

6/18/80

NON-PARTISAN POLICY FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
THE DECATUR, ILLINOIS LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

1. The L/W is a nonpartisan organization and it shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.
2. The Decatur L/W Board of Directors shall abide by a nonpartisan policy that allows the Board Members, (except the President, Vice Presidents, and Voters' Service Chairmen, and other publicly sensitive positions) to support candidates.
3. A Board Member may serve on local appointed boards where service would not be detrimental to L/W programs.
4. The political activities of a spouse or relative of a Board Member will be considered separate and distinct from the activities of the Board Member.
5. Public notices released by the L/W announcing the resignation of a Board Member to run for a political office <sup>are</sup> to be carefully worded in order to avoid the appearance of endorsing the resigning board member's candidacy.
6. The L/W's non-partisan reputation is sufficiently strong to ensure that personal contributions from office holders and candidates, as well as other community contributions, can be accepted without being misconstrued as endorsements of those donors.
7. The public views of board members who are asked to be members of appointed public commissions and committees, either as individuals or representatives of the League, must be consistent with stated League positions.

Board members may have party affiliations and should certainly carry out the responsibilities of every voter in exercising the franchise, including the responsibility to become informed about candidates and to attend precinct meetings and caucuses. While the Board develops guidelines on what Board Members may do, a general policy can never cover every situation and the Board will need to deal with specific cases as they arise, ~~on an individual basis.~~