



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF FLORIDA

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Contact:
Deirdre Macnab
407-415-4559
League of Women Voters of Florida
floridaleague@earthlink.net

League of Women Voters Responds to Florida's Slide from 16th to 28th in Pew's Elections Performance Index

Tallahassee, Fla. -- Today, Pew Charitable Trusts released its annual index of voting accessibility, comparing how states across the nation perform in terms of ensuring a convenient voting experience for their citizens. The report did not contain good news for Florida, which slid from 16th in the nation in 2008 to 28th place today.

In particular, Florida was penalized for the length of its average wait-time for voters in 2012 -- one of the country's longest at 45 minutes. When compared to another large state, California, which had an average wait time of just under 6 minutes, it's clear that Florida still has some work to do.

One bright spot was Florida's top ranking in the area of the accuracy of its voter registration database, which received a score of 100%. League of Women Voters of Florida president Deirdre Macnab said, "Credit has to go to our 67 elected Supervisors of Elections whose work everyday ensured the integrity of our voter database. This result underscores the pointlessness of the Secretary's repeated efforts to purge already accurate voter files. Now it is time to focus on what can be done to get more Florida voters to the polls with minimal waiting."

One solution offered by the League of Women Voters of Florida is to follow the lead of 20 other states by moving forward with online voter registration (OVR), which is convenient for voters and cost-effective for state and local governments. One state that implemented OVR in 2002, Arizona, has reported significant savings, going from a processing cost of \$.83 for paper-based registrations to a mere \$.03 for online registrations.* OVR can also help improve the accuracy of voter information by reducing the likelihood of human error and making it easier for citizens to keep their registration information accurate and up-to-date.

*Source: [National Conference of State Legislatures](#)

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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.