



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:

***S.1836A/KLEIN
A.1308/WRIGHT***

DATE: FEBRUARY 23, 2010

SUBJECT: *Authorizes the board of elections to employ election inspectors to work half-day shifts with adjusted compensation; county boards of election shall prescribe the necessary rule and procedures to ensure proper poll site operation.*

The League of Women Voters of New York State strongly supports the above referenced legislation which would permit local boards of election to employ polling place inspectors for half-day shifts provided that at least one inspector from each major party be present for the full day.

The law currently requires inspectors to work a fifteen to sixteen hour day, a hardship for many potentially eligible civic-minded citizens. America's pollworkers, whose average age nationwide is 72, should have the option of working or sharing a split shift on Election Day. There is a critical shortage of poll workers in the U.S. currently and with the introduction of new voting machines in New York State in 2010, boards of elections need to be able to expand the pool of elections personnel by offering flexible schedules.

The New York State Election Commissioners Association supports this bill.

For the above-state reasons the League of Women Voters of New York State strongly supports S.1836A/Klein.