

**Ballot Issues Recommendations for the November 7, 2006 General Election  
Adopted by the League of Women Voters of Ohio - September 9, 2006**

*Proposed Referendum*

**State Ballot Issue 1  
Referendum of Am. Sub. SB7**

Workers' Compensation Reform Referendum (Proposed by Referendum Petition)

LWVO has no position relating to workers' compensation law and therefore cannot make a recommendation.

*Proposed Constitutional Amendment:*

**State Ballot Issue 2  
Ohio Fair Minimum Wage Amendment (Proposed by Initiative Petition)**

To adopt Section 34 of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio.

Based on our position that the Ohio Constitution should be a clearly stated body of fundamental principles, the League of Women Voters of Ohio opposes the passage of the Ohio Fair Minimum Wage Initiative. Amending the constitution to include the Fair Minimum Wage Initiative would be unwise given the initiative's level of detail that could not be changed without another constitutional amendment.

The Ohio Constitution should establish a fundamental framework for our state's governance. As such, the constitution should not be used to enact public policy which, by its very definition, is contextual to a certain time and place. Legislation is the appropriate place for public policy, rather than the constitution. Legislation is much more easily changed to reflect changes in context and in public will – and thus more readily ensures that voters can put in place policies appropriate to their issues and societal environments.

*Proposed Constitutional Amendment:*

**State Ballot Issue 3  
Learn and Earn Amendment (Proposed by Initiative Petition)**  
To adopt Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio

The League of Women Voters of Ohio opposes Learn and Earn based on its position that the Ohio Constitution should be a clearly stated body of fundamental principles. The Learn and Earn proposal has a narrow focus on Cleveland and a level of detail that could not be changed without another constitutional amendment.

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*Proposed Constitutional Amendment:*

**State Ballot Issue 4**

**Smoke Less Ohio Amendment (Proposed by Initiative Petition)**

To adopt Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio

The League of Women Voters of Ohio opposes the passage of the proposed Smoke Less Ohio constitutional amendment based on our national air quality position: The League supports maximum protection of public health, and the regulation and reduction of ambient toxic air pollutants. This amendment fails to provide for maximum protection of air quality.

Additionally, the proposal is inconsistent with the League's position that the constitution should be a clearly stated body of fundamental principles. The Ohio Constitution should establish a fundamental framework for our state's governance. As such, the constitution should not be used to enact public policy which, by its very definition, is contextual to a certain time and place. Legislation is the appropriate place for public policy, rather than the constitution. Legislation is much more easily changed to reflect changes in context and in public will – and thus more readily ensures that voters can put in place policies appropriate to their issues and societal environments.

*Proposed Statute:*

**State Ballot Issue 5**

**Smoke Free Workplace Act (Proposed by Initiative Petition)**

To enact Chapter 3794 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio

The League of Women Voters of Ohio supports the passage of the Smoke Free Workplace statute, based on our national air quality position: The League supports maximum protection of public health, and regulation and reduction of ambient toxic air pollutants. This proposed statute does provide maximum air quality protection.