



State Program Planning Materials for 2023-2025 Biennium

Every two years prior to our state convention, the LWVMI Board reviews state positions and determines whether existing positions need revision or new studies are needed to facilitate our advocacy needs.

Local Leagues are invited to review state positions prior to convention time. A similar review is done of all national positions prior to the LWVUS convention.

In order to advocate on issues at the Michigan Legislature and/or elsewhere, LWVMI positions must be applicable. For example, at the 2019 convention, delegates voted to study Lame Duck Legislative Sessions in Michigan. A Lame Duck position now exists for advocacy purposes. In earlier years, the state Board recommended studies on Redistricting (2011), Education (2013), Taxation and Budgeting (2015) and an update to the Agricultural Migrant/Seasonal Worker position (2017). Having a relevant position allows the League to testify regarding bills and engage in other advocacy actions.

We seek your input regarding existing positions as well as whether there is a need for additional topics to be studied. Existing positions for LWVUS are available in *Impact on Issues* at <https://www.lwv.org/impact-issues>. LWVMI positions may be found at <https://lwvmi.org/lwvmi-positions/>

See page 2 for suggestions on how to conduct Program Planning at local Leagues.

If your local League believes that no current state or national position is applicable for your local advocacy needs, a local League may propose:

- (1) an update of a current position;
- (2) a new study; or
- (3) adoption of a new position by concurrence.

In March, after reviewing the feedback and/or proposals submitted by local Leagues, the LWVMI Board will vote on a recommended Program to be considered by the delegates at the 2023 State Convention.

Local League proposals that are not recommended by the state Board may still be voted on at Convention. A 2/3-majority vote is required to adopt a "non-recommended" study or to adopt a new position by concurrence. Those proposals must be sent to the LWVMI VP Program by March 1, 2023 and then circulated to all local Leagues by April 5, 2023 (6 weeks before the Convention, per LWVMI bylaws).

Questions should be directed to Maria Woloson, LWVMI VP for Program Planning at mywoloson@gmail.com or phone #248-703-6236.

Suggestions for completing LWVMI Program Planning.

The local League is responsible for completing and returning the Program Planning questionnaire (pages 4 and 5) by March 1, 2023.

Local Leagues determine the format for its Program Planning meeting. Meetings may be held virtually or in-person; they may be social and/or business meetings. All meetings should include a review of the state positions.

Suggestions for your local League:

- Local League members should read the LWVMI positions on the website in advance of their membership meeting. Note: if a state position is inadequate or absent, please review the LWVUS positions for a position that may facilitate advocacy for the issue.
- Program Planning meetings should be held during January or February 2023 as reports are due to LWVMI Board on March 1, 2023.
- Attached is “Summaries of LWVMI Positions” that local Leagues may use as desired
- Engage members who have been involved with advocacy issues as they may offer suggestions for new positions and/or revisions to existing positions.

Once your meeting is completed:

1. Use the Easy Program Planning Guide for 2023 LWVMI Convention. Check *Retain* or *Update*
2. If your League would like to propose an **update** of a current LWVMI position in order to take action, complete the response form for a study update (page 4)
3. If your League would like to propose a **new study** in order to take action, complete the response form for a new study (page 4)
4. If your League would like to propose a **new position by concurrence** in order to take action, complete the response form for a proposed concurrence (page 5)
5. Once completed, email **both** the Easy Program Planning Guide for 2023 LWVMI Convention **and** the State Program Planning Form for 2023-2025 Biennium to Maria Woloson at mywoloson@gmail.com **by March 1, 2023.**

EASY PROGRAM PLANNING GUIDE FOR 2023 LWVMI CONVENTION

Please return by March 1, 2023 by email to Maria Woloson at mywoloson@gmail.com .

Name of League _____, Date _____

of members present at Program Planning review _____

Feel free to add comments for the state board.

Position <i>Please check only those positions you have discussed</i>	Retain as is	Update - only if needed for advocacy
Government		
Redistricting: State Legislature and U.S. Representatives		
Election Laws		
Intergovernmental Relations within Michigan		
Government Finance		
Natural Resources		
Great Lakes Ecosystem		
Land Use		
Pesticides		
Solid Waste Management		
Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO's)		
Social Policy		
Children and Youth		
Public Education (pre-K-12) in Michigan		
Health Care		
Social Services System		
Structure and Function of Michigan Public Libraries		
Agricultural Migrant/Seasonal Workers		
Prisons in Michigan		
Criminal Justice		

STATE PROGRAM PLANNING FORM FOR 2023-2025 BIENNIUM

Questions regarding the Program Planning and/or the concurrence process may be directed to Maria Woloson at mywoloson@gmail.com or by phone at 248-703-6236

Name of League _____ Date _____

Would your League like to propose an UPDATE of Current LWVMI Position in order to take action? NO YES

If YES,

1. Position to be updated

2. Rationale for update
 - a. Issues that might be addressed with an updated study

 - b. Community interest

Would your League like to propose a NEW Study in order to take action? NO YES
If YES,

1. Tentative title of New Study

2. Rationale for New Study
 - a. Issues that might be addressed with a new position

 - b. Community interest

 - c. Relevance to LWV's mission and goals

PROPOSED CONCURRENCE

A *concurrence* is a process by which the LWVMI adopts a position previously studied and then adopted by a local Michigan League. Adopting a state position by concurrence with an already existing local position requires a 2/3 majority vote by the delegates at the convention.

Would your League like to propose a new position by concurrence in order to take action?

NO YES

If YES, there are two procedural requirements:

1. The concurrence form below must be completed and submitted by **March 1, 2023** to Maria Woloson at mywoloson@gmail.com.
2. A copy of this form must be sent to all local League presidents **by April 5, 2023** (six weeks prior to Convention, as required by the LWVMI Bylaws).

CONCURRENCE APPLICATION FORM

1. **Title of the position to be adopted by concurrence. Provide a copy of the entire position.**
2. **Source of the position. Provide background as to how the position came to be in your local League.**
3. **Pros for the position**
4. **Cons against the position**
5. **How the position has been applied in your local area**
6. **Rationale for using the concurrence process, as opposed to doing a state wide study of the issue**