Announcing LWVWV Consensus Meeting for All Members of LWVWV

MARCH 15, 2025, 10:00 a.m.



All LWV advocacy is based on positions established by consensus. An update of LWVUS Positions has been released. See <u>Impact on Issues 2024–2026</u>.

Currently, LWVUS has positions on the Congress and the Presidency, but LWVUS lacks a position on the third branch of government, the Federal Judiciary, including the Supreme Court. This is an enormous hole, given growing public dissatisfaction with the Courts and numerous reform proposals. For LWVUS to participate in the debate on reforms, a Position is essential.

During the 2024 LWVUS Convention, delegates voted to conduct a one-year study on the Federal Judiciary to arrive at a Position. That effort has been ongoing and the process is expected to yield a new position by June 2025. Here's a brief summary of the process:



Positions are developed by consensus, not a vote.

To accomplish this, all Leagues across the U.S. have been invited to schedule Consensus Meetings between Feb 8 and Apr 14. The results of those meetings will be fed into the LWVUS process to arrive at a Position, if consensus is achieved.

Consensus Meetings in West Virginia

Local Leagues in West Virginia -- Jefferson County and Morgantown-Monongalia County have scheduled in-person consensus meetings.

LWVWV will hold a separate consensus meeting on **March 15, 10:00 a.m.**. Recognizing the travel involved and wanting to ensure LWVWV *Members-at-Large* have the opportunity to participate, the LWVWV consensus meeting will be held virtually, on Zoom.

Members-at-Large have two options to participate in a consensus meeting:

- 1. Attend the LWVWV consensus meeting on Zoom on March 15, 10:00 a.m. or
- 2. Attend <u>any</u> of the two in-person local league consensus meetings for West Virginia's local Leagues.

Morgantown-Monongalia County	March 29, in-person, Noon, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at WVU, Mountaineer Mall, 5000 Green Bag Road, Morgantown, WV 26501
Jefferson County	March 29, in-person, 9:00 a.m. Hospice of the Panhandle meeting room, 330 Hospice Ln., Kearneysville, WV 25430

Resources to Prepare for Consensus

Many League members have never participated in a consensus process before. Therefore, the **LWVUS Federal Judiciary Study Committee** has produced a set of resources. Review and bookmark them prior to the consensus meeting.

Website --

https://www.lwv.org/league-management/advocacy-litigation/2024-2025-federaljudiciary-study-process-committee-and

- See especially: <u>Glossary of terms</u> (recommend that you print out copy of Glossary of Key Terms first), then review **Policy briefs** (several)
- Consensus meeting materials:
 - <u>Study Guide</u> for planning and conducting consensus meetings.
 - <u>Consensus questions</u> to be answered by every participating League. Same set of questions for each League.
 - **Discussion prompts** to kick-off each consensus meeting.
- groups.io -- groups.io is a platform used by LWVUS for information sharing. It includes questions/answers compiled during the study period. Subscribe at <u>https://groups.io/g/LWVFederalJudiciarystudy</u>
- LWVUS Update Newsletter Subscribe at <u>https://www.lwv.org/league-management/league-update-newsletter-sign</u> This newsletter is valuable because it highlights newly released content and upcoming events.

Judy Ball, 2nd VP of the LWVWV and President of the LWV of Morgantown-Monongalia County is a member of the LWVUS Federal Judiciary Study Committee. She is available to answer questions also. Contact her at <u>lwvmorgantown@gmail.com</u>