



THE VOTER

League of Women Voters of the Greater Dayton Area
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ISSUE 1



Constitutional Amendment Proposed by Joint Resolution of the General Assembly

To amend the version of Section 1 of Article XI that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2021, and to enact Sections 1, 2, and 3 of Article XIX of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to establish a process for congressional redistricting.

A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.

League explanation of Issue 1

The proposed amendment would end the current partisan process for drawing congressional districts by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly. This amendment requires a map be adopted with significant bipartisan support, with the goals of keeping local communities together and having district boundaries that are more compact. If bipartisan support cannot be obtained, a four-year interim congressional map would be adopted. Such a map must comply with strict criteria to minimize gerrymandering.

Specifically, the proposed amendment would create a process for the state to adopt a congressional redistricting plan that would work as follows:

- The General Assembly has an opportunity to draw a map, passage of which requires a three-fifths majority in each chamber, including support of at least half the minority party.
- Should the state legislature fail to meet these vote requirements, the Ohio Redistricting Commission, established via Issue 1 in 2015, has the opportunity to pass a 10-year congressional redistricting plan requiring approval of at least four of seven votes, including affirmative votes from two members representing each of the two major parties.
- If the commission also cannot reach the necessary consensus, the legislature can a) pass a map with one-third minority support, or b) pass a map with a simple majority and no minority party support that will only last four years and be subject to very strict rules forbidding gerrymandering and limiting division of counties.

If passed, the amendment will immediately become part of the Ohio Constitution and will be implemented after the 2020 census.

PROS

- Issue 1 will establish fair standards for drawing congressional districts through its requirement of bipartisan approval, or use of strict anti-gerrymandering criteria.
- It will help keep our communities together by limiting the number of splits of counties, cities, and townships.
- Issue 1 will ensure a transparent process by requiring public hearings and allowing public submission of proposed plans.

CONS

- The current process for drawing new congressional districts is adequate and has served Ohio well for many years.
- The current process is representative of the people's will since any map is passed by statewide officials, who were themselves elected.
- If Issue 1 passes, there is the potential for having to redraw district lines every four years, which is a lengthy, expensive process.

DAYTON LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CONTRIBUTORS

General Fund - a 501(c)(4) entity

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We thank these Major Leadership Circle Members. We invite everyone to contribute to the LWV, including all elected officials, political entities and candidates. The LWV is non-partisan; the LWV does not endorse anyone on the Leadership Circle list.

Education Fund - a 501(c)(3) entity

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Tom & Judy Thompson
The Virginia W. Kettering Foundation
Bob & Mary Winfree

Seeds of Change



* In-kind contribution

** In-kind contribution + monetary contribution

RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS APPRECIATED

Thank you to the following who have made a contribution to the League since our last *Voter*.

General Fund - a 501(c)(4) entity

No new contributions this month

Education Fund - a 501(c)(3) entity

Tom and Catherine Young

Our League has served us well; help it continue to serve the next generation. Consult your attorney or your financial advisor to see how easy it can be to put the League in your will. Call the League, 228-4041, for more information on how to designate your donation to the League of Women Voters 501(c)(4), or to the Dayton Area League of Women Voters Education Fund 501(c)(3).

New Members –February 19 thru March 20, 2018

Tara M. Browne

9028 Woodstream Ln
Centerville, OH 45458
937 266-9402
tara.m.browne@gmail.com



Mary F. Hanaghan

5542 Viewpoint Dr
Dayton, OH 45459
937 435-2444
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NATIONAL CONVENTION 2018!

**June 28-July 1
Chicago, IL**



ORDER YOUR DIRECTORY OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Members may order one copy of the directory at the special price of \$3.00, including postage and handling. Additional copies are \$6.00 each up to 10 copies, with a reduced rate of \$5.00 each for orders over 10 copies.

Order online at: lwvdayton.org

OR

Make check payable to: **Dayton Area League of Women Voters Education Fund**

In Memoriam

Sadly, we mark the March 2018 passing of Jean Booker. Jean was a life-long teacher and administrator in Dayton Public Schools and a League member since 1986.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS WELCOMED AT SHILOH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



As a culminating event for the celebration of black history held annually at Shiloh Church, the League moderated a forum to explore opinions as to voting trends and ways to boost participation in the voting process. Attendance exceeded all expectations and participants were actively engaged. Comments from closing reflections included the following:

- ◆ The forum was valuable in helping me review some of the issues our society faces in the democratic election process.
- ◆ Voting is your way of being heard and effecting change.
- ◆ It is a privilege to vote. Look at the important decisions made that affect all of us based around voting for issues and candidates that honestly support us.
- ◆ Read a variety of newspapers and magazines to be updated on important issues. Expand and continue to have political forums at our churches. Involve young people.
- ◆ Everyone's vote counts. The richest and most powerful person's vote in the country doesn't count any more or any less than yours.

The League hopes to continue to moderate these forums throughout the community. Call the League office (228-4041) if you have an interest in hosting a forum.

Submitted by Valerie Lee

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Advocating Voter Education and Action on Issues

Current Resident or:

~~~~~ **UPCOMING EVENTS** ~~~~~

- ♦ Monday, April 9, **DEADLINE TO REGISTER OR UPDATE VOTER REGISTRATION** for May 8 Primary Election
- ♦ Wednesday, April 11, **STATEHOUSE DAY**
- ♦ Thursday, April 19 at 4 PM, **STONE HOLLOW LANDFILL TOUR**, 2460 S Gettysburg Ave, Dayton 45418
- ♦ Monday, April 30, **QUARTERLY DINNER** from 6-8pm, Corner Kitchen, 613 E Fifth St, Dayton
- ♦ Tuesday, May 8 - Primary Election - **VOTE!**



**Vote YES**   
**Issue 1**  
**on May 8**  
**FAIR DISTRICTS**  
**FAIR ELECTIONS**  
Creates a bipartisan, public process  
for drawing congressional districts

**Put an end to gerrymandering**



**PLEASE NOTE**



You are receiving an abbreviated version of *The Voter* so that we can present important information prior to the Annual Meeting.

We'll be back with a full issue in May.