

March 24, 2026

LOBBY CALL

136th General Assembly 119th US Congress

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HOUSEKEEPING

- **Be present**
- **Be respectful**
- **Assume good intent**
- **Recognize that the materials, statements, and opinions are private to the organization and should not be shared without specific consent from the League or the speaker**
 - No party shall record, tape, or otherwise capture reproduce or broadcast any audio, video or digital content from this session without specific consent from the League of Women Voters of Ohio.



2026

**NATIONAL
CONVENTION**

women unite & rise

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS *of* THE UNITED STATES

**Columbus, Ohio
June 25-28, 2026**

National Convention Deadlines

- Registration and hotel bookings are now open. The early bird rate expires **March 31** and will not be extended.
- Learn about delegate representation.
- Breakout session/caucus applications are due **March 31**.
- The LWVUS Board is fundraising to support scholarships to the Convention. Applications for scholarships are due **March 31**. Leagues are also encouraged to engage in their own fundraising efforts using resources provided by LWVUS.
- The event website is the primary hub for registration, proposals, and other convention information.

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Program Planning 2026-2028

- Current LWVUS Positions can be found in [Impact on Issues](#)
- **Proposed Program Focus:** Women Defend Democracy: Democracy Under Siege: The campaign will focus on *Voting Rights, Election Protection, Redistricting, Individual Liberties, Immigration, and The Presidency.*
- **Proposed Concurrences:**
 - [LWV Washington Protecting Immigrant Rights](#)
 - [LWV Colorado Religions Freedom](#)
 - [LWV Port Washington-Manhasset Privatization Update](#)
- **Tips on Navigating the National Program** | [Recording Here](#) and [Slides Here](#)
- **Nuts and Bolts of Program Planning Meetings** | [Recording Here](#) (Passcode: Y4%GT597) and [Slides Here](#)

New LWV Resources & Events



- [Learning Center](#)
- March 24 3:30 PM ET: [Media Literacy Webinar](#)

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March



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

KEY (4 PILLARS)

- Legal & Policy Advocacy
- Civic Education & Engagement
- Public Mobilization & Coalition Building
- Democracy Resilience*
[Daily Democracy Practice](#)

Women's History Month

- 7 Anniversary of Bloody Sunday
- 8 International Women's Day
- 9-13 Civic Learning Week
- 26 Anniversary of SCOTUS Rucho arguments
- 31 International Transgender Day of Visibility

Participation: Powering the Base Together

Democracy thrives when we act together. Primaries begin this month, and we continue to deepen our partnerships and relationships to expand and energize our communities to vote, where appropriate, and lay the groundwork for midterms together. Eight months ahead of the November midterm election — and with several states holding primaries this month — we demonstrate that democracy is a collective responsibility and a shared act of hope.

- Organize a “Vote Together” event.** Coordinate carpools, walk-to-the-polls groups, or faith-based voting on Sundays.
- Host a “Family Voting Pledge” drive.** Encourage households to commit to voting together and share photos/stories.
- Utilize VOTE411 postcards** to mail voting reminders to family members who may live in other states.
- Host a “Monthly Friend Bank,”** engaging League members and partners to focus on the most important electoral aspects (e.g., register and/or check your registration, and/or learn early voting options and tips, and/or learn about the candidates and Election Day information).
- Create a “Community Polls Pack.”** Distribute flyers or social graphics with digital links to VOTE411’s polling place locator, early voting dates, and accessibility resources.

Current LWVUS Action Alerts



Take Action against anti-voter bills

TELL CONGRESS NO ON

- SAVE America Act
- MEGA Act

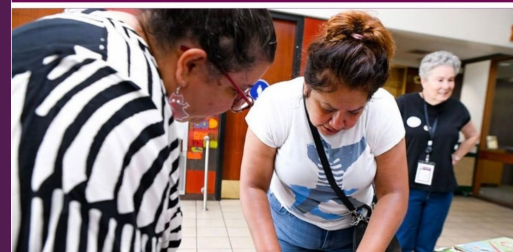
WAYS TO TAKE ACTION

- LWVUS Action [here](#)
- Go to your US House rep & Senators Moreno & Husted's website and email after choosing the 'Elections' topic: find sites [here](#)
- Congressional switchboard #: (202) 224-3121



**TELL CONGRESS
TO REJECT
THE SAVE &
MEGA ACTS!**

We don't need more barriers to voting



You can also help educate about these bills by sharing our explainers!

- SAVE America fact sheet [here](#) & SAVE Act explainer for social media [here](#) & [here](#)

One more thing...

LEAGUE IN ACTION

- Same “Tell Congress to reject the SAVE & MAGA Acts” action: lives in the app

Link [here](#)

- Help spread the facts about the SAVE Act: send the action to friends & family via text or email

Link [here](#)

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF OHIO

**HELP SPREAD
THE FACTS
ABOUT
THE SAVE ACT!**

Friends don't let friends be the last to know

- And [here's](#) our SAVE America Fact Sheet to share

Taking Time to Talk About Concurrence

**Religious Freedom
Concurrence Study**
to Be Sent Out
Beginning of April: You
Can Prepare Now

Methods for Adopting Positions

- **Study:** The process of researching and educating League members on an issue and then reaching consensus and arriving at a formal position. A means of agreement from consensus.
- **Concurrence:** Agreement of League members with stated position. A means of agreement different from consensus. Concurrence is also a means for convention delegates to move the adoption of a program item. May be used at LWVUS convention to adopt a local, state League or ILO position by vote of 2/3 delegates.

Response Form

Link:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsjp4dt58IjW3dqjVT1wh78de4TBLEyiVEvOWUaBGDkYGazA/viewform?usp=dialog>

Included are questions about type of meeting, number in attendance or responding via email, remarks or [pints you would like the committee to know and if you are voting to concur.

Decision One: Type of Meeting

Method used to reach concurrence

- Special Meeting
- Regularly scheduled meeting
- Annual meeting
- Board meeting
- Surveyed members after sending them the Study Document

Sharing the Meeting and Material

Facilitator/Discussion Leader: Keeps the meeting moving

Recorder/Note Taker: records important comments, concerns, thoughts, questions, minority views

Team Members; Take a research section to read and summarize

Can ask a study committee member to attend

Sections of Research

1. Religious Freedom and The US Constitution: History and Meaning of the Establishment Clause and the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment
2. Christian Nationalism and Challenges to the Constitution Early Challenges to the First Amendment
3. The Ohio Experience: Religion, Religious Freedom and Christian Nationalism
4. Recent Examples of Christian Nationalism in the Federal Government
5. The Impact of Religious Nationalism: Why This Study is Important to Ohio

Helpful Tips

Send document out to every member before the meeting.

Set time limits on discussion.

When there is consensus on a question, move on.

The questions are for an understanding of the issue and its history.

Much material is in the Appendices - this is detailed background in most cases.

What Will We Do with This Position

Talking points for different issues

Toolkit: history, important points, definitions, the players, etc.

Ability to advocate on local level as issues arise

LWVUS Convention

1. What about LWV Colorado's call for concurrence at Convention?

If we concur with the LWV Colorado position for our state, we will recommend supporting concurrence at the LWVUS level.

2. Why have an Ohio Position?

Adding this position to Agenda for Action allows us to have a stronger voice both at the state level and the local level. Our hope is to turn this into a toolkit with talking points to use across several issues at both level. We will also be sharing this with Honesty for Ohio Education. The amount of research is very helpful.



Around the Ohio Statehouse

Legislative Schedule & Expectations

8 weeks of work, Primary Break (May 5), then 8 more weeks before Summer Break.



First 8 Weeks
(Work Session)



Primary Break
(May 5)



Second 8 Weeks
(Work Session)

Meetings: Mar. 24-26

- Senate Committees
- Senate Session
- House Committees
- House Session

Meetings: Apr. 14-15

- Senate Session

SB 19 (Brenner) — Academic intervention

SB 19 STATUS: Passed the Senate 11/19/25. 4th hearing in House Education Committee on Tuesday 3/24/26; Possible substitute bill

WHAT IT DOES: Changes academic intervention services at public schools and establishes math improvement and **intervention plans (MIMPs)**

- **Important note:** This bill passed with unanimous support in the Senate. The new, substitute version added in the House has caused many groups to become opponents.
- **PROBLEMS WITH THE NEWEST (SUBSTITUTE) VERSION OF THIS BILL:**
 - Lawmakers failed to meet with educators before writing the bill to gain their input on best solutions
 - SB 19 relies on a single test on a single day to identify students for academic intervention services
 - SB 19 calls for a Math Improvement and Monitoring Plan (MIMP) to be created for every qualifying student beginning next school year...This is an onerous task that will often fall on classroom teachers...
 - None of the provisions of this bill would apply to students who attend private schools utilizing a taxpayer-funded voucher(!!)
 - The Ohio Education Association (OEA) is an opponent on SB 19 (they started out as Interested Party before the newest version was accepted)
- **TAKE ACTION:**
 - **Ask Committee Chair Sarah Fowler Arthur** to return the bill to its original, as-introduced version: (614) 466-1405 or Rep99@OhioHouse.gov
 - [OEA SB 19 action alert](#)
- **RESOURCES:** <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/136/sb19>

H.B. 577

- Photo ID copy required for absentee ballot.
 - Still to provide either an DL number or the last four digits of the voter's Social Security number (SSN-4) in addition to a copy of a photo ID.
- Requires an account and multi-factor authentication for using online voter registration system.
- Requires the Secretary of State to provide public access to the Statewide Voter Registration Database (SWVRD) through an interface that allows a search for a particular elector by name and through an interface that allows a bulk data download
- General Government Committee: 2nd Hearing: Proponent, March 24, 4:15

Primary Sponsors



Action Alert: No Article V Convention

Hearings on Constitutional Convention in both chambers today

This is a threat because

- A Convention can't be limited to 1 issue
- There are no established rules or guidelines

Rights in danger

- State's rights
- Voting rights
- Privacy rights
- Civil liberties & civil rights



**TAKE
ACTION**

Tell Ohio lawmakers:

PROTECT

THE US CONSTITUTION



Not too late to take the action! These hearings will continue.
Link to take action [here](#).



S. B. No. 63: Prohibit use of ranked choice voting; withhold funding for use

Sponsors: Gavarone, DeMora

On the way to the Governor's desk

**Signed by Governor:
March 17, 2026**

Ohio lawmakers sent a bill banning ranked choice to the governor.

- “The Ohio Senate voted Wednesday to prohibit ranked choice voting in statewide elections and withhold state funding for governments that try it at the local level. The bill now heads to Gov. Mike DeWine...”
- “It’s the second time the Senate has voted on the idea... The measure’s passage was never really in doubt. It passed easily, 24 to 7.”
- “DeWine pointed... to examples of ranked choice tabulation taking days or even weeks.”



New Feature for Lobby Calls

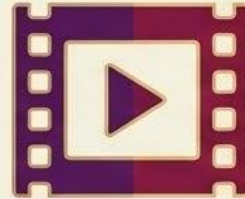
Introduction to and review of resources and local League programs:



Books



Podcasts



Videos



**Local League
Programs**

New Honesty Toolkit

FUNDING OHIO'S COMMUNITIES

*Property Taxes, Public Schools, and
the Future of Local Services*

This toolkit has two goals:

1. To provide clear, easy-to-understand information about how property taxes fund Ohio's public schools and local services.
2. To equip Ohioans with practical talking points and advocacy tools so they can have informed conversations with friends and family, and can speak up about the risks of abolishing property taxes.

Questions to Ask in Conversations

Instead of debating slogans, try asking:

- What is the full replacement plan?
- How much would sales or income taxes need to increase?
- Who would pay more under the new system?
- How would rural communities be affected?
- How would police, fire, public health and libraries be funded?



These questions focus the discussion on practical outcomes, not just frustration.

ACLU releasing new report next week on the expansion of ICE in Ohio



WEBINAR: INFORMATION IS POWER: FROM THE OHIO STATEHOUSE TO ICE, TURNING TRANSPARENCY INTO ACCOUNTABILITY

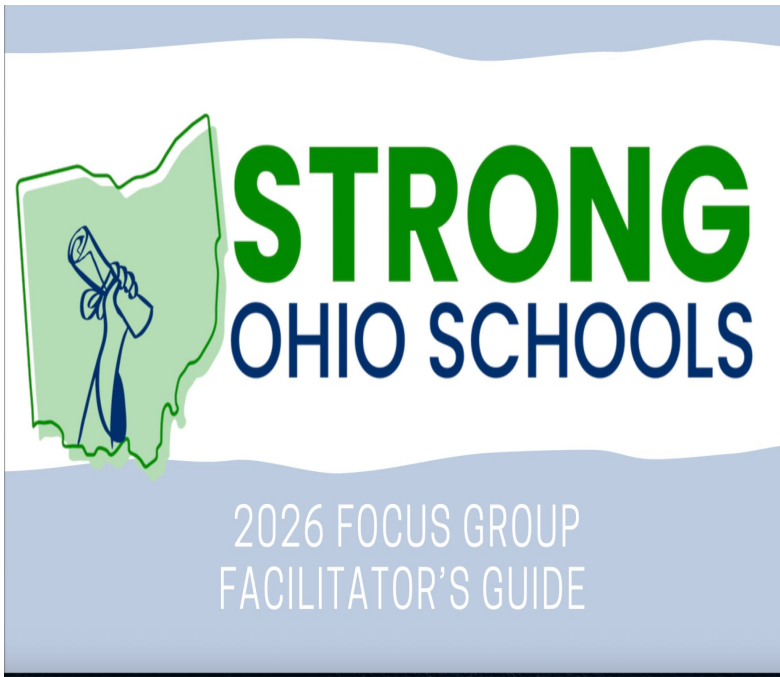
Monday, March 30, 5:30 – 7 p.m.

Virtual (Zoom)

Join us for a webinar on ICE, government transparency, and access to information



Please note: This image will take you to a third-party website, zoom.us.



QUESTIONS TO GUIDE ACTION

What are the most pressing issues facing Ohio schools today?

What are the purposes of public education?
What ideas do you have for how schools could better serve students / communities?

“Adult” Survey

bit.ly/StrongOhioSurvey



“Youth” Survey

bit.ly/sosyouthsurvey



Webpage



ccollins@honestyforohioeducation.org

Statehouse Day!

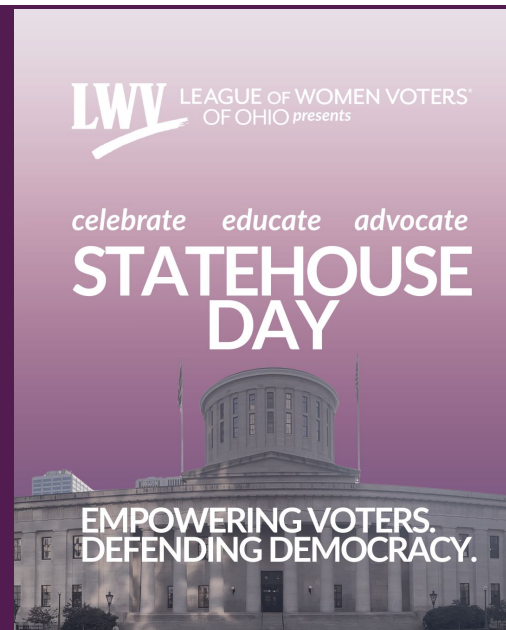
- Special celebration of the Ohio Women's Monument
- Keynote lunch with elections experts
- Meet with lawmakers on our advocacy priorities

Date: March 25

Time: 9am-2pm; some lobby visits may go as late as 5pm.

Location: The Ohio Statehouse & The Plaza Hotel on Capitol Square

- **Register [here](#)**





No Kings Mobilization

- LWVUS is joining No Kings as a national partner on Saturday, March 28. Leagues are welcome to lean in locally and participate in activations with partners on the ground in a nonpartisan manner. For Leagues who decide to mobilize for No Kings, please utilize our [Protest Safety Guidance](#) and [Guidance for Leagues About Nonpartisanship and Partnerships](#).



Next Lobby Call

May 12,
7 PM

