

## **League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County Program Recommendations 2017-2018**

The League of Women Voters arrives at its positions on issues through research, study, and a process of member agreement. League action is based on the general consensus of members who have examined both sides of the issues. The League can only act after consensus is reached and the position is formally adopted by the board. Positions on issues are researched and agreed upon at the national, state, or local level, depending on the scope of the issue. League members may take action only on issues for which a position exists. League program is proposed by the membership in the early part of the year and adopted at the Annual meeting in May.

Items to be proposed can be: Study item: an issue that the League will research and present findings on, usually with recommendations for future action and/or for member consensus to create a new League position. Action item: suggestion of some action the League can take in reference to a particular position based on existing positions. Examples include:

- Host a town meeting or forum on a timely issue
- Testify before a local governing body
- Express League opinions through the media

Criteria for program items:

- Does it fall within League principles?
- Does the League already have positions that can be applied to the proposal?
- Is government action needed? Possible?
- How much member interest has been expressed for the issue?
- Is this the crucial time for the issue?
- Do political realities permit effective action?
- Is this the appropriate level of the league to address the issue? Is this local to Atlanta and Fulton County?
- Will the League's involvement make a unique impact? Increase the League's influence and credibility?
- What are the prospects for funding anticipated educational activities and/or action strategies?
- Will the League be able to partner with other organizations?

The annual Program Planning Meeting was held on March 2, 2017.

After discussion with attending members of the League of Women Voters of Atlanta-Fulton County, the body voted to recommend one program item to the Board for consideration. Having been approved by the board, the following item is recommended for adoption by the membership:

***Engage and educate voters on finding accurate information on key national, state and local issues***