

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ANNOUNCEMENT
REGARDING CESSATION OF VOTER REGISTRATION
IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA**

Naples, May 7, 2011 - It is with great regret that I must inform you that the League of Women Voters of Florida has decided to cease voter registration immediately due to the legislature's passage of HB 1355.

HB 1355 not only imposes an undue burden on groups such as ours that work to register voters but also makes it more difficult for voters to participate in democracy by decreasing early voting opportunities and also imposing new policies on making address changes at the polls.

Under the false pretext of reducing "fraud," Florida's legislative leaders have instituted a law that will shut down the efforts of groups like the League, the Boy Scouts, student groups, and many civic organizations who help to register voters.

The LWVFL stated that "While the League remains committed to empowering an active and informed citizenry, we cannot and will not place thousands of volunteers at risk, subjecting them to a process in which one late form could result in their facing financial and civil penalties. By passing HB 1355, the legislature has declared war on voters.

Effective immediately, the League is exploring legal remedies. In the meantime, the League urges Governor Rick Scott to stand up for democracy and veto HB 1355."

Nationally Respected, Locally Engaged: The League of Women Voters
Contact: Lydia Galton, 239-272-4824

Note: The Collier County League will discuss the issue, among others related to the ending session, at its Monday, May 9 meeting at the Hilton in Naples starting at 12:30 PM. Open to the public.