

MISSION

To educate and mobilize League members to work toward legislation and other reforms that enact the goals of our LWVUS health care position, with a strong focus on [expanded and improved Medicare for All](#).

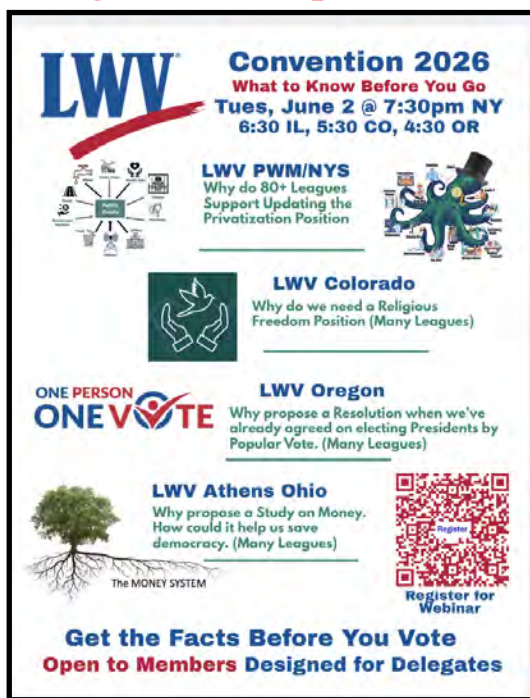
Convention Is Coming! Where Top-down and Bottom-up Meet

The essence of the League of Women Voters is the [800+ local Leagues, and Member-at-Large units](#) — rural, urban, and suburban — wherever thoughtful women and their allies pull together to intensify their civic engagement. They are facilitated in their work and study by state-level Leagues and are both [guided](#) and [branded](#) by the national League (LWV-US).

Each year, local Leagues choose by consensus the issues most interesting and most pressing to the group, which evolves their own plans to study, educate, and advocate locally.

Local and state Leagues also watch the weather at LWV-US and can decide to follow the national issues that LWV-US proposes to put its considerable energy and weight behind. National, though, does not develop its program in a vacuum: they are systematic in soliciting support for their issues and actions. Both the content and the process to pursue them are discussed and debated to capture local concerns. The proposals are then subjected to a vote, through well-publicized electronic surveys and a BIENNIAL CONVENTION, this year in Columbus OH in a month!

At Convention, the grassroots speak to national and also network among themselves. (This is where [our interest group](#) developed.) There are educational and social events, and there's BUSINESS to be conducted. Each local League sends DELEGATES, determined proportionally. Like our elected legislators, the delegates represent their constituents, but must examine each issue through their own lens as well. That is, we



LWV Convention 2026
 What to Know Before You Go
Tues, June 2 @ 7:30pm NY
 6:30 IL, 5:30 CO, 4:30 OR

LWV PWM/NYS
 Why do 80+ Leagues Support Updating the Privatization Position

LWV Colorado
 Why do we need a Religious Freedom Position (Many Leagues)

ONE PERSON ONE VOTE **LWV Oregon**
 Why propose a Resolution when we've already agreed on electing Presidents by Popular Vote. (Many Leagues)

LWV Athens Ohio
 Why propose a Study on Money. How could it help us save democracy. (Many Leagues)

Get the Facts Before You Vote
 Open to Members Designed for Delegates

Register for Webinar

Join us for a pre-convention program on non-recommended Concurrences, Resolutions, and Study proposals. Register [here](#).

make sure they know our opinions on the matters they are called upon to decide, but they are [not bound by them](#). If they get further information on a topic, they vote their conscience. So we choose people to represent our interest whose fair-mindedness and judgment we trust.

The delegates and observers at Convention also work through established channels of communication that are designed to receive maximum input and allow for respectful debate.

Every year, we can anticipate votes on [items from LWV-US](#) about the by-laws, budget, and election of the officers and board going forward. They also make proposals about the program for the next two years based

on the electronic surveys and their own deliberations. The grassroots will speak from the floor in response to proposals from national, but they also have several specialized formats with which to bring local concerns to everyone's attention. This year, we will have three [Concurrences, at least one Resolution, and one Proposal for a Formal Study](#).

To learn the meaning of those terms in LeagueSpeak and the details of the specific items, check out the official Convention website and also tune in to the program [June 2](#), brought to the "national grassroots" by New York State, with support from US (HCR4US). Mark your calendars and plan to attend (then look for the video on [our HCR YouTube](#)).

Submitted by Barbara Pearson

Newsletter Staff:
Barbara Pearson
& Candy Birch

4/26 Mtg

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|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| CA — Doug Cooper | CO — Kathy Maher | KS — Linda Johnson | NY — Marita Florini | VT — Jean Hopkins |
| CA — Jon Li | CO — Pamela Parks | MA — Barbara Pearson | NY — Haley Mack | VT — Betty Keller |
| CA — Marilyn Ayers | FL — Paul Arons | MA — Suzanne Steinbach | NC — Wayne Hale | VA — Stephanie Lowenhaupt |
| CO — Barbara Dungey | FL — Candy Birch | NY — Judy Esterquest | OR — Christa Danielson | |
| CO — Linda Mahan | FL — Laurie Scop | | VT — Tom Derenthal | |



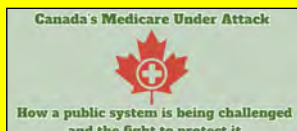
Newsletter Feedback

Click [here](#) to provide us with your feedback about the newsletter.

In Case You Missed It

Mar 22 — HCR4US meeting [video](#) and [audio](#) and [supplementary materials](#) with Action Links

May 27 — National Single Payer presented a webinar "[Canada's Medicare Under Attack](#)."



May 28 — LWV of Amherst, Northhampton, and Sudbury MA and 8 co-sponsors presented "We Pay—They Profit," a webinar featuring Donald Cohen. Look for the video on [HCR4US You Tube channel](#) soon.



Networking

One Payer States

<https://www.onepayerstates.org/>

National Single Payer

<https://nationalsinglepayer.com/>

Healthcare Advocacy on Substack

[Here's the link.](#)

Physicians for a Nat'l Health Program

<https://pnhp.org/>

Center for Medicare Advocacy

<https://www.MedicareAvocacy.org>

HCR4US Websites

HCR4US Toolkit:

<https://lwvhealthcarereform.org>

HCR4US Youtube Channel:

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

HCR4US Web-Contact Form:

tinyurl.com/Contact-LWV-HCR-4US

League Update Newsletter Sign Up:

<https://www.lwv.org/league-management/league-update-newsletter-sign>

Add Impact to Our Protests With the National Week of Action Against More Than \$1 Trillion in Healthcare Cuts

SevendaysinJune.org is organizing candle-light vigils for June 5 (or thereabouts). Each candle will name a victim of the cuts that have already begun despite lawmakers' attempts to [postpone them](#) until after mid-term elections. Their postponement says they know the cuts will be unpopular, and they [voted for them](#) anyway.

More than unpopular, we also know the cuts will be deadly. The "[Life and Death Cost of Conservative Power](#)" has been solidly demonstrated. Paul Starr (2023), among others, carefully documents the series of policy decisions over the 64 years during which policy polarization has taken place in the U.S. One conclusion is clear: States with a preponderance of [conservative policies trail states with progressive policies](#) in life expectancy by as much as 8 years. Furthermore, loss of insurance has been tied to a rise in [preventable deaths](#). It is no secret that the cuts will be deadly.

"Make sure your electeds hear from you; make them answer for where they stand." *

Seven Days in June tells us how.

- [Find a vigil](#) near you (or organize one).
- Get a candle
- Search your networks (or news sources) for someone who has already been a victim of the cuts.
- Write up the story.
- Dedicate your candle to the victim.
- Share the story with the vigil and its rally,
- Then be sure to share it with your legislator.*

If your legislator voted **against** the cuts, thank them.

If your legislator voted **for** the cuts, give them the details of your victim. Ask them: how did they not know what the consequences might be? Or did they know, and they just don't care?! Whichever it is, hold their feet to the fire! *Submitted by Barbara Pearson*

***Disclaimer about contacting Members of Congress as an individual constituent, not "representing the League."**

It is a core principle in "Taking Action" (pp2-11) of the League's policy book [Impact on Issues](#) that League members have considerable freedom to contact their state and local officials, but not federal officials, even when your message is aligned with an official position. Without a specific "Action Alert," or an approved "Federal Action Request Form," members must not make statements on national issues to federal officials on behalf of LWV or purport to represent LWV through any public medium.

I try to find a pronouncement from a senior League official in their [archive of press releases](#), like this [letter to the House against the cuts](#) which the national League signed on to, and I like to weave reference to their letter into my letter.

