

LWVF/LWVFEF Governance

Last Updated in November 2013

Nonpartisan Political Activity Policy

League board members' experience equips them for public life—both for elective and appointive office in government and for responsible positions in the private sector. The external contacts, skills and experience that leaders bring to the League, in turn, benefit and enrich the League as an organization.

The LWVF/LWVFEF board believes that board members should not only be allowed, but also encouraged, to seek and accept non-League positions that confer these mutual benefits. At the same time, the board recognizes the necessity of imposing a few basic limitations on board members' political activity in order to protect the nonpartisan reputation of the League.

With this objective in mind, the LWVF/LWVFEF board adopts the following guidelines.

1. ***Elected Office.*** The President, Voter Service Chair, and Action Chair shall not run for, nor hold, any elective office. Other board members shall not run for, nor hold, state elective office but may run for federal and local office, regardless of party designation, *after* consultation with the LWVF/LWVFEF board and with the president of the affected local League. League members shall be considered candidates upon establishing campaign accounts.
2. ***Political Party Office.*** No member of the board shall serve in any elected position in a political party.
3. ***Campaign Contributions.*** The President, Voter Service Chair, and Action Chair may not attend fundraising events or make campaign contributions for candidates. Other board members may attend fundraising events and make campaign contributions for candidates at any level.
4. ***Political Campaigns.*** The President, Voter Service Chair, and Action Chair shall not chair or administer fundraising or political campaigns, chair a campaign event or work in a significant way in the campaign of a candidate for office at any level. Other board members may not undertake such activities for candidates for state office but may do so for candidates for federal or local office *after* consultation with the president of the affected local League.
5. ***Additional Clarification.*** Board members shall present questions about specific situations to the LWVF/LWVFEF board where the foregoing policies do not resolve the question. This policy shall be reviewed and readopted by the LWVF/LWVFEF board at the beginning of each new biennium.