Every year leading up to the Convention we ask local Leagues for their input in developing State League Program for the two years following the Convention. “Program” really means positions, so this is the time to determine which positions we want to keep, delete, update/revise or even consider new studies for new positions or concurrence with existing positions of other Leagues. Local Leagues had a March 1 deadline for submitting suggestions in order for them to be considered by delegates at the Convention. Board recommended Program items need a majority of delegates and non-recommended items need a majority vote for consideration and a 3/5 vote to pass at Convention.

The Board has reviewed the program recommendations submitted by 28 local Leagues, and recommends:

1. **A concurrence at convention with the California LWV criminal justice position.** Article X, Section 3(b) of the LWVNYS bylaws provides a process for local Leagues to propose the adoption of a state League position at an annual meeting by concurrence with the position of another League. The Saratoga League submitted a proposal for concurrence at Convention with the LWV California position on criminal justice that met the requirements of the bylaws (https://lwvnyonline.org/about/2019/LWVNY-Bylaws_0619.pdf). After consideration of the material submitted by Saratoga and the support of this concurrence by thirteen additional Leagues, the Board recommends that delegates approve the adoption of the LWV California position on criminal justice. As a part of board recommended program, the concurrence only requires a majority vote of delegates to be adopted.

2. **A new study of the structure of election administration in New York State.** Going forward, we anticipate that the next major area of voting reform will be in the structure of election administration, both locally and at the state level. Because most of our voting and election advocacy is based on national positions, we don’t have a current state position and are not prepared to engage in debate about significant constitutional reforms possible for the 2022 legislative session. The Broome and Tioga League submitted election administration reform as the state League’s highest priority.

**Summary of Public Policy Positions,** as provided in the program planning materials and at the start of Impact on Issues, is merely a convenient way to access some of our more significant full positions. The wording of Summary of Public Policy Positions, or the omission of a position, does not change board understanding or implementation of our positions. Therefore, direction to the board is recommended as the appropriate approach to implement a recommendation for a change in the wording of Summary of Public Policy Positions, as opposed to a recommendation for a change in position.

Specific responses to local League suggestions not recommended by the Board are detailed below.
NON-RECOMMENDED ITEMS

The Board has reviewed and does not recommend the following studies and updates proposed by local Leagues. In doing so we have considered limitations of both leadership and resources, particularly with respect to complicated issues that have not been a major focus of past League activity.

The following are not recommended because of limited interest and resources, or because they were the subject of a recent state study:

- The Utica/Rome Metro and Steuben Leagues suggested an update on the feasibility of rank choice voting in New York state. On the state level, the study of election administration fills a more immediate need for our advocacy. For local elections, local Leagues can concur with the position of the LWVNYC League supporting rank choice voting.
- Update on support for fusion voting-Buffalo Niagara.
- Impact of Social Media-Rochester
- Comprehensive police study-Rochester. Covered by concurrence.
- Electoral college, town and village consolidation, native American land issues, and executive order on BDS impacting Israel-Stueben.
- Study on presumption of joint custody-New Castle
- Support disparities in virtual education ability of public schools to respond to student needs-Schenectady
- Update to Constitutional Convention Position to amend constitution so each section of proposed new Constitution can be voted on separately-Saratoga. The current constitution allows submission by separate vote.

COVERED BY NATIONAL POSITIONS

- State preparedness for disruption of energy resources – Utica/Rome
- Preserving state ecosystems-Rivertowns.
- Overuse of Adirondack Park and regional development-Schenectady

DROP POSITIONS

- Opposition to term limits for the state legislature and statewide office-Utica/Rome Metro area, Rivertowns. Subject of recent study and dropping it would require new study to make sure of member understanding and agreement.
- Affordable housing-Huntington.
- Opposition to measures that contain a presumption of joint custody of the children - New Castle, Syracuse Metro. To reverse our opposition would require a new study to make sure of member understanding and agreement.

DIRECTIONS TO THE BOARD
- Add support of independent redistricting at all levels of government, change Women’s Issues to Gender Equity, and add support measures to reduce the incidence and effects of harassment, sexual harassment and domestic violence-Syracuse.
- Monitor implementation of NYS Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act-Rivertowns
- Women’s Issues to Gender Issues-Schenectady
- Support evaluation of disparities exposed by need for virtual education, bolster ability of public schools to respond to student needs-Schenectady
- Changes to wording of Women’s Issues and Social Policy-Hamptons, Shelter Island and North Fork
- Rewriting of Women’s Issues-Rochester
- Promotion of racial equity in programming and inclusion of addressing issues of systemic racism-Scarsdale.
- Does Judicial position cover bail reform? Schenectady
- Wording of Judicial and Social Policy-New Rochelle

Titles, categories and descriptions of Positions in Brief or Summary of Public Policy Positions are Board decisions.