

# **LWV Position Evaluation Terminology and Criteria for Choosing a New Study**

## **LWV Position Evaluation Terminology**

*Definitions to help you answer the questions, "Do we want to keep, drop, or update a position?*

*Do we need to do a study because we have no position?*

*Do we want to take action on a particular position this year?*

**Action:** LWV public testimony and lobbying on present positions. Action also includes the encouragement of individual members to write or call their elected officials, write letters to the editor and any other public statement on the issue. Members take such action as an individual; actions to be made on behalf of the LWV of Women Voters of Minneapolis must be pre-approved by the LWV Minneapolis Board.

**Drop:** Delete this item (or its designated part) from the existing program and no further action will be taken.

**Keep:** Retain our present position and continue to take action as necessary, but will not study the item further.

**Study:** We will undertake a new study, with consensus, for the purpose of establishing a new position or expanding a current one.

**Update:** Retain the present position and obtain further information. The update may take the form of an article in the Voter and/or discussion in the unit meetings, or a general meeting.

## **Criteria for Choosing a New Study**

LWV has well-established criteria to help members decide on new studies.

**LWV Policy:** Can the problem be solved by government action? Does the proposal fall within LWV's principles?

**Timeliness:** Is this a lively issue? Is the political timing right? Will it lead to effective action for LWV? Will LWV involvement make a difference?

**Appropriateness:** Is LWV the organization best qualified to study the issue? Will it duplicate the work of some other organizations? Is it a national, state, metropolitan, or local issue? Recommend studies for the appropriate level of LWV.

**Membership:** Will the issue attract new members? Will it increase the interest and participation of current members?

**Resources:** Does LWV have the people and the money to address this issue effectively?

**Action:** Action is the implicit purpose of all LWV studies.