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LWV of West Virginia supports lawsuit to affirm will of the voters

Morgantown, WV: The League of Women Voters of West Virginia announced today it is joining the West Virginia Department of Education in challenging the state legislature's decision to override the will of the people regarding public education in our state.

In 2022, voters rejected a constitutional amendment to give the WV legislature authority to override educational rules and policies enacted by the WV State Board of Education. Ignoring the will of the people, in 2025 the state legislature passed House Bill 2755, which gives the legislature policy authority that was specifically rejected by voters in 2022.

The LWVWV has filed an amicus (friend of the court) brief in support of the Board of Education's lawsuit to nullify the provisions of HB 2755. The voters of West Virginia used the ballot box in 2022 to oppose robbing the Board of Education of its independent rule making authority. By ignoring the will of the voters and enacting HB 2755, the Legislature is posing an unacceptable assault on the democratic process.

According to Judy Ball, co-President of the LWV of WV, "WV already has one of the lowest voter turnout rates in the U.S. Our voters said no to Amendment 4 in 2022. Then, the Legislature chose to ignore and override that vote in 2025. Voters may reasonably conclude that their government is not working when the Legislature says their voices simply do not matter. Citizens need a reason to vote in WV; ignoring their voices sends the opposite message."

The LWVWV opposed the 2022 amendment to transfer education policy making to the elected Legislature. The voters of West Virginia sent the same message at the ballot box. The League opposed HB 2755 in 2025. The Legislature cannot be allowed to override the will of the people. In representative government, the will of the people must be respected.

About LWVWV: The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and

advocacy. The League does not support particular political parties or candidates. It does support or oppose legislation after serious study and substantial agreement among its members. League membership is open to all (not just women) age 16 or older.