



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF FLORIDA

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### **LWVF Stands Opposed to Charter School Amendment**

**Tallahassee, Fla. --** US Senator **Bill Nelson** applauded the League of Women Voters of Florida's efforts Wednesday morning on the steps of the Historic Capitol. Senator Nelson praised the League from their beginnings during the suffrage movement, to advocating for more ease of access to voting, to fighting restrictions on early voting in previous years by the Legislature. He also took the opportunity to compliment the League's redistricting efforts, making the voting process more fair and representative.

"If anyone should know how important the right to vote is, it should be the women of America, as they were given the right to vote not one century ago," said Senator Nelson.

Following Senator Nelson's remarks, LWVF President **Pamela Goodman** spoke about pending education legislation. "Senator Nelson went to the University of Virginia, which was founded by Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson believed that the key to a successful society was a public education. Unfortunately, the 2016 Session is a continuation of the decade-long attack on public education, but the most egregious affront is HJR 759."

The League was joined by partner organizations advocating against this harmful legislation.

"This proposal isn't about students. It isn't about parents. It is about 'for profit' charter school management companies that want to make money off of our children," said **Lynda Russell** of the Florida Education Association.

**Angie Gallo** of the Florida Parent Teacher Association also stood with the LWVF in opposing this legislation, saying, "The Florida PTA urges the Legislature to fully fund education, and not divert money from divert schools. We believe districts should have a say in the establishment of charter schools, and that those charter schools should be held to the same accountability standards as public schools."

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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](http://www.TheFloridaVoter.org).