



League of Women Voters of New Mexico

POLICY ON ADVOCACY

(Adopted January 12, 2008)

A. Authorization

Board authorization is required for action at the state level.

The Action Committee is authorized to support or oppose proposed state legislation based upon established League positions. The Committee needs to keep the president fully informed.

If action is required between board meetings and without previous board guidance on a particular subject, consultation between the president, vice president, and appropriate board members is necessary and sufficient. Such action should be reported at the next board meeting.

B. Member Action

League members who lobby at the state legislature on behalf of the League of Women Voters of New Mexico must be authorized to do so by the president and the Action Chair. LWVNM lobbyists must register as state lobbyists with the NM Secretary of State. The president must sign the Authorization Form.

C. Local League Action

Any action by local Leagues at the State Legislature based on state or national positions must be done in cooperation with the Legislative Action Chair and Committee.

Local Leagues may lobby the state legislature on local or regional issues based on local positions after obtaining permission from the Action Chair and state President. Members who are lobbying only on local issues must register as lobbyist for their local Leagues. The local League president must sign the Authorization Form.

D. Individual Action

This policy is not intended to prevent League members from lobbying as an individual on any issue. However, League members will not identify themselves as representing the League or acting on League positions unless they have been authorized as above.

Members who are authorized League lobbyists or who are otherwise well known to legislators as LWV representatives should avoid lobbying on non-League issues.