

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MONMOUTH COUNTY (ILO) NONPARTISAN POLICY

(This policy should be reviewed annually by the ILO Board.)

Our purpose is to promote political responsibility through informed and active citizen participation in government. We believe that good government depends upon an informed and effective electorate. The League is nonpartisan; it neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate. HOWEVER, it does take action in supporting or opposing governmental issues on which it has a position derived from membership consensus following impartial study of the facts.

In addition to the bylaws of LWVNJ and LWVUS, the LWV of Monmouth County adheres to the following policies:

- 1 Partisan Elective Office No ILO board member may run for or hold any public partisan elective office. She, or he, shall formally resign from their board at the time of filing **papers and make a public announcement of the resignation in the newspaper**. At least 3 months shall elapse from the time of partisan activity before a member may be appointed to the ILO board.
- 2 Nonpartisan Elective Office ILO board members may run for and hold office in any nonpartisan election with the exception of key board members; president, public relations director, voter service director, and county government program director. When a member of the ILO board is running for a local office, the ILO president may consult with the local League president to determine if there is a possible conflict of which the ILO board and board member is unaware.
- 3 Non-elective office, boards, and commissions
  - (a) ILO board members may accept appointment to a non-elective, nonpartisan office, board, or commission.
  - (b) ILO board members may accept a position as a representative of the LWV, providing there is no conflict of interest between the office and any LWV position.
- 4 Political clubs ILO board members may not serve in key positions in political clubs.
- 5 Contributions ILO board members may make contributions below the reporting level to a political party or candidate.
- 6 Candidate coffees or parties ILO board members may attend, but not host, political coffees or parties held for the purpose of introducing a candidate(s). Key board members (see #2 above) shall exercise caution in attending such coffees or parties or in distributing campaign literature.

7 Candidate Petitions ILO board members may not circulate a petition for a partisan candidate. Signing of petitions is permitted, although board members shall exercise discretion in doing so.

8 Issue Petitions Although ILO board members with the exception of the president may sign petitions for specific issues contrary to League position, they shall exercise discretion in doing so.

9 Participation in the above items 1 through 8 by members holding off-board positions shall be reviewed on a case-by-case basis (Off-board chairpersons are non-voting members of the ILO board.)

In the event that the executive board is the body to give approval for reasons of timing, the executive board action should be approved in the regular way by the full ILO board at the next regular board meeting.

Approved, May 2009