

## May 2026 Newsletter

News and updates from the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green, Ohio. You may unsubscribe using the link at the bottom of this email if you no longer wish to receive these updates. Newsletters will be archived at [lwvbg.org](http://lwvbg.org).

The 2026 League of Women Voters National Convention will take place **June 25 through June 28 in Columbus, OH.**

LWVBG will be represented by Shar Katzner and Emily Dowling. Thank you!

Members find all relevant information on the Convention website [here](#).



## LWVO Study and Concurrence on Religious Freedom

*content for this section derived from the LWVO study document, found online [here](#)*

Concurrence is an agreement among a substantial number of League members, reached after study, leading to acceptance, reaffirmation or rejection of a previously formulated statement of position.

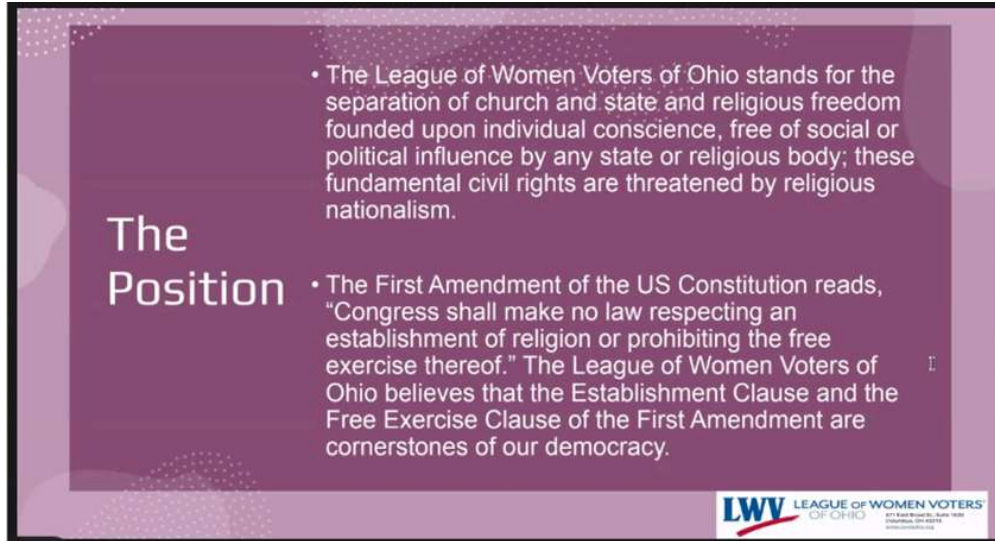
The League of Women Voters of Colorado (LWVCO) approached all state Leagues including LWV Ohio (LWVO) to consider their study and new position on religious freedom.

The complete LWVCO Study is available to read online at: [First Amendment - Establishment Clause Study Group - League of Women Voters of Colorado](#).

The LWVO Board of Directors approved a motion to form a committee to review the LWVCO study materials at its July 26, 2025 meeting. On September 20, 2025 after forming a review committee, the LWVO Board approved moving forward with the concurrence study and an Ohio-specific position. Local leagues now have an opportunity to review the concurrence and determine our support.

The LWVBG Board received a concurrence request from LWVO with a very quick deadline (May 3) to submit our response. The Board agreed to review the study

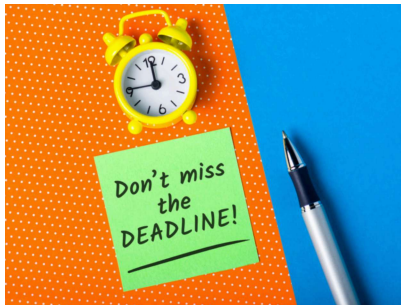
documents on behalf of the membership. After review, the LWVBG Board voted in favor of supporting the concurrence.



**The Position**

- The League of Women Voters of Ohio stands for the separation of church and state and religious freedom founded upon individual conscience, free of social or political influence by any state or religious body; these fundamental civil rights are threatened by religious nationalism.
- The First Amendment of the US Constitution reads, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." The League of Women Voters of Ohio believes that the Establishment Clause and the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment are cornerstones of our democracy.

**LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OHIO**



## Want to form a study group next year?

Local Leagues take positions after careful study of an issue. If there is something you'd like to propose as a study topic for our next program year, it must be submitted to the membership 30 days before the Annual Meeting. This year's deadline to submit a study topic is May 12, 2026 in order to provide information to the membership on May 13, 2026. Send to [info@lwvbg.org](mailto:info@lwvbg.org)



**May 3:** Last day of early voting

**May 5:** Primary election - make sure to put out your Vote Today signs!

**May 7:** Monthly coffee meetup at Grounds for Thought, 4:30 pm

**May 12:** Deadline to submit 2026-27 study requests to the Annual Meeting. Send to [info@lwvbg.org](mailto:info@lwvbg.org)

**May 27:** LWVBG Board meeting, 7:00 pm

**May 28:** *Is Anyone Listening? Communicating Effectively with Elected Officials*, presented by Dr. Nicole Kalaf-Hughes 7:00 pm at Wood County District Public Library

**June 13:** LWV of Bowling Green Annual Meeting

**June 27:** BG Pride, register voters at Wooster Green

*Committee leaders - if you would like your regular meetings to appear in the newsletter, please email [info@lwvbg.org](mailto:info@lwvbg.org) with dates and times.*

## Member Corner

LWVBG Membership is open to all people age 16 or older. Your LWV of Bowling Green membership includes memberships in the LWV Ohio and LWVUS. Dues are sliding scale, so it has never been easier to join the League and participate in our vital work.

Recommended membership dues are \$75 per year, but you may pay what you wish (minimum of \$20). If you are a student, we have scholarships available to pay your membership dues. Contact us at [info@lwvbg.org](mailto:info@lwvbg.org) to arrange a scholarship before you sign up or renew.

**Renew or Join online via the LWVBG website by clicking the button below**

Visit our Website



### **Welcome New Members!**

Mary Jane Saunders  
Matt Musteric

### **Thank You Renewing Members!**

Arne Spohr  
Jo Tutolo  
Leslie Neuendorff  
David Neuendorff  
Jennifer Lorenzen



### **Member Milestones**

Now that the LWV uses a rolling renewal membership (rather than everyone renewing the same month each year) it has become a little more challenging to track membership anniversaries. We don't want to miss your membership milestones! Your total years of membership include time spent as a member of any local league. If you are celebrating 30, 40, or 50 years as a LVW member, please remind us by emailing [info@lwvbg.org](mailto:info@lwvbg.org).

## Empower Voters

### **An update on our work with the Wood County IGNITE Program**

Karen Wood and Ellen Scholl went to the Wood County Jail on April 14 to meet with two groups of participants in the [IGNITE \(Inmate Growth Naturally and Intentionally Through Education\) program](#), one male and the other female. Our League representatives spoke to them about why it is important for them to vote. The IGNITE participants were happy to learn that their vote could make a difference!

Karen and Ellen were able to register new voters, update voter registrations, and help the folks that were eligible to get an absentee ballot for the May primary. It was a positive learning experience for everyone, and one that we and Lieutenant Martinez look forward to repeating monthly.

# LWVBG Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the meetings of the LWVBG Board are available to read on the Member Portal. Log into [LWV Member Portal Link](#) and go to "League Resources" to see our Governing Documents, Communications, Meeting Minutes, and More!



## LWVBG Committee News

### Naturalization Committee

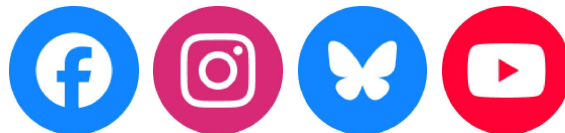
We celebrate the newest American citizens who were sworn in at a Naturalization Ceremony at the University of Findlay on Monday, April 20. LWV volunteers helped 20 of 44 new citizens register to vote. If you would like to be part of this incredible experience, you can see the schedule of upcoming Toledo-area events at [Naturalization Schedule | Northern District of Ohio | United States District Court](#)



Reach out to Committee chair Elayne Jacoby if you'd like to carpool to a future event!

## Keep in Touch and Stay in the Know

Send Us A Message



League of Women Voters of Bowling Green | P.O. Box 873 | Bowling Green, OH 43402 US

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