

Welcome to our column! Some background -

The League of Women Voters was formed over 104 years ago by women who had battled for decades for the right to vote. The League is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, political organization.

Quoting from the League's 2022-2024 Impact on issues, Principles (page 10):

"The League of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States. The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that all powers of the US government should be exercised within the constitutional framework of a balance among the three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial.

The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen's right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings, and making public records accessible.

The League of Women Voters believes every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; every person should have access to free public education that provides equal opportunity for all; and no person or group should suffer legal, economic, or administrative discrimination.

The League of Women Voters believes efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.

The League of Women Voters believes responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy, and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.

The League of Women Voters believes cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems and that development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace."

While the League of Women Voters neither endorse nor oppose any candidate or political party at any level, we do take positions on issues of public policy. Our members study a given issue and must come to a consensus in order to form a position. This is a thorough grassroots process that results in well-considered advocacy. Whatever the issue, "the League believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibilities, adequate financing, coordination among levels of

government, effective enforcement, and well-defined channels for citizen input and review.” (From [LWV.org/node/5833/positions](https://www.lwv.org/node/5833/positions)).

We hope to use this platform to help educate and inform Kittitas County residents on voting, civics, and other issues of importance to all of us.

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