



The League of Women Voters of New York State  
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**THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
*of New York State*

**MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF:**  
**A.5382 (Cusick)**

**To:** Assembly Election Law Committee

**Date:** March 7, 2017

**Subject:** An act to amend the election law, in relation to enacting the Voter Enfranchisement Modernization Act of 2017; in relation to establishing the electronic personal voter registration process.

The League of Women Voters of New York State supports the above referenced legislation to improve the voter registration process by enabling eligible persons to register through a more accessible on-line registration process.

New York State eligible voters currently rely solely on the DMV and State Board of Elections to register to vote online. The DMV system has access to a “wet” signature for individuals that have applied for licenses and state non-driver IDs and therefore can transmit this information to the State Board of Elections. This legislation would allow for the use of an electronic signature when a “wet” signature is not available enabling those who have not interacted with the DMV to register to vote online. The use of a paperless application process will undeniably create a higher access to registration for New Yorkers as well as being more accurate. Voting is a fundamental right, and it is in the best interest of the state to utilize a cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally friendly process.

The Legislature must do what is best to maximize voter participation, protect the voting rights of all citizens, and ensure that all citizens who are eligible to vote are also registered to vote.

**The League of Women Voters of New York State urges your support of this legislation.**