



Greetings League Members,

In alignment with LWVCO's Strategic Plan to be more proactive, the Board voted this month to take positions on Citizen Initiatives once petitions have been approved for distribution rather than waiting to see which ones make the ballot. One petition has garnered enough signatures to appear on this fall's ballot: #31 State Income Tax Rate Reduction. The Board and Legislative Action Committee *oppose* this ballot issue.

The following petitions have been approved for circulation; the Board position follows:

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| #54 Petitions  | OPPOSE      |
| #56 Unlawful Murder of a Child                               | OPPOSE      |
| #58 Access to Natural Medicine                               | NO POSITION |
| #61 Legal Possession and Use of Entheogenic Plants and Fungi | NO POSITION |
| #63 Additional Dedicated Revenue to the State Education Fund | NO POSITION |

The Board believes that if LWVCO can provide voters with information about these petitions prior to them being approached for a signature, it may be easier to divert measures we oppose from ever getting on the ballot while promoting those petitions we do support. Additional information on these petitions is located elsewhere in this mailing.

A reminder that if you are interested in learning where the League stands on current Colorado Legislative Session bills, you can access that information on the LWVCO website under [Legislative Action](#).

The LWVCO Board has written two Letters of Support for grants Cultivando has written to monitor air quality and educate the community on health impacts of Suncor Refinery emissions. Suncor is a Canadian firm with an oil refinery north of Denver. For years this refinery has emitted toxic air pollutants putting neighboring communities at risk. If you would like to learn more, watch this short, new documentary, [Suncor Sundown](#).

Last year, the Arapahoe & Douglas Counties Voter Services Committee worked on a Civics Education Project that was extremely successful. They distributed 150 posters and resource guides to thirty middle and high schools in their two counties, and civics teachers were encouraged to use them in celebration of Constitution Day, September 17. The poster, which was designed to serve as a conversation cue, can be viewed on [their website](#). They will be sharing this project at LWVUS Convention this summer with free materials for attendees made possible through a grant from LWVCO. I attended one of two presentations the committee made April 28, and as a former educator, I was impressed and so proud of what this League has done to promote civics education in their community. With this being an election year, what better "teachable moment" for discussing voter rights and responsibilities! If you would like additional information about this program, please contact [Jill Smith](#) or [Carolyn Ayars](#).

Mark your calendars now and reserve May 20-21 for the [LWVCO Annual Meeting](#). Hope to see you all then. Meanwhile, spring is in the air, and I hope you will be able to get out and enjoy our warmer days.

In League,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karen Sheek".

Karen Sheek  
President, LWVCO