



**HEALTHY
PEOPLE**



**HEALTHY
DEMOCRACY**

June 14, 2022

LWV Health Care Reform for the US Caucus newsletter

The Deepening Crises in Health Care Make Our Current System Unsustainable

HCR4US will once again present a program at national convention on Saturday, June 25, at 1:30 p.m. MT.

Crises in Health Care

- Quality** (falling life expectancy, rising maternal and infant mortality)
- Equity** (deepening disparities)
- Affordability** (economic burden on patients, employers and taxpayers)

In search of solutions, we look to the LWV US Health Care position and how League advocacy can help overcome the crises.

Featured Speakers:

Rose Roach, Executive director of the Minnesota Nurses Assn and leading spokesperson in the national Medicare For All movement, will open the program.

Then two third-year medical students and members of the League will share their sense of urgency as they prepare their chosen profession, aware of its need for reform.



Simran Arya, Stony Brook (NY) Renaissance School of Medicine. Students for a National Health Program.

Joey Ballard, Co-president of Indiana University chapter of Students for a National Health Program;

With Mentors and Facilitators **Hank Abrons**, MD, MPH (LWV of Berkeley Albany and Emeryville (CA) and **Betty Keller**, MD (LWV of Vermont).

Convention Offers a Variety of Programs

The Convention 2022 agenda includes presentations and panels with outstanding leaders from Black Voters Matter, Planned Parenthood, the Workers' Circle, and more. They will spotlight challenges to diversity and how "Women Power Democracy."

Attendees will have opportunities to network across geography and topics. In addition to in-person and virtual receptions, local Leagues provide 60 educational caucuses, materials and merchandise at the Experience Center in the Exhibit Hall.

At the Plenaries, delegates will discuss and vote on non-recommended concurrences, resolutions, budget, and by-law changes and will install the new board.

Pre-convention webinars are available to train delegates on the procedures <https://events.bizzabo.com/406659>.

Delegates could also use the HCR4US web-contact form to ask specific questions (<https://tinyurl.com/Contact-LWV-HCR-4US>)

Delegates will VOTE on the LWV Proposed Program for 2022-2024 in the plenaries. The LWVUS Board recommends continuing the Campaign for Making Democracy Work® and keeping current positions/ It also

recommends **adding two concurrences**: LWV-NY's HealthCare Update and LWV-CA's Criminal Justice Position. (<https://convention.lwv.org/page/2133632/proposedprogram->)

Please encourage your delegates to attend these additional HCR4US-supported caucuses:

Friday: 8:30—9:30 a.m. MT "Achieving Digital Equity: A US Position Supports Immediate Advocacy" is based on our Rural Affairs colleagues' "non-recommended" concurrence on a crucial DEI Issue affecting many League priority goals: voting, education, health, and more.

Friday: 10:00—11:00 a.m. MT "DEI Disparities & Pandemic Peril: Patching Gaps in Our Health Care Position — Education on Proposed Concurrence with Excerpts from NYS Health Care Positions" explains how each addition of specific NYS elements helps achieve LWVUS healthcare goals. See this 5-minute video: [Why Vote YES to Update the LWVUS Position on Healthcare at Convention.](#)

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, July 24

8:00 p.m. ET

Register at

<https://tinyurl.com/July24-Zm>

After the convention:

Find Caucus Materials and Programming at our HCR4US YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/c/LWVHealthCareReform>

Upcoming

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

June 15 Behavioral Health Committee
July 9 Newsletter Editorial/Advisory Board
July 24 HCR4US Monthly Meeting

EVENTS

June 18 Mass Poor People's and Low-Wage Workers' Assembly and Moral March on Washington DC and to the Polls — 10 a.m. to 3 p.m ET at 3rd Street and Pennsylvania Avenue Go to <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/june18> to RSVP and follow the events. Click on LWVUS as a "Mobilizing Partner."

June 23-26 LWV US National Convention
HCR4US Caucus presentation on Saturday, June 25 at 1:30 p.m. MT [Attendees: Please use your social media to keep us informed about what is going on.]

Networking

Physicians for a National Health Program
<https://pnhp.org/>

Students for a Nat'l Health Program (SNaHP)
<https://www.facebook.com/snhp1/>

National Nurses United
<https://www.nationalnursesunited.org>

Medicare for All Resolutions
<https://www.medicare4allresolutions.org>

Poor Peoples Campaign
<https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org>

HCR4US Links

HCR4US Toolkit:
<https://lwwhealthcarereform.org>

HCR4US Youtube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/LWVHealthCareReform>

HCR4US Web-Contact Form: tinyurl.com/Contact-LWV-HCR-4US

HCR4US Google Drive:
<https://tinyurl.com/HCR4US-Minutes-Materials>

HCR4US Google Group:
<https://groups.google.com/g/lwvus4healthreform>

HCR4US: *Dedicated to educating and mobilizing League members to work toward legislation that enacts the goals of our LWVUS health care position*

Newsletter Committee: Barbara Pearson,
Jon Li, Candy Birch

What does HC Reform have to do with Making Democracy Work?

The campaign to reform U.S. health care is, in essence, a campaign to Make Democracy Work®. Over several decades, the fierce, well-financed opposition to comprehensive reform in health policy and legislation at the federal and state levels has preserved the status quo for those who create wealth for investors from it -- at the expense of the wishes and the social and economic interests of the majority of voters.

Public input is a key addition to the NYS Health Care Update Concurrence. Health care for All proposals have in common that they replace top-down decision-making behind the closed doors of corporate boardrooms with governance through a Medical Trust, a body with representatives of key constituents, doctors and other providers, public health professionals, policy experts, and patient advocates. M4A determines fee schedules and global budgets transparently, negotiated up-front with stakeholders.

In addition to improved health outcomes for less money, improved and expanded M4A laws are based on democratic principles, including transparency and accountability, which are almost completely absent in our current health care institutions.



Vote YES Health Care Concurrence Position
Universal Coverage / Equitable Quality / Affordable For All

LWV

Behavioral Health Affinity Group:

This Precipice: On The Loss of Roe v. Wade

The American Psychological Association's message is clear, mental health will suffer from the consequences of carrying unwanted pregnancies. One in four individuals with reproductive capacity will have an abortion. The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that public policy in a pluralistic society must affirm the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices. And what of equality? Interested in organizing action around this issue and have ideas? Please contact the Behavioral Health Affinity Group (Jody Disney jodyannette1@gmail.com) or better yet, come to a meeting.



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