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# LWVUS Lobby Corps

*Partnership with State and Local Leagues*



# What We Do

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- Educate Congressional staff about pending legislation
- Increase the League's influence on Capitol Hill
- Promote and communicate the League's priorities
- Empower state and local leaders to engage in national advocacy.



# Needed Now More Than Ever!

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- Lobbying is an important part of our democracy
- To protect Americans' rights, our civic participation is imperative
- Nonpartisan, researched and factual information is harder to find
- Voters and League members and supporters need a voice on Capitol Hill



# Background to Lobby Corps

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- Originally established in 1971
- A team of 12 - 15 League members from the National Capital Area
- Convene once a month when Congress is in session for briefings on League legislative priorities
- Receive assignments to lobby select members of Congress
- Build valuable relationships with members on Capitol Hill

# Issues We Lobby On:

- Voting Rights
- Election Reform
- Redistricting Reform
- Campaign Finance Reform
- Disclosure of campaign funds
- Immigration Reform
- Clean Power
- Affordable healthcare coverage
- Gun Safety Legislation
- ERA Ratification

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**LWV**

**VOTING IS**  
 **people power**

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## New Challenges

- Worsening partisanship
- More groups/people involved in lobbying (bandwidth)
- Covid risk -> Virtual Lobbying



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# Rising to the Challenge

- Staying engaged with all members of Congress
  - Inform, persuade, listen, facilitate constructive negotiation
- Leveraging our reputation to get our foot in the door
- Learning-by-doing:
  - Tele-lobbying is a new challenge
  - But also a new opportunity to work more closely with state and local leagues
  - LWVUS Lobby Corps: experience on Capitol Hill; national strategy
  - State and Local Leagues: in depth local knowledge and relationships





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# How can you get involved?

- Lobby Corps is looking to increasingly partner with state and local leagues to advance our agenda
  - For example, LWV-WV and Lobby Corps pioneered our first experiment with using FaceTime to join our usual in-person lobbying in a Congressional Office two years ago; more recently LWV TN, LWV AL, and others have participated in Lobby Corps members' tele-lobbying on appropriations for election assistance.
- Lobby Corps lobbies on LWVUS's federal agenda at LWVUS direction - not used for state issues



# Questions?

