

LWV OF
KENTUCKY

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Lobby Day
- Call to Action
- State-Administered Leagues
- Redistricting Report

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The Kentucky Voter



VOLUME 5 ISSUE 2

WINTER 2018

Join Us for Lobby Day!

We hope you will join us at our annual Lobby Day on Wednesday, February 14, 2018. We will meet in the Capitol Annex Cafeteria at 10am. Please feel free to stop by our table and pick up the latest information on bills we are following. This would also be a great time to visit your elected officials.

At 12 noon we will all meet in room 125 of the Capital Annex. From 12:15 to 12:30 p.m. Jared Smith will answer questions regarding lobbyists and lobbying. We have also invited the American Association of University Women to attend.

From 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. we have invited the following legislative members to stop by and say a few words about a bill they are particularly interested in or just to chat with us about the legislative session: Rep. Daryl Owens, Rep. Jim Owens, Sen. Reggie Thomas, Sen. Alice Forgy Kerr, Rep. Robert Bevenuti and Sen. Whitney Westerfield. Their presence will depend on commitments and committee meetings. Please invite your elected representative to come by and talk with us. (We will have a volunteer at a sign in table so we know they are present).

At 1:00 p.m. we will hold a press conference releasing our report on redistricting.

We have the room reserved from 12 to 2 p.m. The House and Senate convene at 2 p.m. If you would like tickets to either session, please let Terry know so reservations can be made.

Please let us know if you are planning to attend. We look forward to seeing you all there!!!

Nita H. Smith
859-948-4541

Terry Naydan
859-971-7227



Nita Smith & Terry Naydan, our legislative liaisons in Frankfort

President's Message

By **BONNIE LYNCH**

Greeting League Members,



**President, Wanda
"Bonnie" Lynch**

I hope everyone had a wonderful, relaxed, holiday vacation and you are now ready to get back to work.

Our legislative "Duo", Terry and Nita, are on the job in Frankfort and have selected February 14th as our LWV Lobby Day. Terry and Nita have reserved room 125 at the Capitol at 12:00 noon on the 14th. On that day the Redistricting Committee will also host a press conference to reveal the results of their study. It is Fabulous! Please invite your elected officials.

Cindy, Susan, and committee members have completed an informative and accurate study we can all be proud of. I invite all members, friends, legislators, and husbands to attend. If there are League members who need a ride to Frankfort that day, please let me know.

Every committee has been working – Education, Membership, Environment, Health Care, Candidate's Training, Voter Suppression, and Money in Politics. Thank you all.

We need every LWV member to work to TURN the light of Truth on issues our Commonwealth faces now.

I hope to see everyone in Frankfort in February.

State-Administered Local Leagues

The state LWV Board is moving forward to develop a new process for creating local Leagues following an effort at the national level to make it easier to engage more people in League activities. We are willing to support small groups of state members in new State-Administered Leagues (SALs) in carrying out League activities such as candidate forums, voter registration and convening meetings around important topics in their communities. Members of SALs would be supported/mentored by a liaison from the state board or membership committee. The state board would handle administrative duties such as dues collection, membership rosters, and funds. The board has some funds available to support these local groups. Each new group would need to have a chair and at least three (3) paid state members and would be asked to sign a Memorandum of Agreement to assure they are non-partisan and follow League policies and procedures. Watch for more details and proposed changes in our bylaws at our Council meeting this spring. If you know anyone who might be interested, please contact us with names and phone numbers or give them our contact information.

Cindy Heine, Membership Committee Chair,
cynthia.heine@gmail.com, 859-351-9419



Kentucky Call to Action:

Oppose Tax Credits for Private Schools - SB 36 and HB 134

Senate Bill 36 and HB 134 would provide income tax credits for tuition assistance based on contributions made to a qualified scholarship-granting organization. Kentucky cannot afford to give away additional tax credits when we have a budget shortfall and an underfunded pension system! It is estimated to deplete \$25 million from the general fund the first year and \$76 million by year 5. That is money we won't have for schools, roads, police and other things funded from the general budget.

SB 36 may be heard in Committee soon! Call the KY legislative comment line 1-800-372-7181 today and leave a message for the senate and house education committees as well as for your senator and representative. Ask them to Vote NO on SB36 and HB 134.

League Participation in the Women's March

As the one-year anniversary of the Women's March approaches the organizers are again arranging events across the country in which Leagues may choose to participate. Please refer to the [Criteria for League Participation in Marches & Events](#) on the LWV US website (search in League Management) if you have questions about participating on the local level. From what we have seen in regard to local marches so far, the Women's March would fall into the second level of engagement, with LWV US not coordinating but local and state Leagues welcome to participate in events coordinated by others.

If you go—send your photos and reports (kentuckylwv@gmail.com) and mention the League in tweets [@lwvky](#).

Ky Legislative Lines

To leave a message for your state representatives, check bill status and daily calendars call:

Legislative Message Line	(800) 372-7178
Bill Status Line	(866) 840-2835
Calendar (Meetings) Line	(800) 633-9650
TTY Message Line	(800) 896-0305
En español	(866) 840-6574

These toll-free numbers work only in Kentucky



Redistricting/Gerrymandering

The state LWV Redistricting Committee will release a report on February 14, beginning the process of raising awareness of the need to monitor redistricting in Kentucky. We will advocate for an independent commission and a more transparent process. Kentucky will redistrict state and federal House and Senate districts after the 2020 Census data has been released. The Committee wants to prevent gerrymandering such as that experienced in Wisconsin, North Carolina and Maryland. Watch for a link to the report, along with resources on the topic on our website on February 14.

Nita Smith and Steve Senft



League of Women Voters of Kentucky

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Thanks to Lauren Wallace for helping with this edition.



Calendar

- Feb. 14:** Lobby Day at the Capitol - 10:00am
- Sat. Feb 17:** State LWV Board Meeting, Elizabethtown, 10:00-noon
- Fri-Sat, April 13-14:** State Convention, Lexington
- June 28-July 1:** LWV US 2018 Convention, Chicago