



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS

TESTIMONY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS HOUSE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

MONDAY MARCH 13, 2017

I am Cinde Weatherby, testifying as a member and on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Texas **in support** of HB 450, allowing voters to use their mobile phones to access information previously downloaded or created before entering the polling place. We appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today and share the League's position on the bill.

Promoting an informed electorate is the heart and soul of the League of Women Voters at the local, state, and national level. I feel sure you are all aware of our nonpartisan, information-based *Voters Guides* that offer candidate information before elections. The League of Women Voters of Texas supports HB 450, as we believe that online and mobile access to the *Voters Guide* is vital to getting that information to voters.

Most of us are progressively reliant on our mobile devices for information. The League knows hundreds of thousands of individuals are looking at our *Voters Guide* online. A rapidly increasing number of those are doing so on their mobile phones. With fewer election dates and more elected offices on the ballot, either a printed or electronic copy of a *Voters Guide*, or your own notes, are extremely helpful to making informed choices.

We applaud Representative Fallon for realizing the importance of allowing voters to study the issues and use the technological resources available to record their decisions. We respectfully request that you vote favorably on this bill.

For additional information, please contact: Cinde Weatherby, Voting & Elections Issue Chair, cindeweatherby@gmail.com, 512.560.1334.

The League of Women Voters of Texas (LWV-TX) is a nonpartisan citizens' organization that has fought since 1919 to improve our government and engage all citizens in the decisions that impact their lives. It represents more than 5,000 members and supporters throughout Texas.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office or political parties. The member-driven organization of women and men encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and seeks to influence public policy through education and advocacy of positions based on extensive issue study and consensus.