



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARYLAND, INC.

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STATE BOARD LETTER

Mid-January 2019

LWVMD Calendar

January

26 – Winter Workshop, Wilde Lake Interfaith Center in Columbia, 9:30am – 2pm (see page 6)

31 – Public Hearing of the Emergency Commission on 6th District Gerrymandering (Montgomery County, exact location TBD) – details at <https://governor.maryland.gov/free-and-fair/>

February

2 – Winter Workshop Snow Date

6 – Public Hearing of the Emergency Commission on 6th District Gerrymandering (Allegany County, exact location TBD) – details at <https://governor.maryland.gov/free-and-fair/>

4 – LWVMD Board Meeting, Wilde Lake Interfaith Center in Columbia, 10am

14 – LWV's 99th Birthday – Get ready to celebrate!

Planning your local league calendar? Click [here](#) to see the whole calendar.

Presidents' Message



The holidays are over and snow is in the forecast, which can only mean one thing- 2019 Session of the Maryland General Assembly has begun. Even though the League is best known for informing voters on candidates and issues during elections, we do not stop there. The Maryland League of Women Voters has spent years (almost

100) studying issues that are important to our members and residents of the state. We have assembled a fantastic group of reporters who are following the bills that are being submitted daily in the Maryland Senate and House. Their reports are published bi-weekly in our [Report from State Circle \(RSC\)](#). LWV members will receive copies by email and it will also be published on our website at www.LWVMD.org/report_from_st_circle. This report allows you to easily follow bills in critical issue areas.

Now is also the time for action. You will be receiving [Action Alerts](#) that ask you to contact your state legislatures about certain bills that we have positions on and are important to further the LWV's agenda. Please make it your responsibility to follow

up on these issues with your legislators, so that we can work on passing bills that we think are vital to a stronger Maryland. Remember, however, when you write to your legislator, you are writing as an individual - not as an LWV spokesperson. The only people that that can speak for the LWV are the Presidents or their designees.

LWVMD will be providing you with a chance to spend a day in Annapolis and speak directly with your delegates on League's priorities, hear interesting speakers and meet with fellow Leaguers throughout the state. **Please put Tuesday, March 5 on your calendars.** It is our annual [Legislative Day](#) in Annapolis.

Wishing you all the best for the New Year,

Elaine Apter,
LWVMD Co-President
pres@lwvmd.org

Notes from the Board

The Maryland State Board is now meeting back in Wilde Lake Interfaith Center. You will be impressed with the improvements! Your State Board has been working hard on the [Winter Workshop](#) and [Legislative Day](#). We hope you are planning on participating in BOTH. We have some mighty fine speakers and sessions planned. Remember, the Winter Workshop is on January 26th and features sessions on Bail & Corrections, NationBuilder, and Lobbying for Redistrict Reform. The Legislative Council for the ACLU of MD Education Program, [Kim Humphrey](#), will speak on the Kirwan Commission's legislative recommendations. [Register online for the Winter Workshop here](#), or use the mail-in form on page 5.

Join us for Legislative Day 2019 on Tuesday, March 5th. Coordinate with your

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE



Not sure what to do when you receive an **Action Alert**? Here's a helpful guide!

READ YOUR ALERT!



LWVMD works with legislators on behalf of its members to advance and protect the causes they care about most - read the Action Alert and decide how you want to help LWVMD advocate for your cause!

MAKE A PHONE CALL

It might seem like your busy representative's office won't have time to take a call from you - but that's what they are there for! And a call counts! Legislative Aides have running tally lists for every call they receive for an against legislation.



MAIL A LETTER

Yes! In the Post!



Sometimes it's easy to disregard an email - especially when many constituents are reaching out to their representative on lots of issues - taking the time to write a letter can really attract your rep's attention!

SEND AN EMAIL

Sometimes it *CAN* be as easy as sending your representative a quick email. Legislators may receive hundreds of emails from their constituents, but they know their duty to the people, so their offices devote serious man power to ensure each email is read and your voice is heard.



QUESTIONS?

Still have some questions?
Contact your LWVMD Action Chair
at action@lwvmd.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US AT WWW.LWVMD.ORG



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[@LWVMD](https://twitter.com/LWVMD)

local League to visit and lobby your representatives in Annapolis, informing them on the LWV's priorities for the 2019 General Assembly Session. Or you can enjoy a tour of your State Capital. More

information coming soon, but you can [register for Legislative Day 2019 here now](#).

The Convention is around the corner, June 7-9, and we have lined up a very

entertaining speaker for the event. Mark your calendars now!

Theresa Freligh
LWVMD Secretary
secretary@lwvmd.com

Meet LWVMD's 2019 Legislative Interns

Colleen Herrmann is a sophomore at the University of Maryland, College Park, studying Public Policy and Communications Rhetoric. She is actively involved in UMD's student government, where she serves as a residential representative on the legislature and works with various committees, including the Committee on Academic Affairs and the Health and Wellness Committee. She has been the point person on various campus-wide projects including organizing the second annual Birth Control Town Hall, bringing Mental Health First Aid to campus, and starting a minor in Political Science. She is passionate about student government because she finds it the best way to ensure students' safety on campus physically, mentally, and academically. On campus, she is also an active brother in Alpha Phi Omega, a co-ed service fraternity.

Colleen is interested in campaign communication and management, political advocacy, and voter education, which means that she is thrilled to be interning with the League this semester! She has greatly admired LWVMD since she learned about the Voters' Guides, and has been referring family and friends to vote411.org since she learned about its existence in the 2018 Maryland primary. She is especially passionate about redistricting, the environment, and fair policies for higher education, but she's excited to help the LWV advocate for a wide variety of issues in the General Assembly this session!

Nadia Monnier is a senior at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland majoring in Political Science with a minor in Nonprofit Management and Civic Engagement Studies. She is passionate about both politics and the nonprofit sector, and that is why she pursued an internship with LWVMD for the 2019 legislative session.

Before hearing about this position, Nadia had learned about the direct role that the League plays in getting the public to understand and engage with our government in a nonpartisan manner. She views this work as critical to the success of our democracy and wanted to learn about and participate in this work. Throughout her time as an intern at the LWVMD she hopes to gain a better understanding of the inner workings of such advocacy and civic engagement activities, as well as learning more about the internal functions of a nonprofit organization.



Report from State Circle Subscriptions Available

Be Sure You Are Subscribed to *Report from State Circle*.

The [*Report from State Circle*](#) is produced by League members who monitor legislation in Annapolis. There are 6 issues between the end of January the end of April, while the MD General Assembly is in session. Everyone is invited to subscribe and email subscriptions are free! Snail mail subscriptions are \$15. Sign up [here](#).



For the 2019 General Assembly session we have 22 League volunteers prepared to cover a broad spectrum of social, economic, environmental and governmental proposed legislation before the Maryland General Assembly.

This publication is meant to be nonpartisan and educational. To see if and how the League testified on legislation, check the [Testimony](#) page at lwvmd.org. We will also be emailing regular updates on when LWVMD testifies throughout session to everyone who is signed up for [Action Alerts](#) – so sign up today to stay informed!

Lois Hybl,
LWVMD 1st Vice President, Action
vp1@lwvmd.org

NationBuilder Workshop

NB Topics for Winter Workshop, 1/26/2019 - Planning on attending the Winter Workshop this month? Of the three sessions offered, one will focus on the LWV websites and database, NationBuilder. Here is the Top Ten List of issues being covered in this session:

1. What does Control Panel access mean and how do I get it? (hint: helps you edit your website)
2. Setting up a Communicator (for sending emails)
3. Using filters, and saving them (to help you organize people)
4. The power of lists (again, to help you organize people)
5. Using NB as an address book
6. Using links in a newsletter
7. Uploading your content
8. Personalizing your e-Newsletter
9. Creating events so you can connect with attendees
10. Plus a Q&A as time permits.

Click here to [submit a suggestion](#) in advance!

Richard Willson,
LWVMD Co-President
pres@lwvmd.org

January 2019 SBL – Membership

ATTENTION: MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS & ROSTER MANAGERS

IF YOU USE LWVMD'S WEBSITE (AKA NATIONBUILDER) TO MANAGE YOUR LEAGUE'S MEMBER INFORMATION, THE STATE LEAGUE MAKES SURE YOUR ROSTER IS UP TO DATE IN THE LWVUS DATABASE. TO BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THIS PROCESS PRIOR TO LWVUS' ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TALLY ON JANUARY 31, WE ASK THAT YOU OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING DEADLINES:

LAST DAY TO ADD NEW MEMBERS IN NB JANUARY 26

LAST DAY TO CHANGE MEMBER STATUS* IN NB JANUARY 29

BEST DAY TO FINALIZE MEMBER DATA IN NB ASAP!

UNSURE WHAT ANY OF THIS MEANS? PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE WINTER WORKSHOP ON JANUARY 26 AND BRING YOUR COMPUTER & FILES.

TO REPORT YOUR NB ROSTER IS READY FOR UPLOAD OR ASK QUESTIONS:

NIECY CHAMBERS, LWVMD VP-MEMBERSHIP NCHAMBERS@LWVMD.ORG.

THANK YOU!

***PLEASE BE SURE TO CHANGE THE CUSTOM FIELDS AND TAGS FOR NON-RENEWING MEMBERS!**



LWVMD WINTER WORKSHOP

Saturday, January 26, 2019

Wilde Lake Interfaith Center

10431 Twin Rivers Road

Columbia, MD 21044

9:30 am - 2:00 pm

Workshop fee of \$25 (Non-LWV member \$30)



9:30 am - 10:00 am Registration and light breakfast

10:00 am - 11:00 am Concurrent Workshops:
Bail Reform (State Study/Consensus)
NationBuilder Update
Lobbying for Redistricting

11:15 am - 12:15 pm Concurrent Workshops:
Bail Reform (State Study/Consensus)
NationBuilder Update
Lobbying for Redistricting

*Snow Date: Feb. 2, 2019.
Check **LWVMD.org**
if weather is inclement.

12:30 pm- 1:45 pm Lunch and Speaker:
Kim Humphrey, Legislative Counsel for the ACLU of Maryland Education Program
The Recommendations of the Kirwan Commission

1:45 pm - 2:00 pm Announcements
REGISTER ON LINE AT http://www.lwvmd.org/winter_workshop_2019

OR BELOW

WINTER WORKSHOP 2019 REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

LEAGUE _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Workshop fee - \$25.00/Non LWV member \$30 _____

*****Tickets increase by \$5 after 1/19/2019 - Register Early! After 1/19 \$30 members/\$35 non-members**

Donation to the LWVMD Education Fund _____ (Or donate on line: Go to lwvmd.org/join_donate)

Mail to: LWVMD, 111 Cathedral Street, Suite 201, Annapolis, MD 21401

If you or someone you know would like assistance from the Lois Stoner Scholarship Fund for the workshop fee, please contact the LWVMD office at 410 269 0232 or by email: lwvmd@verizon.net