



# Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

All-Members Newsletter

July 1, 2025

## Newsletter Highlights

- **Communications Café:** No meeting this month - happy July!
- **ChapterSpot:** Highlights and Updates from June
- **LWVOR Advocacy:** League Members Make a Difference!
- **LWVOR Communications:** Plug & Play - Medicaid
- **From LWVUS:** What's Happening with Medicaid, Tax Cuts, and Budget Bills?
- **Oregon Secretary of State:** Automatic Recounts Triggered in More than 25 Elections Across Oregon
- **LWVOR Update:** The VOTER GIRL Project Coming to Oregon!

Greetings Members and Friends,

Twelve members from LWVOR had the pleasure of attending the Washington State League Convention last month, including a Saturday evening dinner where we joined our neighbors for connection and celebration. It was wonderful to meet with LWVWA leaders and members (including LWVUS President Dianna Wynn) and begin imagining how our states can partner to expand our

impact. In these challenging times, building alliances across state borders is a powerful tool for protecting democracy. I look forward to continued collaboration.





This month’s newsletter is packed with updates, including new support tools, statewide programs like VOTER GIRL, and opportunities to connect through our regular meetings. As we celebrate the 4th of July, let it also be a reminder of the work ahead to ensure democracy is truly inclusive and representative. Thank you for all you do to keep our communities informed and engaged.

In League,

Lisa Bentson  
President, League of Women Voters of Oregon

*League Events*

**Upcoming LWVOR Events**

July 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 League 101 6:30pm	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Membership/DEIJ 4:00pm	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Local Leaders 5:00pm	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

 **July 2 at 6:30pm PT**

**League 101 on First Wednesdays**

Drop in to meet and greet League and LWVOR board members from across the state. Membership matters! This session is for new members as well as those looking for a refresher on resources. We'll be sharing some of the latest, answering questions, and navigating resources at the state and national league

level. For more information contact Diana DeMaria, LWVOR Membership Chair, [membership@lwvor.org](mailto:membership@lwvor.org).

## **REGISTER HERE**



**July 9 at 4:00pm PT**

### **Membership/DEIJ Group Meeting**

Are you involved in membership or DEIJ efforts in your local League or Unit? Join us for our monthly statewide Membership/DEIJ meeting: a collaborative space for League leaders across Oregon to share updates, ask questions, and connect around challenges and successes in building an inclusive and engaged membership. If you'd like to be added to the contact list for this group, please email LWVOR Membership Chair Diana DeMaria at [membership@lwvor.org](mailto:membership@lwvor.org).



**July 23 at 5:00pm PT**

### **Local League/Unit Leaders Group Meeting**

LWVOR's monthly meeting for Local League and Unit Leaders is a space to connect, exchange updates, and strengthen collaboration across Oregon. If you are a board member or otherwise involved in leading your League or Unit, we invite you to join the conversation! If you're not already on the communication list for this group and would like to be, contact Abby Hertzler at [a.hertzler@lwvor.org](mailto:a.hertzler@lwvor.org).

## **LWVOR COMMUNICATIONS SIGN-UPS:**

Our new [LWVOR communications sign-up page](#) offers descriptions of each of the available subscriptions as well as direct links to sign up for all state League communications.



Please feel free to share this link with your League members and in your newsletters.

### *Your Story, Your Voice*

## Impacts of Federal Actions in Oregon

We are collecting stories from League and community members about how they have been affected by recent federal government actions. These stories will help amplify the personal impact of these issues.

[Read more here.](#)

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### *ChapterSpot*

## Highlights and Updates From June

LWVUS continues to respond to tickets submitted through [their support form](#). They have stressed that this is the best way to submit ongoing issues and new challenges to them so that they are able to document progress on each submitted item.

League leaders have volunteered to help answer general ChapterSpot and portal questions. For data-specific updates or payment problems, continue using the LWVUS support form but for general guidance, please contact Oregon's liaison [Bev Herbst](#).



### **New Officers Not Appearing on Leadership Lists**

Newly added officers may not show up immediately on your League's leadership list. This is because only those with active term dates are visible. For

example, if a Treasurer's term begins 7/1/25, they won't appear (or have portal access) until that date, even if their info has already been entered.

### **Updated Member Portal Admin Guide**

The LWVUS Member Portal Administrator Guide was updated on June 25. You can view or download the latest version here:

[2025-06 Portal Admin Guide \(PDF\)](#).

### **Monthly Office Hours (Framing the Future)**

Still have questions? Join the national team for monthly ChapterSpot Office Hours, held the third Wednesday of each month at 4:00pm ET. [Register here](#). You can also [submit questions in advance](#).

### **June Framing the Future Office Hours Recap**

 [Recording \(Zoom\)](#).

 [Slides \(PDF\)](#).

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### **Helpful Links**

 [LWVUS ChapterSpot Resources](#)

 [LWVUS Membership Portal Updates](#)

 [LWV Member Portal Administrator's Guide](#) (updated 6/25/25)

 [Automatic Emails from ChapterSpot \(PDF\)](#).

For specific membership questions, contact [membership@lww.org](mailto:membership@lww.org).

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## ***LWVOR Advocacy***

# **League Members Make a Difference!**

The legislature has adjourned for this session, though we anticipate that there will be a Special Session for budget reconciliation in September.

There were more than 3459 bills introduced this term and your Action Team has been very busy – submitting 112 letters of testimony on 106 different bills.

**Thanks to YOUR Advocacy through Lobby Day in May**, five of these bills have been signed into law by the Governor and the sixth has been passed by both chambers and is on its way to her.



## [SB243](#) **Oregon Suicide Prevention and Community Safety Firearms Act**

has passed both chambers and is on its way to the Governor.

[SB 1098](#) **Freedom to Read:** books cannot be banned from libraries simply because they were written by or about a minority.

[SB1191](#) **Know your rights** states that you cannot be penalized for telling anyone (such as an immigrant) about their civil or constitutional rights.

[HB 3054 A](#) **Affordable Housing** will limit rent increases and sales constraints by a landlord in a home park or marina, which can threaten residents' ability to stay in their homes.

[HB3187](#) **Protect Older Workers** codifies that unless a job has an age requirement (e.g. bartender) employers may not ask for an applicant's age, date of birth or graduation date prior to completing the first interview.

[HB3365](#) **Climate Curricula** ensures that any revisions to the academic content standards for science, health, history, geography, economics and civics include standards that address the causes and effects of climate change and strategies for mitigating, adapting to and strengthening community resilience to those causes and effects.

Thanks to your response to a recent **Action Alert** opposing HB3392:

[HB3392](#) **Delaying Implementation of Campaign Finance Reform**, a last minute bill has been stopped in its tracks. After strong opposition was voiced, the bill did not receive a work session.

Be sure to check out the [LWVUS Unite and Rise Power Playbook](#) with calls to action through July. You will find ideas for engagement regarding advocacy, protests, and civic education. The campaign aims to mobilize 8.5 million voters using the power of voter engagement as a cornerstone of our democracy.

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## *LWVOR Communications*

### **Plug & Play - Medicaid**

As a reminder, our most recent [Plug & Play talking points](#) are now available—focusing on the urgent threat to Medicaid.

Congress is considering a budget package that would [slash Medicaid funding](#), putting health care access at risk for millions. Nearly 72 million Americans—

including children, seniors, low-income families, and people with disabilities—rely on Medicaid for essential care. We must speak out now to protect it.

[Plug & Play](#) offers optional, ready-to-use content—including talking points, sample Letters to the Editor (LTEs) and Op-Eds, and social media posts—developed with input from the Action Committee. Use them as-is or adapt to fit your community's needs.

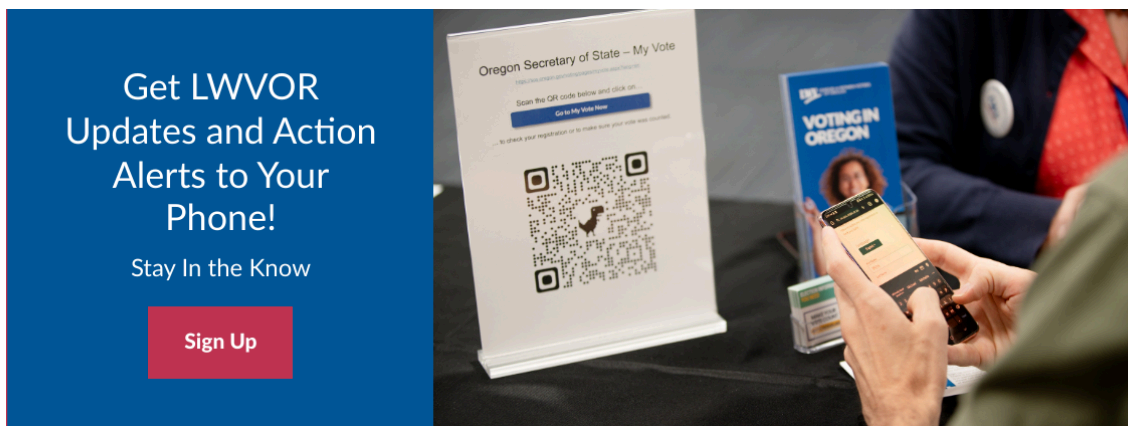
New recently: We've created two versions—one for League leaders and one for members. If you're not a designated spokesperson, please use the member version that focuses on the issue rather than referencing the League.

We hope this makes your outreach easier, more effective, and aligned with our shared purpose.

In League,

On behalf of the LWVOR Communications Team,  
Barbara Klein  
LWVOR VP/Communications

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## *League Events*

# Upcoming LWVUS Events

 **July 1 at 1:00pm PT**

**League in Action Orientation**



Join the LWVUS organizing team for an orientation on our digital organizing platform, League In Action. Sessions are held on the first Tuesday of the month.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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**July 8 at 12:30pm PT**

### **Democracy Integrity Briefing**

The Democracy Integrity Briefings cover growing national and local trends in mis-and-disinformation. The briefing highlights pieces of disinformation that have made headlines and how best to track and address it. At the end of the briefing there is time for Q&A.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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**July 17 at 2:00pm PT**

### **LWV Corporate and Organizational Partnerships**

Join the LWVUS external affairs team to learn about our national corporate and organizational partnerships, how your League can plug in, and tips and tools for building your own partnerships strategy at the state or local level. July 17 Session National Partner Spotlight: Hear from select national partners on what they do and how to leverage partnership at the local level to build successful programming.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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**July 23 at 8:00am PT**

## **Democracy in Your Hands Series: Championing Issues That Matter**

A roundtable discussion that focuses on the challenging yet ever evolving conversations around issues, civic identity, and what makes our democracy, and how to fight for and protect it.

[\*\*REGISTER HERE\*\*](#)

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**July 31 at 2:00pm PT**

## **LWV July Community Call**

A nationwide League community call to align and coordinate on upcoming League activities, actions, and our upcoming Unite & Rise Power Playbook.

[\*\*REGISTER HERE\*\*](#)

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***From LWVUS***

## **What's Happening with Medicaid, Tax Cuts, and Budget Bills?**



*From June 18, 2025*

The United States Congress is using a fast-track budget process known as budget reconciliation to pass legislation that will take away millions of people's health care and food access to pay for tax cuts for corporations and wealthy Americans.

[Reconciliation](#) is a legislative process that allows Congress to quickly pass a budget bill. Legislation can move quickly because it faces a special procedure in the Senate: the bill can only include budget-related items and only requires 51 votes instead of the usual 60. Reconciliation is most used when one political party controls the House, Senate, and the presidency, allowing them to move forward on their budget priorities.

[Read more...](#)

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*From LWVUS*

## **Unite & Rise Tracker**

Unite & Rise 8.5 launched with a variety of timely activities, broken down in our Power Playbooks. To support your League's participation, LWVUS has created a tracker that you can use to document the activities your League chooses to focus on.

- What's Inside: The tracker outlines a menu of actions from PowerPlay Book 1 and includes space to add future actions as new micro campaigns are released every 90 days. Most activities require tracking just one data point (e.g., number of observers). There's also an optional Annual League Survey tab to help you centralize documenting and reporting across programs.
- What to Expect: A new Power Playbook will be shared quarterly.
- Next Steps: Download the [Unite & Rise Tracker](#) and visit the League Management Site for the latest Power Playbook and guidance.

This tool is designed to help you easily track, reflect on, and share your impact. Stay tuned for updates in the future.

### *LWV Advocacy Update*

## National Board Adopts Federal Judiciary Position

The League of Women Voters national Board has announced the adoption of the new [League position on the Federal Judiciary](#).

The Federal Judiciary position was adopted using the League's long-standing practice of grassroots study to arrive at member understanding and agreement. 321 Leagues representing 45 states and the District of Columbia participated in the study.

This position is now part of the League's official public policy positions and is available as a [supplemental PDF document](#). It will be folded into the next edition of Impact on Issues.

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### *Happenings Around the World*

## Global Spotlight





## July is Disability Pride Month!

July marks Disability Pride Month, honoring the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 26, 1990. Disability Pride has evolved from a day of celebration to a month-long global event.

Disabled people make up 15% of the world's population representing all ages, races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, religions, and socio-economic backgrounds. Disability Pride Month celebrates people with disabilities, their identities, their culture, and their contributions to society. It's a time to amplify the voices of people with disabilities and advocate for accessibility, inclusion, and equity.

Disability Pride Month is an excellent time to audit the accessibility of your League events, websites, and materials, or to share resources that uplift disabled voices in civic life. Here are two resources to help:

[Renewing the Commitment: An ADA Compliance Guide for Nonprofits](#)

[Inclusive Design: Web Accessibility for Nonprofits](#)

Here are some support resources in Oregon:

[Oregon Department of Human Services](#)

[Oregon Aging and Disability Resource Connection](#)

[Disability Rights Oregon](#)

[FACT Oregon](#)

[PHAME](#)

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## *Around Oregon*

# Upcoming Town Halls

### **Town Halls with Senator Jeff Merkley**

U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley has not yet added town hall events to his calendar for the month of July. [Sign up for Senator Merkley's mailing list](#) to receive updates from his office and click the link below to check out his current Town Hall Calendar.

### **[SENATOR MERKLEY'S TOWN HALL CALENDAR](#)**

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### **Town Halls with Senator Ron Wyden**

At the time of the publication of this newsletter, Senator Wyden has not yet scheduled Town Halls for July. [Sign up for Senator Wyden's mailing list](#) to receive updates from his office and click the link below to check out his current Town Hall Calendar.

### **[SENATOR WYDEN'S TOWN HALL CALENDAR](#)**

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## *Local League News*

# Local League Events and Notices

Local League and Unit events coming up in the next few weeks. Have events to add? Please send them to Lindsay at [L.laplante@lwvor.org](mailto:L.laplante@lwvor.org).

### ★ **LWV of Clackamas County**

- [LWV of Clackamas County Events Calendar](#)

### ★ **LWV of Coos County**

- [LWV of Coos County Events Calendar](#)

## ★ LWV of Corvallis

- [LWV of Corvallis Events Calendar](#)

## ★ LWV of Curry County

- [LWV of Curry County Events Calendar](#)

## ★ LWV of Deschutes County

- [LWV of Deschutes County Events Calendar](#)

## ★ LWV of Klamath County

- [LWV of Klamath County Events](#)

## ★ LWV of Lane County

- [LWV of Lane County Events Calendar](#)

## ★ LWV of Lincoln County

- [LWV of Lincoln County Events Calendar](#)

## ★ LWV of Linn County Unit

- [LWV of Linn County Unit Facebook page](#)

## ★ LWV of Marion and Polk Counties

- [LWV of Marion and Polk Counties Events Page](#)

## ★ LWV of Portland

- **Voter Registration Volunteers Needed at Naturalization Ceremonies with the USCIS:** Want to team up with a mentor to assist newly eligible citizens learn about voter registration? League members are invited by the United States Customs and Immigration Service (USCIS) and to train with and often partner with LWV of Portland to observe the ceremony and be available afterward to answer and assist our new citizens and their families and friends find out more about voting. The majority of dates available (June - December 2025) are at locations in Portland, with a special pre-Independence Day ceremony on July 3rd in Astoria as well as an August 14th ceremony at Crater Lake Park. Please contact Chris Cobey at [voterservice@lwvpdx.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvpdx.org) for USCIS scheduling to team up and gain some experience!

- [LWV of Portland Website](#)

#### ★ LWV of Rogue Valley

- [LWV of Rogue Valley Events Calendar](#)

#### ★ LWV of Union County Unit

- [LWV of Union County Unit Events Calendar](#)

#### ★ LWV of Umpqua Valley

- [LWV of Umpqua Valley Events Calendar](#)

#### ★ LWV of Washington County Unit

- [LWV of Washington County Unit Facebook page](#)

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### *Oregon Secretary of State*

## Automatic Recounts Triggered in More than 25 Elections Across Oregon





*Press Release - June 17, 2025*

SALEM, OR — Oregon Secretary of State Tobias Read is reminding Oregonians that their votes can decide elections. As of June 17, 2025, the Secretary of State's office has received notification that more than 25 races from the May 20th special district election are close enough to trigger an automatic hand recount.

"I hear from a lot of people that they think their vote doesn't matter, and here we have the undeniable proof that it does. These elections will have a major impact on Oregonians lives, from deciding how we manage our water to how we run schools and fight wildfires – and they'll be decided by just a few votes," said Secretary Read.

[Read more...](#)

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### ***LWVOR Office Update***

## **League Promotional Items for Sale**

League promotional items are for sale on our CafePress shop. We currently offer yard signs, t-shirts, ball caps, buttons, and other items. Take a look and get your swag today!

[\*\*LWVOR CafePress Shop\*\*](#)

### ***LWVOR Youth Update***

## **LWVEF Youth Voter Registration Project**

This spring, LWVOR deepened its impact with youth voters thanks to support from the 2025 League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF) Young Voter Registration Grant. Our Youth Council led five engagement events, including the first-ever voter registration drive at Southridge High School. Governor Tina Kotek even made a surprise appearance at one of the events!

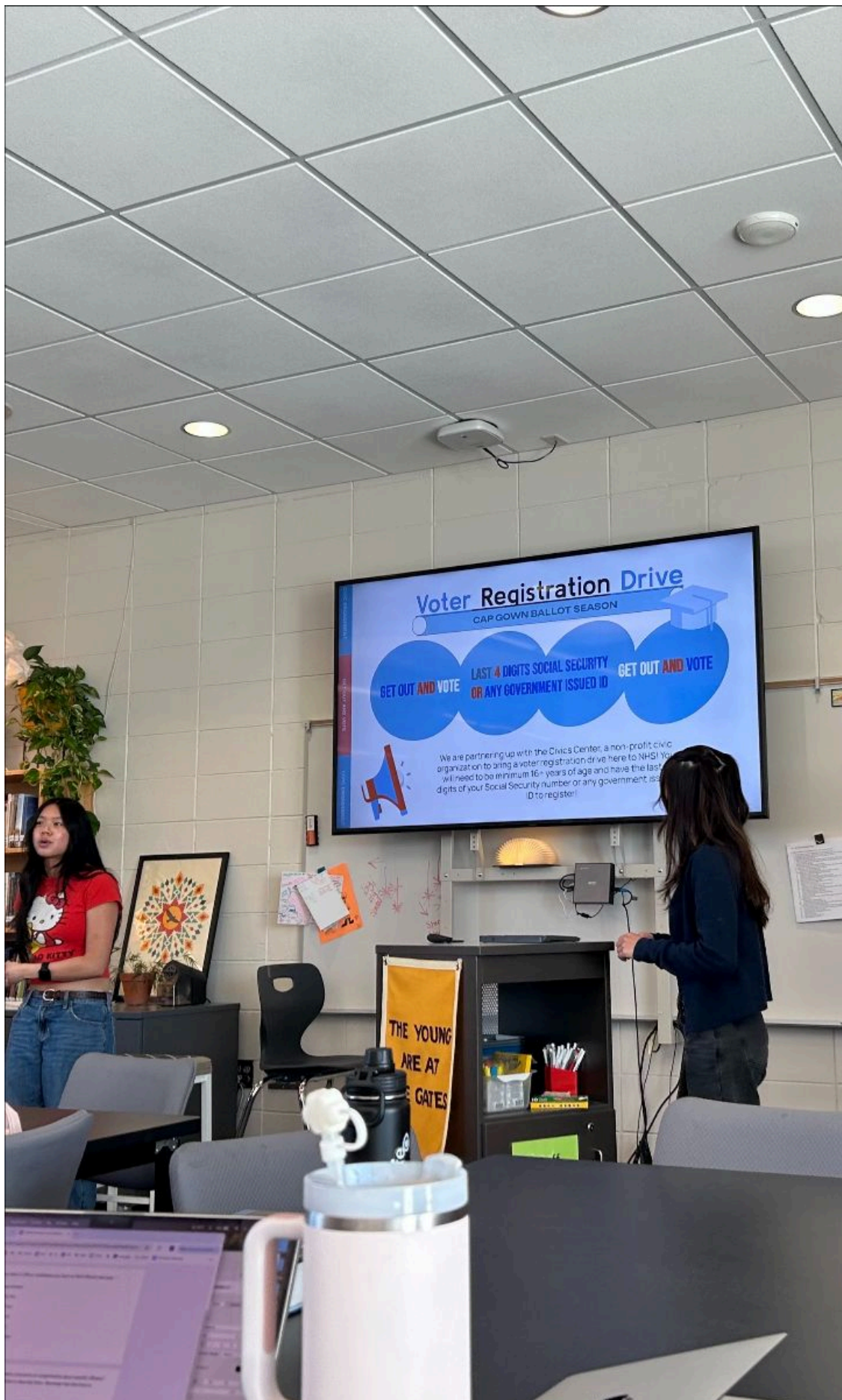


Our work went beyond school walls, reaching teens in food cart lines and outdoor concerts. In total, we reached 219 young people across three schools and two public spaces, collecting over 120 voter registrations and distributing 73 more.









*Energizing Young Voters*

## Summer Training Sessions



Energizing Young Voters offers a menu of interaction, in-school, or virtual lessons, delivered either by League-trained facilitators or the classroom teacher, that motivate and equip students and young adults to vote and take action.

Their next free training sessions via Zoom will be the second full week in August from Monday, August 11, 2025 through Friday, August 15, 2025 from 10:00-12:30pm PT. Participants may sign up for individual lessons or the full week.

### **Summer 2025 Training Schedule**

(check module descriptions by scrolling halfway down the page [on our website](#))

#### **Monday August 11**

Fighting for the Vote: Timeline of Suffrage, Truth About Turnout

[REGISTER HERE](#)

#### **Tuesday August 12**

Fighting for Change: What's Your Issue, I Am The Change

[REGISTER HERE](#)

#### **Wednesday August 13**

Fighting for the Vote: Vote by Design (Student Advocate Toolkit)

[REGISTER HERE](#)



## **Thursday August 14**

Fighting for Change: Across the Divide (Listen to Understand, Speak to be Heard)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

## **Friday August 15**

Fighting for the Vote: How to Vote (Rules of the Road, Voting Simulation)

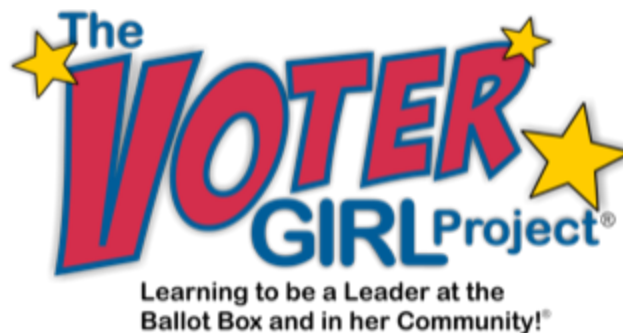
[REGISTER HERE](#)

If you have a committee or group interested in learning more about any of our modules or scheduling a workshop to arrange a session to meet your individual needs, please contact Dr. Pat Supplee at [energizingyoungvoters@gmail.com](mailto:energizingyoungvoters@gmail.com).

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## **LWVOR UPDATE**

# **The VOTER GIRL Project Coming to Oregon!**



The LWVOR Board has approved the statewide purchase of VOTER GIRL, an LWVUS-approved civics badge program developed by LWV Kent, Ohio. This plug-and-play toolkit provides age-appropriate civics lessons, badge activities, and outreach strategies for Girl Scouts K–12 and will be available for use by all Oregon League members.

The program supports partnership between Leagues and Girl Scout troops through troop meetings, camp events, and shared initiatives like a Girl Scout version of [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) and the “[Promote the Vote](#)” service project. It also includes customizable materials for implementation, from lesson plans to logos.

To help build connections with local troops, we’re compiling a list of League Girl Scout contacts. Please email your main Girl Scouts point person to [youthoutreach@lwvor.org](mailto:youthoutreach@lwvor.org).

For more information on VOTER GIRL in Oregon, please watch out for more details in our upcoming monthly newsletters as well as for future outreach to Local Leagues and Units.

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# SHOW YOUR LEAGUE PRIDE!



Donate \$20 or more to LWVOR Youth Council  
and receive an exclusive League Pride button!  
Go to [lwwor.org/support-youth-council](https://lwwor.org/support-youth-council)



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Help us empower voters and defend democracy by making a tax-deductible donation today—every contribution counts!

**Donate Today**



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