

League Positions 2010 Ballot Amendments



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF FLORIDA

September 7, 2010

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, 90-years-young organization and has never endorsed candidates or parties. However, the League does take positions on issues, after long and careful study. The League of Women Voters of Florida has conducted numerous studies and regularly publishes our positions on issues of importance to the voters of Florida. (More information on our issues and positions can be found in STUDY AND ACTION, see www.TheFloridaVoter.org). After extensive research, in conjunction with a comprehensive review of our approved positions, the League has reached consensus on the following constitutional issues on Florida's 2010 ballot. The League SUPPORTS some of the ballot measures, OPPOSES others, and, when there are aspects to a measure which in our judgment make our support or opposition inappropriate, takes NO POSITION.

Amendment 1: Repeal of public financing requirement

OPPOSE

The League supported the original amendment in 1998, which was approved by a majority of voters, enabling Florida to join other states in offering public financing as a way to encourage greater competition in elections and reduce the impact of special interests. The League believes that public financing of elections is the best way to ensure open elections and maximum citizen participation in the political process. The League recommends keeping public financing and rolling back public dollar limits to pre-2005 levels.

Amendment 2: Homestead ad valorem tax credit for deployed military personnel

OPPOSE

The League believes no tax sources or revenues should be specified, limited, exempted, or prohibited in the Constitution.

Amendment 4: Referenda required for adoption and amendment of local government comprehensive land use plan

NO POSITION

While the League has several positions on the subject of growth management, there is no position that would clearly support or oppose the proposal made in amendment 4. The League takes no position on Amendment 4.

Amendment 5: Standards for Legislature to follow in legislative redistricting

SUPPORT

Amendment 6: Standards for Legislature to follow in congressional redistricting

SUPPORT

Setting rules for redistricting has been a League priority since 1982. The League supports single-member election districts that are equal in population, provide access for minorities, and when possible, take local characteristics such as political and geographical boundaries into consideration. The League strongly supports Amendments 5 and 6.

Amendment 8: Revision of the class-size requirements for public schools

NO POSITION

In 2002, the League of Women Voters of Florida opposed the original class-size amendment, stating that it should not be in the Constitution. Therefore, we take NO POSITION on amending the original amendment.

Referendum for 2010 Election

OPPOSE

This is a nonbinding referendum, not an amendment, and would have no tangible effect. While it is a referendum on citizen opinion as to whether the federal government should be required to have a balanced budget, Florida was only able to balance its fiscal year budget by using federal stimulus money.

— Please note that Amendments 3, 7 and 9 have been removed from the ballot. —