



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF INDIANAPOLIS
3808 North Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46208

League of Women Voters of Indianapolis Responds
to Indiana Supreme Court's Voter ID Decision

On June 30, 2010, the Indiana Supreme Court decided 4 to 1 to uphold Indiana's Voter ID law. The League is very disappointed in this decision, but appreciates the Court's thoughtful deliberation of this difficult matter. We particularly commend our attorneys, Karen Celestino-Horseman and William Groth, as well as Justice Theodore Boehm for his dissenting opinion. That opinion rightly stated, "A statute that wrongly denies any group of citizens the right to vote harms us all"

Despite our loss, the League stands by its belief this decision is a set back; not a defeat. Defeat only comes when concerned individuals stop caring; when they capitulate their beliefs and give up on making a difference.

The League of Women Voters is a 90-year-old organization that was founded upon more than 70 years of struggle on the part of women for free and equal access to the most fundamental aspect of our democracy: The vote. Like our suffragist foremothers, as long as we believe our democracy can be improved – and that we can help improve it – we are not defeated.

Although the photo ID law has been declared constitutional, the League encourages state legislators to review this 2005 legislation and to consider adjustments allowing for the possibility of an Election Day affidavit to replace the provisional ballot. Another important issue to be considered by the Secretary of State and by county election boards throughout Indiana is how to insure the law will be uniformly followed at every polling place.

Voters experiencing difficulties in obtaining an ID or casting a ballot at the polls are asked to contact state LWV president Karen Kay Leonard at info@lwvin.org.

The League of Women Voters will continue its vigilance in identifying those individuals burdened by the Voter ID Law. At the same time, the LWV will maintain its efforts with the Secretary of State's Office and the County Clerks to help register citizens to vote, as well as encourage all registered voters to cast an informed ballot in every election.

Erin Kelley
President, LWV-Indpls.