

## **REDISTRICTING REPORT 2-2-18**

Dear State Contact and Local League Leaders,

Please find below the latest report submitted by Jean Fredlund on the redistricting meetings held weekly. As promised, the LWVCO is sending frequent updates from the LWVCO Redistricting Committee to keep all members informed of the progress.

Please share this report with your members asap. If you are unable to send this out to all your members for any reason, please let us know.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the State League's redistricting reform efforts, please reach out to your state board liaison or any LWVCO board member.

Thank you for your help on this important Colorado issue.

Toni Larson  
President, LWVCO

## **REDISTRICTING REPORT 2-2-18**

All the briefs have been filed at the Colorado Supreme Court, and we are awaiting the court's decision so that signature gathering can begin. There is even a potential the proposals will be introduced as legislative proposals. The court has no deadline so it is impossible to predict when the next steps will begin. As soon as we hear, we will get out packets for any Local League that is interested either for a petition drive or for contacting the legislature.

At last Monday's annual Legislative Conference, we were happy to have Bill Hobbs, help us explain the initiatives and answer questions. Bill is a non-partisan person who worked 13 years in the Sec. of State's office, under both Dem. and Rep. leadership. He was on the Title Board and also helped citizens draft their petitions, without making judgments. He has served as the chair of the Fair Districts Colorado (FDC) sub-committee on drafting, which included Andrea Wilkins, LWVCO's Legislative Liaison. That group wrote drafts of the initiatives. The drafts were then repeatedly reviewed (and nitpicked) by the entire FDC group and many changes were made, always by consensus. The final versions, #67 and 69, have very little resemblance to the originals, except for the "Where as" statements on the first page and the inclusion of non-major-party people on the commission. Bill then took them back and rewrote them, again and again, without complaint. He is a fine, dedicated and knowledgeable individual and FDC is lucky to have him. The group as a whole, including the LWVCO members, made sure that our positions were adhered to, and that fairness was one of the major values.

We have continued to meet with representatives from the other anti-gerrymandering group and have found several areas on which either we or they can feel comfortable compromising. We will continue to meet and hope we can come to an agreement soon, because time is running out. We have been open from the beginning to those who want to see our venture improve and have accepted many suggestions from many organizations.

Jean Fredlund, Member-at Large LWVCO State Board  
Chair, LWVCO Redistricting Committee.