



Judy Andree, President
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Second Call to Convention—April 23, 2022

March 23, 2022

Dear League Members,

We are holding our 2022 State Convention on April 23rd, 2022, via ZOOM, as we did last year given the COVID-19 pandemic. By this time, we are all familiar with the ZOOM platform. It is not nearly as nice as holding the meetings in person, when we can socialize and gather in face-to-face discussions. But hopefully the next State Convention will be held in person and we can reacquaint ourselves with each other.

We will attempt to handle, on this Saturday of April 23rd, the basic business of the State Convention as efficiently as possible. If you are a voting delegate, you should check the LWVAK website at lwvalaska.org, click on Convention at the top of the page, and read the material there in advance of the ZOOM meeting on Saturday, April 23, 2022 at 9 a.m. We will all need to read through this material before the Convention so that we may vote officially as efficiently as possible. There will be time for questions on each item.

Leah Edwards, Alaska's liaison with LWVUS, will join us for a report on the status of the ERA and voting rights bills supported by the League. We also hope to have a presentation on the election changes ahead with a representative of the Division of Elections. This would include information on open primaries, ranked choice voting, and the special election in early summer.

You will need to register for our Convention by sending an email as directed on the last page of this Second Call so that we can send you the email invite. There is no fee required and the convention meeting is open to all members who wish to attend.

I encourage all local League members to follow the LWVAK Facebook page as well as the local League Facebook pages. This is one way we can keep in touch across the vast Alaska landscape.

If you have any questions, please contact me: Judy Andree, jagster42@gmail.com
Judy Andree, President

Proposed FY 2022-2023 Program

The League of Women Voters of Alaska recommends the following proposed program for consideration at Convention:

1. Retain the existing positions:

- 1. Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure (2010):** Supports public disclosure of campaign contributions of money, goods, or services as well as financial interests of public officials, both elected and appointed, to an independent commission with responsibility for monitoring and enforcement. Favors limitations on the length of political campaigns, time allowed for fundraising, amount of contributions, and the amount of expenditures.
- 2. Capital Budget Process (1985):** Supports realistic budget preparation, clear project definition, use of standardized criteria for determination of need, and public involvement in the capital budget process.
- 3. Constitution - Amending the Alaska Constitution by Initiative (1998):** Opposes amending the Alaska Constitution by initiative. The Constitution should not attempt to address the everyday problems of running government. Laws and regulations more appropriately address such issues.
- 4. Constitutional Convention (1982, reviewed 2010):** Opposes a constitutional convention at this time.
- 5. Legislative Process and Procedures (1993):** Supports a legislative system that is open, responsive, representative, accessible, efficient, and accountable, with clearly delineated procedures.
- 6. Statutory Initiative Process in Alaska (2001):** Supports the current process with recommendations for tightening requirements.
- 7. Voter Registration (2014):** Supports a simple, efficient voter registration system that encourages maximum interest and participation while minimizing fraudulent voting practices.
- 8. Energy (2013)** Favors the wise use and development of a variety of energy sources to ensure a sustainable long-term cultural, environmental, and economic future for Alaska and all Alaskans. Energy conservation and efficiency should be maximized through use of public education, energy research and the development of new energy techniques.
- 9. Land Disposal (1980):** Supports a land disposal program within specific parameters, with continued emphasis on requiring land inventories, comprehensive land use plans, and public involvement and which allows for a variety of land uses.
- 10. Land Use (1985):** Supports good land use planning by comprehensive plans, with coordination and cooperation among state, federal, municipal, and private landowners, with placement of responsibility for making and enforcing land use decisions on the lowest level of government immediately concerned with the land in question.

11. Career Education in Schools (2010): Supports equal opportunities and respect for all students. Basic curricula should include problem-solving skills, interpersonal communications and tolerance skills and provide opportunities for specific technical training and career experience in addition to academic skills.

12. Child Care and Early Childhood Education (Revised 2018): Supports state and local policies, legislation and programs committed to safe, nurturing care which is a societal as well as a family responsibility, are responsive to diverse needs of children and their families available to all socio-economic groups on an ability to pay basis, and paid parental leave as highly desirable.

13. Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (2018): All individuals have the right to live in a fear-free environment, and to be safe from sexual assault, physical abuse, neglect; and psychological and emotional abuse, including busying and stalking.. A special degree of protection is needed for vulnerable, dependent people of any age.

14. Youth and Adolescent Needs (2011): Supports comprehensive policies and services for youth. These services should be coordinated between all public and private agencies concerned with homelessness, education, vocational advancement, interpersonal relationships, mental and physical health, family stability, and peer empowerment.

15. Landlord-Tenant Relations (1994, updated 2020): Supports programs and policies to provide equal opportunity for access to housing without discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origins, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. Supports an adequate supply of housing for low-income families. A uniform landlord-tenant act which specifies tenants' rights and landlord/tenant obligations is important to achieving this goal.

16. School Finance (2016): The State has the major responsibility for setting minimum education standards and for financing elementary and secondary schools in Alaska. However, local school districts in organized and unorganized boroughs should be required to contribute a percentage of the financial support and should have the major responsibility for decision making in the expenditure of funds. Public monies should NOT support student vouchers or Educational Savings Accounts (ESA's) that are allocated to private or for-profit schools or Educational Management Organizations (EMO's).

17. Election Processes and Procedures (2015, 2019): Supports elections that are free, fair, and accessible to all eligible voters and voting systems that are secure, accurate, recountable, and transparent. It speaks to Redistricting, Methods of Voting, Felon Rights, Voter ID Requirements at Polls, Voter Information, and Voting Security.

18. Judicial Appointments (2016): Strongly supports a judicial appointment and retention process that is merit-based, transparent, representative of and responsive to the public and to the Constitution of Alaska and the U.S.

2. Continue review/revision of the following positions:

1. Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure (2010): Review for addition of any needed language to parallel Ballot Measure #2.
2. Legislative Processes and Procedures (1993)
3. Election Processes and Procedures (2015, 2019): Review for inclusion of ranked choice voting and voting by mail.

3. Recommended Study: New Comprehensive Position of Education

To go forward, the study outlined below needs at least one volunteer from each local League to work with the study committee. The following proposal is based on work already completed by the Tanana

Valley League in conjunction with Sue Sherif and Peg Cowan of the Juneau League. **The members of LWVAK should create a position on public education that does the following:**

1. Supports a comprehensive pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade public education in the Alaska system that meets the needs of individual students, challenges all students to reach their highest potential, develops patterns of lifelong learning and responsible citizenship. We support improvements in PreK-12 education to provide both equitable and sufficient opportunities to learn for all students.
2. Supports a robust and varied curriculum across all grade levels that includes STEM, career education, civics, and liberal arts.
3. Supports adequate funding of the University of Alaska, including student financial aid, that is stable, predictable, sustainable, and timely in order to provide a comprehensive system of public higher education that serves the personal, professional, and occupational goals of all adult Alaskans and advances the social, economic, and civic needs of the state.

4. Recommended Emphasis Areas:

1. Oppose Constitutional Convention
2. Provide education on ranked choice voting and open primaries
3. Monitor voting legislation at the state level and voting processes in general

Proposed Per Member Payment

\$10.00 Per member

\$5.00 Per second member of the household

\$ 0 Students

\$35 Member at Large

Proposed Budget FY 2022-2023 (Proposed Budget provided by email to members **)**

Proposed Slate of Officers and Directors—FY 2022-2023

Co-President _____ 1 year term expiring 2023

Co-President Sue Sherif (Tanana) 1 year term expiring 2023

Vice President Marianne Mills (Jnu) 1 year term expiring 2023

Secretary Sandra Garrity (CKP) 2 year term expiring 2024

Past-President Judy Andree (Jnu) 1 year term expiring 2023

Director Therese Lewandowski (CKP) 2 year term expiring 2024

Director Shari George (TV) 2 year term expiring 2024

Director Gayle Garrigues (TV) 1 year left of term expiring 2023

Director Cathleen Rolph (CKP) 1 year left of term expiring 2023

Nominating Committee for FY 22-23: Chair: Phyllis Tugman-Alexander, Lois Pillifant, third member Board—Marianne Mills