

Statewide Studies and Positions

Adopted March 4, 2006

1. Bylaws XII-6, XII-7 et al. state that LWVIN, local Leagues and ILOs may act on government issues only under the principles (*Impact on Issues 2006-2008*, p. 80) and under positions taken at their level or a higher level of organization. The creation and care of LWVIN positions counts among the most basic responsibilities of the board.
2. All positions follow the principles. Positions are built on statewide study and agreement, in a process launched by the convention. In an emergency, the council may change the program (Art. IX-4-c).
3. For each study adopted by the convention, a committee created by the board conducts preliminary research and presents to the board the draft of a study for distribution to local Leagues. The draft contains at least a cover statement and either consensus questions or a concurrence statement, or both.
4. The board decides between consensus and concurrence, sets timelines, and authors the final text of the study.
5. The committee prepares a plan for local research and discussion. Because local Leagues are likely to be aware of the project, local work may begin before the study text is finalized.
6. After board approval, the committee disseminates the plan, any study materials, and the study text containing consensus questions or a concurrence statement. This may be done through the *Voter* or in separate mailings to local boards.
7. The committee collects and studies the responses, writes a report and submits a position draft for board approval. The report may be used in the later announcement to the membership.
8. Positions should be formulated broadly so that they tolerate locally varying implementation and some historical change.
9. Positions are written and approved by the board (Art. V-4-h and XII-4).
10. After approval by the board, the president announces the new position to the membership in the *Voter* or through the local presidents.
11. All current positions are available on the LWVIN Web site, with the date of approval. Changes are entered on the Web site within thirty days.
12. In even-numbered years, the president invites local Leagues to review the positions, to see if any should be amended or dropped. Responses from local Leagues should reach the board before the end of the year. Substantive changes may require studies launched by the following convention.
13. The board reviews all positions and the comments of local Leagues early in odd-numbered years.