

League of Women Voters of Albany County

June 2023 Action and Advocacy report

There was no committee meeting in June, however committee members were very active in state activities.

For the State convention, both of which were adopted.

- Anne Erling's work with the 4 counties on the update of the position on waste resulted not only in local chapters' adoption in 2022, but ultimately LWVNYS's adoption of the position in 2023.
- And, Aimee Allaud chaired the state group that proposed study on the process used by the state Board of Elections to approve voting systems with the purpose of seeing if the process can be improved to be more effective in ensuring that approved voting systems meet a balance of the SARAT ("secure, accurate, recountable, accessible and transparent") criteria.

The Criminal Justice Reform committee, which is co-led by Richard Rifkin, engaged in a year-long study of voting access in jails for those who are eligible. This effort, led by Hazel Weiser, resulted in a report with recommendations. The report was released June 23.

Members continued to reach out to state elected officials throughout the extended legislative session for all pieces of legislation that were supported by the LWVNYS legislative agenda. This was especially true for Medical Aid in Dying and all legislation that supported climate change mitigation.

Bravo for the LWVAC's recognition which could never have happened without Lars Dahl, who kept the members and public focused and informed on the redistricting commission's progress, and ultimately for the plan's adoption by the county legislature. Note: this is the first time in 30 years no lawsuit was brought as a result of the county's redistricting plan. While not representing the LWVAC, having Patricia Sibilias as a leading voice on the commission was a contributory factor to the positive outcome.