LWVMD Primary Study 2016 - Part I: Single-member or Multi-Member Legislative Districts

DATE _____________________

Name and e-mail for person filling our report ________________________________

Name of Local League ______________________________________________

Number of members participating ___________ Number of Units ____________

Method of consensus (meetings, mail in, etc.) ____________________________

MAIL to: LWVMD, 111 Cathedral Street, Suite 201, Annapolis MD 21401
Or
EMAIL to: Lu.pierson@verizon.net (410-821-3004 for questions) AND to lwvmd@verizon.net

CONSENSUS QUESTIONS

Question 1. Should the Maryland League retain its current position relating to single-member and multi-member districts, namely support for:

A mix of single and multi-member districts [for the House of Delegates]. The following criteria should be used to determine which districts should be single and which should be multi-member:
   a. full minority representation;
   b. geographic integrity;
   c. preservation of political and community boundaries;
   d. compactness

NOTE: The current position does not contain the phrase “for the House of Delegates.” The Committee believes that if the current position is retained, the addition of that phrase should be included in the position, to clarify that LWVMD is taking no position on single versus multi-member districts on the local level, i.e. for county council, city council, county commission, etc.

Definitions for discussion of above position:
   Preservation of political and community boundaries means not establishing district lines that cross county lines or city lines
   Compactness = geographic compactness

YES ___________ NO ___________ NO CONSENSUS ___________

Comments:
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
IF THE RESPONSE TO QUESTION 1 IS NO OR NO CONSENSUS ON QUESTION 1, YOU MAY ONLY ANSWER YES TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

**Question 2.** Should the Maryland League support the establishment of all/only single-member districts for the Maryland House of Delegates?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>NO CONSENSUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Comments:

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__________________________________________________________________________________

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**Question 3.** Should the Maryland League have NO Position on single-member versus multi-member district for the Maryland House of Delegates?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
<th>NO CONSENSUS</th>
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</table>

Comments:

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Note: The Committee is not posing the question of whether the Maryland League should support a legislature composed of all/only multi-member districts because the federal Voting Rights Act and judicial precedent require in some instances the creation of a single member district to achieve racial/ethnic representation.

General comments on Study or Study materials:

__________________________________________________________________________________

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