

March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Contact: Jennifer Wilson, Legislative Director Tel: 646-361-7494; Email: jennifer@lwvny.org

## League of Women Voters of New York Statement on April Presidential Primary and Special Election

"As New York faces a major health crisis, we commend Governor Cuomo for taking swift action to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Governor has made the difficult but necessary decision to begin temporarily closing large gathering spaces to slow the spread of the virus. The CDC has recommended that for the next 8 weeks groups postpone in-person events that consist of 50 people or more throughout the United States. Within this time frame, New York State is scheduled to hold a presidential primary and special election on April 28th. We urge agencies and elected officials to consolidate the presidential primary and special election with the June state and federal primaries. Postponing the presidential primary election to June will give county boards of elections time to prepare for an increase in absentee ballot requests from high-risk voters, ensure voters do not have to return to poll sites more than is necessary, and save the cost of holding two separate primary elections."