

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.

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 3-22-18

One of the few differences we have worked on for the last two weeks is how to include Hispanics in "communities of interest." Everyone agrees that this is necessary, but we have been going back and forth on the wording. We finally agreed to just reference the Census wording.

So, we now have two initiatives that both FDC and PNP agree with. They were filed today, 3-22-18, at the Sec of State's Office. They will be posted on the SOS website, the League website and the FDC website in a day or two. They are approximately 25 pages each. Enjoy your reading!! (Hint: They are almost identical, except for some legalese, numbering of the sections, etc.)

We are going through the State Legislature, to try to get the initiatives on the ballot as referred measures to amend the constitution. This would make it much easier to get them on the ballot, as we would not need the voters' signatures. Our lobbyist, along with those hired by FDC and PNP, will be approaching the Leadership of both parties in the next few days. FDC has been talking with them all along, and they seem agreeable, but just like everyone else, they wanted to wait for the final wording.

The plan is to go ahead and start gathering signatures very soon, so as to have enough to get it on the ballot that way if necessary. We still are not sure about is whether the Colorado Supreme Court will throw out the requirement to get about 2000 signatures in each and every Senate district in the State. It looks likely that it will, but that depends on what the Court decides about the information the Colorado Sec. of State sent last week.

Regardless of how it gets on the ballot, we need to begin to educate voters soon, as we will need 55% of the votes cast to pass these measures into law. Materials for all of this will be coming very soon.

Thanks for your attention and interest in this important issue.

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