



The Beach Voter

League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities

Serving El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Manhattan Beach & Redondo Beach

AN EVENING WITH CONGRESSMAN TED LIEU

On **February 1, 2018**, Beach Cities LWV will host **Congressman Ted Lieu**, our Representative from Congressional District 33. This meeting provides us with the opportunity to be informed about the work of Congress today.

The meeting will be held at **7:00 pm** at the **Hermosa Beach Community Theater, 710 Pier Avenue, Hermosa Beach.**

Congressman Lieu will discuss **immigration** and his presentation may also address **off-shore drilling, North Korea, Russian interference** in our elections, and **the Mueller investigation**. Congressman Lieu will welcome your questions.

SAVE THE DATES!!

We have exciting membership meetings to look forward to in the months ahead.

On **Thursday, March 15** Beach Cities will be hosting the *Somewhat Semi-Annual Tri-League Lasagna Dinner* at the Torrance Library Meeting Room. The time will be 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM. The cost will be \$25.00. We are planning a special program to go with the always delicious lasagnas (veggie and/or meat). Look for more information in our next issue of *The Beach Voter*.

On **Monday, April 23** from 7:00 PM—9:00 PM the LWV Beach Cities will again host a program (speakers to be announced) on the topic of Mental Health with emphasis on resources available in our area. The meeting will take place at the Toyota Meeting Hall in the Torrance Cultural Center. Resource tables will be available for a half hour before the program (at 6:30 pm) and a half hour after. For more information, contact Harriet Chase, (310)545-1026 , hzchase@roadrunner.com

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The League affirms our belief in our commitment to diversity and pluralism. There shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability. The League recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making.

The Beach Voter

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The League of Women Voters encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any person of voting age, male or female, may become a League member. The League does not endorse, support or oppose candidates or political parties.

To become a member: Send check in the amount of \$30.00 (first time members introductory rate) payable to "League of Women Voters Beach Cities" to Susan Grebe at 629 19th Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____

Interests _____

NEWS FROM LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CALIFORNIA

The State League is embarking on a new project called *Make it Fair*. The focus of this project is to change the way that businesses are assessed for property tax. Under current law corporations can go decades without getting an increase in their property taxes. This proposal would change Prop 13 for businesses only. This would *not* affect residential property tax. There will be a petition drive to get this measure, "*The California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act of 2018*" enacted.

Each League is asked to have one member be the point person for this project. If you would like to be this person, or are interested in learning more about it, please contact our president Barbara Arlow at gerbar92@msn.com or 310-379-6663.

VotersEdge TRAINING SESSIONS

An all day training session for VotersEdge volunteers will be held on Sunday, February 25 from 10AM to 4PM in West Covina. The training will cover all of the VotersEdge election processes, from contacting our Registrar of Voters for data to entering ballot measure information in the website, to how to increase candidate participation. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact Joan LeSage at sage.joan@gmail.com. The link to sign up for training is <https://goo.gl/forms/70zc6ppKrGv99oKB3>

WE NEED YOUR SUGGESTIONS

Do you have an idea for a local program that would be of interest to our League members? All members of the LWV Beach Cities are encouraged to suggest topics for local programs in areas of their interest. Recommendations may be sent to Jan Nathanson, rjnathanson@yahoo.com, (310) 643-6247 or to Diane Wallace, dmbarkwall@gmail.com, (310)546-1425.

MEMORIAL FUNDS

In memory of our sorely missed secretary and advocacy chairperson, Dr. Joan Arias, Beach Cities' Memorial Fund has donated \$400 to the UCLA Joan Arias Memorial Graduate Fund. The fund will provide support to UCLA graduate students studying in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, with a preference for those students wanting to study abroad.

Should you wish to contribute to this fund, please make your check payable to the UCLA Foundation, noting Joan Arias Memorial Graduate Fund 315420 on the memo line. Please mail your gift to the attention of Jeffrey P.S. King at UCLA College of Letters and Science, 1309 Murphy Hall, Box 951413, Los Angeles, CA 90095.

PROGRAM PLANNING AND HOLIDAY LUNCHEON REPORT

On Saturday, December 2, 2017, fourteen LWV Beach Cities members met at Henrietta Mosley's home to participate in program planning focusing on positions adopted at the national level of our organization, and to enjoy good conversation over a potluck lunch.

With the LWVUS Summary of Public Policy Positions (enclosed with the Nov-Dec Voter) in hand, and ably guided by our President Barbara Arlow, we engaged in a lively and insightful discussion of LWVUS positions, with particular attention to those listed under the general headings of REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT (Voting Rights, Election Process, Citizen Rights, Public Policy on Reproductive Choices, Congress and the Presidency) and SOCIAL POLICY (Federal Role in Public Education, Health Care, Meeting Basic Human Needs).

While we found that we were generally in agreement with retaining the positions as written, there was a consensus for making the following additions/revisions to three of the position statements, as follows:

Under REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT/Election Process—Money in Politics we would add to advocacy for combating “corruption and undue influence in government” a reference to “undue influence through social media and other communication methods (e.g. print and online).”

Under SOCIAL POLICY/Federal Role in Public Education we would add to “Support federal policies that provide an equitable, quality public education for all children pre-K through grade 12” a reference to supporting adult education.

Under SOCIAL POLICY/Meeting Basic Human Needs/Housing Supply, we would amend the reference to providing “a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family” by replacing “family” with “individual and families.”

It was also recommended that we add a note to our response to National to the effect that “Lobbyists should pursue legislation to hold all branches of government and staff accountable for predatory behavior.”

Unfortunately we did not get to all the Public Policy Positions and although there was a talk of a follow-up meeting we could not find a mutually convenient date in the busy holiday season that would allow us to get our report out to the National level in a timely manner.

After the discussion we gathered for our usual delicious holiday potluck lunch, with salads and hot dishes that, as usual, surpassed all expectations.

League of Women Voters of California Positions on June 2018 ballot measures

The LWVC board has taken final positions on the measures scheduled for the June ballot. We'll have a **The League Recommends** (a.k.a. Vote With the League) by early April. Meanwhile, here's a quick summary of the League position on each measure:

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reserve Fund (ACA 1)

This measure would add a requirement that two thirds of legislators approve the first appropriation of any money collected from the sale by CARB of Cap-and-Trade allowances. At a time that we need efficient and effective investments in climate change solutions, this requirement could lead to deadlocks, inefficiency, and poor decisions. **The LWVC opposes this measure.**

Motor Vehicle Fees and Taxes (ACA 5)

If passed, this measure would raise excise taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel, provides for regular increases to those taxes based on inflation, establishes a new fee on zero-emission vehicles, and raises vehicle registration fees. The new revenue from these taxes would be used for transportation-related purposes -- repairing streets and bridges, addressing deferred maintenance on highways and local roads, improving public transit, and investing in needed transportation infrastructure to benefit all Californians. The League supports measures to ensure adequate revenue to support needed services, including safe roads and good public transportation. **The LWVC supports this measure.**

Effective Date of Initiatives (ACA 17)

Currently, an initiative that is approved takes effect the day after the election unless the measure provides otherwise. Election results are not officially certified until five weeks after the election. While most election results are clear shortly after election day, that is not always the case. Prop cc would provide that an initiative would take effect 5 days after the Secretary of State certifies the election results. This is a common-sense measure, ensuring clarity about what is – and is not – California law. **The LWVC supports this measure.**

California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act (SB 5)

This measure would authorize California to issue general obligation bonds, with the money used to finance state and local parks, water conservation measures, water reliability to disadvantaged communities, and flood protection projects. California parks provide open space and recreation, improving health and community well-being. The water projects funded by this bond are forward thinking, and are a key part of our state response to climate change. **The LWVC supports this measure.**

How does the League make ballot measure endorsements?

We only take positions on ballot measures based on current policy [positions](#) and [League principles](#). Positions are developed based on grassroots member [study and consensus](#).

CALENDAR

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January 27 Saturday	9:30 AM- 1:00 PM	LWV Los Angeles County Winter League Day: Increasing Voter Participation	Rio Hondo Event Center 10627 Old River Road Downey 90241
February 1 Thursday	7:00 PM-9:30 PM	Membership Meeting: Immig- ration. Speaker: Congress- man Ted Lieu	Hermosa Bch Community Center 710 Pier Ave. (at PCH) Hermosa Beach 90254
February 12 Monday	7:00 PM-9:30 PM	Board Meeting	Home of Henrietta Mosley 436 First Street Manhattan Beach
March 15 Thursday	6:00 PM-8:30 PM	Tri-League Lasagna Dinner Speaker to be announced	Katy Geissert Civic Center Library 3301 Torrance Blvd. Torrance 90503
March 24 Saturday	TBD	LWV Los Angeles County Convention	Carson Community Center 801 East Carson Street Carson 90745



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