



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF MASSACHUSETTS

LEGISLATIVE ENVOY PROGRAM



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Over the years, the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts (LWVMA) has been a force on Beacon Hill, leading the way on key efforts to improve elections and voting, defend the environment, protect reproductive rights, improve governmental transparency, and ensure equal access to housing, education, and other basic human needs.

As we approach our 100th anniversary, we must ensure that our voice continues to be heard and that our members—our CITIZEN LOBBYISTS—have the *information, skills, and resources* they need to advance LWVMA’s legislative agenda and fight for our priorities.

To help train, empower, mobilize, and increase our Citizen Lobbyists, we are pleased to introduce LWVMA’s new **Legislative Envoy Program**.

What is the Legislative Envoy Program?

The Legislative Envoy Program **formalizes the links between the state League’s Legislative Action Committee (LAC) and local Leagues** across the Commonwealth.

With better connections between our state League legislative specialists and local Leagues, **we can be more effective in moving legislation and acting on legislative priorities when swift, coordinated action matters most.**

By formalizing these connections, **we will also promote local Leagues, engage members interested in state issues, develop connections with legislators and local media, and increase the impact of the League in Massachusetts.**

How Does the Legislative Envoy Program Work?

The goal is to grow a **corps of Legislative Envoys** in our local Leagues so that each of our legislators has an envoy from LWVMA.

Initially, LWVMA will pilot a small group of envoys from different local Leagues who will be responsible for building relationships with the State Representative and Senator in their districts and engaging their local Leagues. We plan to grow this group over the next several years.

LAC Specialist Colleen Kirby will coordinate the Legislative Envoy program for the Program and Action Committee, co-chaired by Nancy Brumback and Karen Price.

The Legislative Envoy Program will kick off in January 2018.

Why Become a Legislative Envoy?

You will learn how to **become a better Citizen Lobbyist** and will **become familiar with the legislative priorities** of the state League.

You will become a **key proponent** of state League efforts to make Massachusetts more responsive to its residents and provide a key link between your local League and state government.

What Will the Legislative Envoys Do?

As a Legislative Envoy, you will:

- **Get to know your legislators** by attending local office hours (1-2 times per year), following your legislators on social media, setting up meetings for yourself or with a group of constituents, and encouraging your local League to get together with legislators.
- **Learn about state League priorities** by receiving summaries of bills LWVMA is following, participating in webinars and teleconferences, acting on Action Alerts, and attending Day on the Hill.
- **Learn your state legislators' priorities** through regular communication with them and their staffs.
- **Serve as a conduit**, connecting the state League, your local League, and your legislators.
- **Advance state League legislative priorities** by working with your legislators.

What Is the Time Commitment for Legislative Envoys?

Legislative Envoys should be prepared to spend 5-10 hours per month in this role but the commitment is flexible if your time is limited.

What Support and Benefits Will Legislative Envoys Receive?

As a Legislative Envoy, you will develop skills, acquire information, and receive resources that will enable you to be a better advocate and CITIZEN LOBBYIST. The state League will offer you:

- **Training** on lobbying, state government, and communicating with media
- **In-depth specialist briefings** on bills
- Informative **teleconferences, webinars and workshops** for Envoys
- **Ongoing support** from the LWVMA office
- **Opportunities to socialize with other Envoys**



For Further Information Contact Us!

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