

The League of Women Voters of Canton Non-Partisan Policy

The League of Women Voters of Canton, Connecticut may take action that is aligned with League of Women Voters positions on governmental measures and policies, but it shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

Recognizing that the League experience uniquely equips members for public life and wishing to encourage members to utilize their knowledge and abilities, non-board members are urged to participate fully in party activities (on an individual basis). Board members' activities must be limited to preserve the League's nonpartisan status.

The president, the voters' service director, and any other board member whose position is deemed sensitive shall not run for or hold elective office. If a board member declares for an elective office, the member should resign from the board. Public notices released by the League announcing the resignation of a board member to run for such an office should be carefully worded to avoid the appearance of endorsing the resigning board member's candidacy.

Board members shall not undertake any action that will cause them to be identified publicly as supporting any candidate for office or any political party. The president, voter service director and holder of any other board position deemed sensitive shall not participate in any political campaign in any way, including displaying lawn signs for candidates.

All board members should use discretion in attending political fundraising events, making political contributions, or making political endorsement. Board members other than the president, voter service director or holder of any other board position deemed sensitive (hereinafter called: other board members) may attend political fundraising events, but not host them. Other board members may make campaign contributions and contributions to town committees or state or national party coffers. Other board members shall not chair or administer fundraising or political campaigns, chair campaign events, or work in a significant way in the campaign of a candidate.

Other board members may serve on town committees, the state central committee, or national committee of any party, but may not be chair. Board members may hold appointed or elected positions on national, state, and local boards and commissions where there is no conflict of interest with league positions or programs. Board members are requested to consult with the Board when considering accepting a position which may pose a potential conflict.

A board member may serve on any public board, commission, committee, or coalition; however, that board member does not represent the League unless officially designated as a League representative by the League board. If the LWV of Canton is asked to make recommendations for appointment to an office, it may recommend only individuals who are members of the Canton LWV.

A board member may not speak or in any way work against a League position.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the board member.

Revised January 2009