sen. Peter Wirth	Campaign Finance Disclosure
SJR 1	Sen. Bill O'Neill	Independent Redistricting Commission
HB 62	Rep. James Smith	Voter Registration Info Verification
HB150	Rep. Jeff Steinborn	Voter Registration & Early Voting Sites
HB151	Rep. Jeff Steinborn	Primary Voting for Some 17 year olds
HB205	Rep. Miguel Garcia	Public Financing of Legislative Races
HB252	Rep. Jeff Steinborn	Post Secondary School Voter Registration
HB257	Rep. Miguel Garcia	Election Contributions by Certain Contractors

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