

# Summary of LWV US and States' Housing Positions

October 2019

## LWV-US:

The US League has a formal position on Fair Housing that can be found on page 70 and 74 of the Impact on Issues: 2018-2020, <https://www.lwv.org/sites/default/files/2019-04/LWV%202018-20%20Impact%20on%20Issues.pdf>. Also, please read the introduction to Meeting Basic Human Needs, p. 82 as it sets the philosophical basis for our study. In addition, please read the Housing Supply section on p. 84, which gives a brief history of the League's advocacy for affordable housing on the federal level and Criteria for Housing Supply on p. 85 which establishes a framework for our study.

## State Positions on Housing:

**At least nine States have policy statements on either affordable housing in general or specific issues topics within affordable housing. I believe that we want to develop a more general one such as Maryland's or Claifornia's but we may want to incorporate some more specific positions such as on manufactured housing.**

## California:

California has a position statement on affordable housing that can be found here <https://lwvc.org/position/housing> that they adopted originally in 1970 and then updated and readopted. They have an overall position "Support of equal opportunity in housing. Support of measures to provide state programs to increase the supply of safe, decent, and adequate housing for all Californians. Support for action at all levels of government for the provision of affordable housing for all Californians.: They also address very specific areas, such as, state grants to incentivize the production and rehabilitation of affordable housing, modernization of the State Building Code, removing barriers to affordable housing and the protection of tenant and landlord rights.

## Delaware:

Deleware has a fairly comprehensive position statement on manufactured housing that can be found at [http://lwvdelaware.org/files/Position Paper Manufactured Housing rev 3-11-15.pdf](http://lwvdelaware.org/files/Position_Paper_Manufactured_Housing_rev_3-11-15.pdf). According to this statement, 11% of Delaware's housing stock is manufactured housing. They support legislation to protect the rights of those owning or living in manufactured housing. (As an aside, there is a new statewide non-profit, Manufactured Home Community Coalition of Virginia, that is actively working on similar legislation.)

## Illinois:

Illinois has a very brief housing policy briefing (2017) that skims the surface and mentions multiple housing problems.

[https://www.lwvil.org/uploads/1/5/9/8/15985276/ib\\_2017\\_housing.pdf](https://www.lwvil.org/uploads/1/5/9/8/15985276/ib_2017_housing.pdf). Their 2016 housing policy briefing is also brief but mentions some legislation.

[https://www.lwvil.org/uploads/1/5/9/8/15985276/ib16\\_housing.pdf](https://www.lwvil.org/uploads/1/5/9/8/15985276/ib16_housing.pdf). They also have a 2013-2016 report titled "Fair Housing" that is two paragraphs long and references other housing issues in addition to fair housing.

[https://www.lwvil.org/uploads/1/5/9/8/15985276/2015\\_biennium\\_report\\_fairing\\_housing.pdf](https://www.lwvil.org/uploads/1/5/9/8/15985276/2015_biennium_report_fairing_housing.pdf)

### **Maryland:**

Maryland has done a lot of work on housing over the years. There's an excellent summary of what they've done and legislation they've supported that can be found here:

<https://www.lwvmd.org/housing>. Of note they created housing resource guides and included housing information by county. They asked local leagues to create local housing action plans. (Read the last full paragraph before the Action section which is at the end.)

### **Mississippi:**

This League has a very brief statement on housing under social policy that basically reiterates the LWV-US position.

### **New Jersey:**

Could not find anything except a mention of "housing" under their social policy positions.

### **New Mexico:**

In 2013, the New Mexico League issued a very brief and broad statement supporting policies and strategies about affordable housing that can be found here:

<https://www.lwvnm.org/positions.html#housing>.

### **Oregon:**

Oregon conducted an extensive study on homeless youth in 2005 that can be found here:

<http://lwvor.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/HomelessYouth2006.pdf>.

### **Washington State:**

Washington has not conducted a study but has positions on housing they support,

<https://lwvwa.org/socialpolicies2020#Housing>. They have a one paragraph position on housing that can be found on page 42 of this report:

[https://lwvwa.org/resources/Documents/ProgramInAction\\_UpdatedNov2018.pdf](https://lwvwa.org/resources/Documents/ProgramInAction_UpdatedNov2018.pdf)