Legislative Envoy Program

Over the years, 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, mobilize, and increase our Citizen Lobbyists, we have created the 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 promote local Leagues, engage members 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?

Envoys participate in regular webinars and meet in-person periodically. Envoys will **become familiar with the legislative priorities** of the state League, will **become key proponents** of state League efforts to make Massachusetts more responsive to its residents, and **will provide a key link** between their local Leagues and state government. 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 Do Legislative Envoys Do?

As a Legislative Envoy, you will:

- <u>Get to know your legislators</u> 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.
- <u>Learn about state League priorities</u> 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 Support Do Legislative Envoys Receive?

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, please contact Colleen Kirby, Legislative Envoy Coordinator, at ckirby@lwvma.org or the LWVMA office at lwvma@lwvma.org or 857-452-1715.