



League of Women Voters of the South Bend Area

[www.lwvsouthbend.org](http://www.lwvsouthbend.org)

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#### The League of Women Voters

- promotes civic participation and registers voters at community events and with our *School Voter Registration Program*.
- sponsors candidate debates and forums.
- publishes the *Citizen's Guide to Representative Government*, a comprehensive collection of contact information for government offices, plus voting information.
- hosts *Lunch with the League*, a monthly discussion series featuring community leaders.
- partners with community organizations to encourage voter education and civil discussion on political issues.
- encourages and supports grassroots community issues.

#### The League of Women Voters

is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. Membership is open to women and men.

**Democracy is not a spectator sport.**

### Sunday Voting

The League of Women Voters of the South Bend Area supports Sunday voting for absentee-in-person, also known as “early voters” in St. Joseph County.

Our records show that Sunday voting was offered in both the primary and general elections of 2020 and 2019, and in at least the general election of 2018.

In 2020, one Sunday was offered even at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, with no vaccine yet available, and when early voting was squeezed into one week prior to Primary Election Day.

Voting “no” on this amendment would mean reducing voting options that the public has had for years. Voting “no” would mean that you are voting to **shrink** voter access rather than maintain what we have, or expand it.

The League believes that increased accessibility to the electoral process is integral to ensuring that every American can exercise their right to vote. Leagues across the United States work year-round to promote pro-voter reforms that both preserve our existing rights and provide flexibility for casting ballots in order to be inclusive of historically underserved communities.

But this amendment does not represent an “increase.” It maintains the status quo in St. Joseph County, which is to offer at least one Sunday of early voting. Sunday voting is a tradition in some Black churches, and the League supports this cultural tradition – as we support all efforts of community members to mobilize their neighbors and promote representative democracy that includes people of every background and neighborhood no matter where they fall on the ideologically spectrum. The League urges the board to approve the amendment and honor the tradition of Sunday voting for those residents who have embraced this tradition as a way to engage in the political process and make their voices heard.

The League urges you to vote “yes” on the amendment.

Elizabeth Bennion/Director of Voter Services and Education  
Geri Pawelski/Director of Administration  
Judy Bradford/League Observer Corps (for Election Board meetings)