

Sources of Information

General Assembly:

General Information 804-698-1470
Bill Room 804-786-6984
Constituent Opinion 800-889-0229

Senate:

General Information 804-698-7410
Senate Clerk's Office 804-698-7400
Email*: District(#)[@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:district@senate.virginia.gov)

House of Delegates:

General Information 804-698-1500
House Clerk's Office 804-698-1619
Email*: Del(last name)[@house.virginia.gov](mailto:del@house.virginia.gov)

Online Legislature:

<http://virginiageneralassembly.gov/>

Legislative Information System:

<http://leg1.state.va.us>

* Do not include the “()”

About the League

The League of Women Voters of Virginia is a non-partisan volunteer political organization.

- ✓ We never endorse or support candidates.
- ✓ We encourage the informed and active participation in government.
- ✓ We work to increase the understanding of major public policy issues through study and deliberation.
- ✓ We influence public policy through education and advocacy.
- ✓ We have many local League groups active in communities throughout the Commonwealth.
- ✓ We invite you to join the League today.

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Revised: December 2013



**A Forum Open to All
Virginians & Legislators**

**Held Wednesday Mornings
Throughout the Legislative Session**

**General Assembly Building
Senate Conference Room
3rd Floor West**

8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

Moderated by:



**League of Women Voters
of Virginia**

What We Do:

We provide a non-partisan forum for the discussion of public policy issues and the legislation to address them.

Why We Do It:

As a non-partisan group, we can be a forum for citizens to learn about issues that state legislators are addressing in the General Assembly. We provide the opportunity for citizens to learn about what is happening at the legislature during the General Assembly session.

How We Do It:

We invite legislators of all parties to speak about and explain pending legislation.

We invite non-profit groups to speak about issues that they are tracking and advocating.



Roundtable Rules

League of Women Voters of Virginia rules for the Women's Legislative Roundtable (WLRT) are that:

- ✓ the WLRT be a forum for the exchange of information;
- ✓ the WLRT be inclusive of every interested citizen in Virginia;
- ✓ the WLRT not advocate specific action on any issue, but alert participants to the facts of pending legislation with information on the possible impact;
- ✓ the WLRT involve as many Virginia Delegates and Senators as possible; and
- ✓ a sitting Senator or Delegate sponsors the WLRT so that we may reserve a room in the General Assembly building and be listed on the day's calendar.



History

The Women's Legislative Roundtable can mark its origins nearly 35 years ago when female activists led by League of Women Voters of Virginia had a vision of equal justice for women in the state. The 1970's was the International Decade of the Woman, and many of our female leaders were involved in the effort to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Much work had been done by the League of Women Voters to educate women about the unfairness of Virginia laws to women. In 1980, female state legislators were seeking ways to educate and equip themselves and other women to be more effective in changing the laws. The League was uniquely positioned to take over this task. Our leaders agreed to become the moderators of this weekly forum during the General Assembly session, designed as an exchange of information. Participants learn about pending legislation that may have an effect on women. The first Women's Legislative Roundtable was convened in January 1981. Its location has changed from time to time, but help in finding workable locations and other assistance has come consistently from women legislators. A number of male legislators have supported WLRT as well. Over the years women can claim success in improving the state's family laws, day care, health care, education, welfare, election laws, juvenile justice, divorce laws, estate laws, child support, family courts, rape laws, family violence, jobs, mental health laws and the budget's impact on all of these issues. Legislators are urged to join the Roundtable on Wednesday mornings to talk about legislation they are supporting.