



Welcome back to the League of Women Voters of New Jersey's
Advocacy Newsletter!

ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES

Rally for the NJ Values Act!

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey will join the New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice and partners in **Trenton at 11:30am on Thursday, May 18th** to call on the legislature to pass the Values Act. **Please join us!**

It is past time to protect immigrants' rights. The Values Act builds a more welcoming New Jersey by establishing critical protections that would allow immigrant community members to access the programs and services they need without fear of involvement from federal immigration authorities.

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023

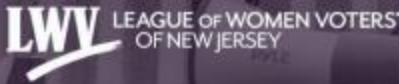
Time: 11:30am

Location: New Jersey State House
(125 W State St, Trenton, NJ 08608)

**Join us at the State House and
make your voice heard.**



Grassroots Organizing Program



DEMOCRACY ORGANIZER PROGRAM

Building a People-Powered Movement for a New Democracy

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey recently announced the launch of the [Democracy Organizer Program](#)!

The Democracy Organizer Program is a six-month training and volunteer experience that will empower new and emerging leaders to mobilize their communities. **The program runs from July 2023 – December 2023.**

Democracy Organizers will work alongside New Jersey communities to build grassroots power in the fight for a more inclusive and accessible democracy. This is a great opportunity for activists looking for meaningful and impactful volunteer experience while building skills, acquiring professional training, meeting new people and growing a powerful network.

You can learn more and apply at lwvnj.org/democracyorganizers. **The deadline to apply is Monday, June 5, 2023, 11:59PM.**

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

Use Your Power: Join the Lobby Corps!

Use Your Power: Join LWVNJ's Grassroots Lobby Corps!

Ready to make your voice heard in Trenton?

Join the League's Lobby Corps to fight back against attempts to weaken democracy and advocate for laws that empower voters!

What will you do as a Lobby Corps Member?

- Learn how laws are made
- Learn grassroots lobbying strategies
- Advocate on issues you care about
- Form relationships with your state legislators
- Make a difference in your community!

Join Us: bit.ly/LWVNLobbyCorps



JOIN THE LOBBY CORPS

Upcoming Lobby Corps Trainings

District Captain Training

Thursday, May 18 at 6PM – 7:30PM

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/districtcaptain>

Lobby Corps District Captains help strengthen the League's advocacy efforts by recruiting and coordinating Lobby Corps Members in their legislative district, tracking relationships with lawmakers, and identifying constituents to participate in lobbying meetings.

All members interested in volunteering as a District Captain are encouraged to join this training to learn more about and prepare for this role.

Volunteer Lobbyist Training

Thursday, June 22 at 6PM – 7:30PM

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/lwvlobbyist>

Volunteer Lobbyists help craft and advance a legislative agenda in partnership with LWVNJ's Policy Committees. The Lobbyists ensure that the League is powerfully advocating on the positions that we hold, building a presence in Trenton, and developing relationships with lawmakers.

All members interested in participating as a Volunteer Lobbyist are encouraged to join this training to learn more about and prepare for this role.

Lobby Corps Briefing & Advocacy Prep: Same-Day Voter Registration

Tuesday, June 27th at 6PM – 7PM

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/sdrlobbytraining>

This is an issue briefing intended for members of the LWVNJ Lobby Corps. Member will get background information on what Same-Day Voter Registration is, pending legislation, and why the League is advocating for it.

Attendees will also learn how they can lobby for Same-Day Voter Registration in their legislative district, including scheduling a meeting with the state lawmakers. **Attendees should be prepared to participate in a short role-playing exercise.**

Same-Day Voter Registration



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

COMMUNITY CANVASS

FOR SAME-DAY VOTER REGISTRATION

SIGN UP: bit.ly/canvasswoodbridge

Wednesday, June 21st @ 10:00AM-12:00PM
Woodbridge, NJ



#DemocracyInADay

The Democracy in a Day Coalition will be hitting the streets in neighborhoods around the state to talk to our neighbors about Same-Day Voter Registration and expanding voting rights in NJ! [Can you join us?](#)

Our next democracy canvass is on **Wednesday, June 21st from 10AM-12PM in Woodbridge**, New Jersey. The exact location will be provided upon sign-up.

No experience is necessary. Training and materials will be provided to all volunteers at the start of each shift.

Help strengthen democracy in New Jersey: [sign up for a canvassing shift!](#)

SIGN UP TO CANVASS



ADVOCACY TRAINING

Learn how you can meet with your state legislators to advocate for Same-Day Voter Registration!

Thursday, May 24th @ 6:00PM-7:00PM
On Zoom

RSVP: bit.ly/sdrlobbytraining



#DemocracyInADay

Join us for an advocacy training on **Thursday, May 24th at 6:00PM** to learn how to schedule a meeting with your state legislators to advocate for Same-Day Voter Registration!

Meeting with legislators is one of the most effective ways you can organize for stronger voting rights! When legislators meet with constituents, they learn what issues matter most in their district and share their own views with the public.

Attendees will get the tools they need to meet with their legislators and urge them to cosponsor A1966/S247.

REGISTER FOR TRAINING

STATE HOUSE LOBBY DAY

State House Lobby Day: May 25th

Support for Fair Home Appraisals & Equitable Juries

LWVNJ will join advocates and leaders from across the state in Trenton on May 25th to urge lawmakers to pass the Fair Appraisals Bill (A1519/S777) to combat appraisal discrimination and A977/S3043 to allow people with criminal convictions to serve on juries.

It is time for New Jersey to create intentional policies to combat systemic discrimination, which has had devastating and disproportionate impacts on Black and other communities of color.

League members are encouraged to join us. If you are able to attend, please email Assatta Mann (amann@lwvnj.org) to let us know!

Members are invited to join us at the LWVNJ state office (204 W State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608) at 10:30am. We will walk over to the State House as a group. Parking is available at the LWVNJ state office.

Date: Thursday, May 25, 2023

Time: 11:00am – 1:00pm

Location: New Jersey State House (125 W State St, Trenton, NJ 08608)

Agenda:

- **10:30AM** – League members arrive at LWVNJ office (204 W State Street)
- **11AM** – Volunteer Check-in & Light Lunch (Committee Room 9, 3rd Floor, State House Annex)
- **11:30AM – 1PM** – Hallway Lobbying

Volunteer Virtual Training: Wednesday, May 17th at 2pm-3pm

Volunteers who want to lobby legislators will be provided with background information on the bills and guidance for outreach ahead of the Lobby Day. Attending the virtual training is highly encouraged.

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/VolunteerVirtualTraining>

Register for Volunteer Training

Pass a Local Resolution

Help the campaign for a NJ Green Amendment and the campaign for a NJ Reparations Task Force by organizing for a local resolution in your town or county!

New Jersey Green Amendment Local Resolution:

- [ACR72/SCR15](#) amends the NJ constitution granting everyone in the state the right to pure water, clean air, a stable climate & healthy environment.
- [Review this local resolutions toolkit](#) and email [Melissa Marks](#) for support passing a resolution in support of the NJ Green Amendment.

New Jersey Reparations Task Force Local Resolution:

- [A938/S386](#), would establish a New Jersey Reparations Task Force to examine the history of slavery and its aftermath and make policy recommendations to address New Jersey's racial inequities.
- [Review this local resolutions toolkit](#) and email [Assatta Mann](#) for support passing a resolution in support of the NJ Reparations Task Force.

UPDATES FROM TRENTON



Ending Gun Violence

The League's Democracy Policy Analyst, Philip Hensley, delivered remarks at a rally organized by March for Our Lives - NJ on the issues of **gun violence and police brutality**.

Budget Advocacy

League staff delivered testimony on the Governor's budget proposal, incorporating budget requests from numerous program committees and advancing League priorities, including a request for **\$20 million for voter education for the Division of Elections**.



Fighting for an Equitable Tax Code

The League joined with our For The Many coalition partners to lobby for an **equitable tax code** and against the proposed reduction in the Corporate Business Tax surcharge.

The League signed on to numerous joint letters and League staff participated in lobbying meetings with legislators and rallies in Newark.



Testimony on Election Bills

On behalf of the League, Philip Hensley testified in support of the following bills:

- **A5176:** A bill which would require consistent county and statewide reporting of unofficial elections results. This bill would bring **consistency and transparency to elections reporting**.
- **A5362:** A bill that would **increase funding for the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC)**.
- **A3690:** A bill that would **allow 17 year-olds to vote in party primaries**, if they would turn 18 by the date of the general election ("New Voter Empowerment Act").

Stay tuned for additional updates as these bills advance through the legislature.



Civic Health Month

The League also submitted testimony in support of SJR 100/AJR 196, **designating the month of August as “Civic Health Month”** in New Jersey, highlighting the connections between civic participation and health, especially the social determinants of health.

Environmental Justice

The League’s Natural Resources Committee submitted written comments in opposition to Competitive Power Venture's (CPV) proposal for a new **Keasbey Energy Center**.

Reproductive Equity

Jani Vinick, a member of the League's Women & Family Issues Committee, delivered testimony at the Assembly Women & Children Committee in support of A1349 the **Menstrual Equity Bill**. A1349 passed out of committee, and we look forward to continuing to advocate for the bill's passage.

Pictured: LWV NJ in Trenton, standing with others that testified in support of A1349, the Menstrual Equity Bill.



The League signed onto a THRIVE Coalition letter to Governor Murphy and NJ legislative leadership calling on the state to allocate state **funds to support abortion providers** and **expand coverage** for reproductive health care services, pass the **Reproductive Equity Act**, and **pass S3275/A4829**

Advocate Spotlight

Thank You Nishna Makala and LWV Livingston!



Many of the high school students who helped organize, spoke, or attended the Rally for Women's Rights.

Nishna, a LWV Livingston member, worked with students to organize a Rally for Women's Rights in March. The event featured many passionate student speakers and community leaders including Assemblyman John McKeon, Essex County Commissioner Patricia Sebold, Livingston Mayor Michael Viera,

representatives from Planned Parenthood, performances of "Lift Every Voice and Sing" and "You'll Never Walk Alone" by members of Livingston High School's Youth Chorus and more.

Congratulations on an amazing event!

LWVNJ State Convention

League of Women Voters of New Jersey

65th Biennial Convention

Team League: Moving Forward Together

Saturday, June 10, 2023 | 8:00AM - 4:00PM
Crowne Plaza Princeton Conference Center
900 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, NJ

Early Bird Registration Deadline: May 5th
Final Registration Deadline: May 19



The League of Women Voters of New Jersey will hold our 65th Biennial Convention on Saturday, June 10, 2023 from 8am - 4pm at the Crowne Plaza Princeton. The deadline to register is Friday, May 19, 2023.

Every two years, delegates from local Leagues come together to vote on the organization's program, state board members, bylaws, and the budget. Non-members and non-voting observers are also welcome to attend.

Find the full schedule, hotel information, and **register at** lwvnj.org/convention/2023.

REGISTER FOR CONVENTION

Help Us Continue to Advance this Work

We can't do this work without your help. [Please make a donation today](#) so that we can continue to push New Jersey forward.

DONATE \$20

DONATE \$50

DONATE \$100



DONATE

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