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PLEASE NOTE DATE CORRECTION: LWVCM PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ON AUGUST 25

LWV of Charlotte-Mecklenburg [goleagueo@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 1:36 PM

To: Debbie Snowdon [debbie.snowdon@yahoo.com]



League of Women Voters Charlotte Mecklenburg
 1817 Central Ave., Room 210
 Charlotte 28025

August 20, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Snowdon

PRESS CONFERENCE:

11:30 am Saturday, August 25

Debbie.snowdon@yahoo.com

1817 Central Ave., Room 210, Charlotte 28025

CONTACT: Debbie

PHONE: 704.975.4335

EMAIL:

League of Women Voters Shares New Redistricting Study

Research supports "Reasonable Redistricting Reform" that keeps the legislature in the process

Charlotte, N.C., 08-20-18: The League of Women Voters of North Carolina will present key findings from its new study of redistricting options for North Carolina at a press conference **Aug. 25**. The study identifies five principles that together define "reasonable redistricting reform."

1. Maintain a *role for the legislature* in the process, such as naming commissioners.
2. Include *citizens and/or impartial experts* as commission members.
3. Set *strict rules for the commission's work* that 1) rule out partisan data and objectives and 2) use voting rules that force consensus.
4. Provide for *extensive citizen participation and transparency*.
5. Make the *maps final on the commission's vote*, without further action by the legislature.

A redistricting commission designed using these principles can attract the bipartisan support needed to become law and end extreme gerrymanders in our state.

The five principles were identified by a League study team that analyzed 50 redistricting bills introduced last year in 15 states—mostly in the South—and the U.S. Congress. The team also examined all 29 redistricting commissions already on the books across the country.

The League's key finding is that redistricting reform that preserves a role for the State Legislature but also adheres to the other four principles above can give our voters a greater voice in the process and prevent extreme partisan map-making. The League's "Legislator's Guide to Reasonable Redistricting Reform" clarifies how to translate these principles into

practice for a soundly designed commission. The guide sets out 12 questions that any commission design must answer and provides information on how legislators in other states have dealt with each of them.

The League is **not** recommending a specific model. Instead, we are calling on citizens, legislators, and civic organizations to collaborate in designing a "reasonable redistricting" model that works for North Carolina.


The League's new findings will be presented by the study's main author, Dr. Jennifer Bremer, who chairs the LWVNC's Fair Elections Action Team. Light refreshments will be served.

I apologize for the confusion; this is a state-wide event and I neglected to edit all of the pertinent fields. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Debbie
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