



March 4, 2025

SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY TO:

Judiciary Committee, WV House of Delegates, judiciary@wvhouse.gov

TESTIMONY in Opposition to **HB 3016**

The League of Women Voters of West Virginia and the U.S. supports voting rights and opposes all forms of voter suppression. The League also supports equal rights for all under state and federal law regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability.

Therefore, we OPPOSE [HB 3016](#), another voter suppression and discrimination bill.

Our state has an unusually long and generous list of voter ID options. Still, not all voters can be certain of having valid ID and may be deterred from voting.

This bill wants to substantially shorten that expansive list of acceptable IDs. For no apparent reason, HB 3016 eliminates voter ID options without photographs.

As if that weren't enough, HB 3016 requires "non-citizen" status to be emblazoned on IDs issued legally to non-citizen residents for purposes other than voting. Non-citizens already are prevented from registering to vote or voting. Yet, this Legislature is fixated on non-citizens, immigrants. Why are you fixated on solutions in search of problems?

History tells us that badges such as the ones described in this bill have been used to segregate an unfavored group from the rest of the population and reinforce their inferior status. There is no legitimate reason for this. Even if West Virginia had a large population of immigrants who are not citizens, which we do not. This bill is designed for discrimination, pure and simple.

The League of Women Voters urges you to vote down HB 3016.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan volunteer organization that encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate, but is engaged in local, state, and national issues of importance to our communities. The League works to influence public policy through advocacy and education. League membership is open to all men and women age 16 or older. More at: www.lwv.org (National) and www.lwvwy.org (WV).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Ball". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of the first name being a large, stylized capital letter.

Judy K. Ball, PhD, MPA
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