



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF FLORIDA EDUCATION FUND

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LEAGUE OUTLINES FOUR WAYS TO VOTE, PROVIDES TIPS, IMPORTANT DATES FOR VOTERS

Tallahassee, FL--With election laws having changed in Florida, voters--even those who have been voting for decades--have questions about the balloting process that is **already under way** and concludes on Election Day, November 6.

That's why the League of Women Voters of Florida has compiled a list of tips to help ensure that all voters have a successful and convenient experience as they exercise their right to vote.

The most important first step is to double-check and update registration. This is important, not only for those who may have moved or had a name change, but for all voters. The League's website, BeReadytoVote.org, makes it easy to verify and update information. Having current information in the records means voters can avoid the possibility of having to use a provisional, rather than a standard ballot. Registration can be updated until November 3.

Voters should also know and take advantage of the fact that there are four ways to vote:

1. You may receive your ballot and vote any time **starting right now** at your county supervisor of elections office.
2. You can vote early (starting October 27 and ending November 3). Check BeReadytoVote.org or your local supervisor of elections office for locations and schedules.
3. You can vote by mail (also known as absentee ballot and available to all Florida voters). You have until October 31 to request a mail-in ballot to be sent to your home. After that date, you can visit your supervisor of elections office to pick up an absentee ballot.
4. You can cast your ballot the traditional way on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6.

Noting that this year's ballot is exceptionally long and complex, featuring 11 constitutional amendments with extensive explanatory text, along with local initiatives in many counties, League President Deirdre Macnab advises voters to prepare in advance, "Many local races--along with items like charter amendments and tax questions--are listed after the state amendments, and it's important that voters preview their ballots completely, page by page, item by item, taking all the time they need to study and make their decisions. BeReadytoVote.org provides a vast array of information to help citizens cast an informed vote."

If you choose the convenient and increasingly popular vote-by-mail option, one call to your local supervisor of elections is all it takes to order your ballot.

The League offers some advice for those who choose this option. Be sure to follow all directions, paying special attention to signing the back of the envelope. Also, be sure you have the right amount of postage on your return envelope. Postage differs from county to county, depending on the length of the ballot, and the League's website, <http://www.bereadytovote.org/voter.php>, provides statewide information to ensure correct return postage.

All mail-in ballots must be received by 7:00 p.m. on Election Night. Postmarks don't count. The League notes that if you change your mind about voting absentee, you can take your ballot to any early voting site and vote in person instead. If you prefer, you can deliver your ballot in person to your supervisor of elections office rather than sending it by mail.

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The League of Women Voters of Florida, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, please visit the League's website at: www.TheFloridaVoter.org.