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## LWVNJ offers toll-free voter hotline for June 2 primary

*League of Women Voters of New Jersey  
Reader Submitted*

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey announced that they will staff a VOTEline, 1-800-792-VOTE, during the June 2 Primary to answer inquiries from voters and offer assistance with problems voters may encounter at the polls. The VOTEline will be available from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. while the polls are open on Primary Election Day.

“The VOTEline is an excellent resource to answer questions voters have on or before Election Day including inquiries about polling place location, your rights as a voter, and information about provisional ballots,” said Anne Ruach Nicolas, LWVNJ Executive Director. “The VOTEline also allows us to document and track voter problems and complaints when they are reported to us, as we have done in past elections.”

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey, along with the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, recently released a report on voting problems and improvements documented during the 2008 elections. The full report can be found on the League of Women Voters of New Jersey's web site, [www.lwvnj.org](http://www.lwvnj.org).

During past election monitoring efforts, among the most prevalent problems found involved inadequate poll worker training, including failure to provide provisional ballots and improper requests for identification, difficulties using the state online voter registration status and polling place functions, and voters not receiving notification of changes to their voter registration status.

The report also applauds the Secretary of State and Division of Elections for a number of improvements in New Jersey voting systems including improved communication between advocates and election officials, increased registrations at the Motor Vehicle Commission, and the publication of a comprehensive and uniform poll worker training guide.

Key recommendations for continued improvements include improving poll worker training and performance; recording, tracking and addressing voter complaints and problems; and educating and assisting voters. In addition, the report recommends that New Jersey follow the lead of the Ohio Secretary of State by convening a public summit on a wide array of voting and election administration issues.

“Openly examining and addressing issues and being responsive to problems encountered deepens voter confidence and makes the election system in New Jersey more transparent,” added Ruach Nicolas. “Our voter hotline, along with releasing reports of our findings and calling on the state and counties to do the same, is a key component of that process.”

Voters in need of assistance should contact the VOTEline at 1-800-792-VOTE. This resource is available year round to provide assistance to New Jersey voters.

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