



LEAGUE LINGO

Otherwise known as "do you understand what I'm saying?"

As in: (HYPOTHETICALLY) "When we go to *convention* there'll be a *program action alert* on our health care *position* that *National* expects us to take *action* on immediately and a new *concurrence* on gun control. Plus, we'll be asked to raise the *PMP* and increase our *voter service*."

Below are some terms that are used by League members.

ACTION

Expression of League positions to governmental officials by the president or her/his authorized representative.

ACTION ALERT

Request from state or national League to take action at a specific time in support of a League position.

ANNUAL MEETING

Local year-end business meeting to elect officers and directors, vote on bylaw changes and adopt a budget and program of work for the next year.

CONCURRENCE

Agreement of League members with position reached by a small group or another League.

CONSENSUS

Collective opinion of League members on a particular subject. Also, process used to arrive at positions on issues.

CONVENTION

State and national League meetings held biennially. Delegates adopt program, elect officers, adopt a budget for the coming year, and act on proposed by-laws changes.

COUNCIL

State and national meetings held in the years between conventions. Limited delegate body adopts budget for the coming year; may discuss program.

EDUCATION FUND

The tax-deductible arm of the LWV (501c3). Education funds may be established at all three levels of League. Education monies may not be used for position support activities (action.)

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

A person who has been a member for 50 years or more. Life members are excused from dues payment and their Leagues pay no per member payment (PMP) for them.

ILO

Acronym for Inter-League Organization. Leagues in a geographic area may join for joint activities and have a governing board.

LEADERS UPDATE (formerly the "Presidents Mailing"): A weekly electronic LWV news briefing sent by the LWVUS president to state and local members who are listed as leaders in that LWV's database on the LWVUS membership website. LWV presidents are urged to share Leaders Updates with their entire board, off-board and committee chair lists.

LOCAL LEAGUE LIAISON

State board member assigned to receive and read local League minutes and Voters. Primary contact for the local League presidents with the state board.

MAL

Meaning Member-At-Large, this is a member who does not belong to a local League.

MAL UNIT

A state-recognized group of Members-At-Large, in an area where there is no local League. PMP: Acronym for Per Member Payment, the amount of money paid to the LWVUS and the state League on behalf of each member.

NATIONAL

Short for League of Women Voters of the United States

NON-PARTISANSHIP

League policy of never supporting or opposing any candidate or political party.

PMP

Acronym for Per Member Payment, which is the amount of money paid to the state and national on behalf of each member. The amount of the PMP is determined by delegates to state and national Conventions and is assessed based on the membership count as of January 1 each year.

PORTFOLIO

The particular job assigned to a board member or off-board chairperson i.e. membership, finance, secretary, etc.

POSITION

League's point of view, arrived at through member study and consensus (or concurrence.)

PRINCIPLES

Governmental standards and policies supported by the League by which all proposed or adopted local, state or national issues are measured.

PROGRAM

Selected governmental issues chosen by the membership at local, state and national levels for study and action.

STUDY

The process (one-two years normally) of research and educating ourselves on an issue prior to consensus taking and arrival at a formal position.

TAX STATUS 501 (c) (3)

Not-for-profit organization that is exempt from federal taxes. In addition, corporate and individual contributions are tax deductible.

TAX STATUS 501 (c) (4)

Not-for-profit organization that is exempt from federal taxes. Contributions are not tax deductible.

UNIT

Division of the membership into groups of a size that will provide maximum participation by members in discussion of League program and activities. Units can be time-oriented or geographically oriented or both. Most larger Leagues have units.

VOTER

Newsletter for members and other subscribers, published by local, state and national Leagues.

VOTER'S GUIDE

Nonpartisan publications giving candidates' qualifications and positions on selected issues.

VOTER SERVICE

Activities to help citizens be politically effective and to encourage their participation in the political process.

VOTING MEMBERS

All League members who are U.S. citizens and at least 18 years old.