



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

Box 233 Lexington, Massachusetts 02420

LWVL NEWS AND INFORMATION FIRST FRIDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2016

HOW DIFFERENT THE CENTER OF LEXINGTON IS FROM THE FIRST TIME PAUL REVERE RODE THROUGH ON HIS HORSE!

To learn more about recent changes to the center, come to the Lexington League of Women Voter's First Friday Forum on Friday, November 4, at 9:30 a.m. Aaron Henry, Planning Director and David Kucharsky, Assistant Planning Director will identify and explain the recent changes and improvements in our town with regard to traffic, parking, etc. Charles Hornig, a member of the Planning Board, will also join the professionals and will help answer policy questions.

This is the second in the series of 2016-2017 First Friday Forums hosted by the League of Women Voters of Lexington to promote awareness and understanding of public policy issues. The meeting will take place at the Cary Memorial Library in the Large Meeting Room. Coffee will be available at 9:15 a.m. and the presentation will begin at 9:30 a.m.

For more information, contact the League at lwvlexington@gmail.com or Lisa Smith at lisa.lavinia.smith@gmail.com. All League forums are free and open to the public.

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NOVEMBER 8TH, 2016

STATE AND NATIONAL ELECTION DAY

POLLS OPEN 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.

**YOU'RE INVITED!
NOVEMBER 2, 2016**

MASSACHUSETTS BALLOT INITIATIVES – STILL DECIDING?

**Facilitated By:
STATE SENATOR MICHAEL J. BARRETT, D LEXINGTON
LEXINGTON COMMUNITY CENTER – 7:00 P.M.**

Presented by the American Association of University Women, Bedford-Lexington Area and the Leagues of Women Voters of Lexington and Bedford. See pages 5-9 herein for more information regarding these Ballot Initiatives.

**EARLY VOTING CONTINUES IN LEXINGTON –
LAST DAY TO VOTE EARLY – 11/4/16**

Location: Ellen Stone Room, Cary Memorial Building

Dates and Times:

Monday, October 31, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Tuesday, November 1, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Wednesday, November 2, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Thursday, November 3, 2016 8:30am - 8:00pm

Friday, November 4, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

RIDES TO THE POLLS

LWVLexington is once again offering rides to the polls for the upcoming **Tuesday, November 8th** election. We would also like to offer rides to the polls during early voting for this election. Early voting continues and runs through November 4, 2016.

If you are willing to provide a ride either on **November 8th, 2016**, or during early voting through November 4, 2016, or if you want a ride yourself, please rely to lwv.lexington@gmail.com

LWVLEXINGTON BOARD MEETING 11/14/16

The LWVLexington Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2016 from 7:00 P.M. – 8:45 P.M. at the Lexington Community Center, Marrett Road, Lexington, MA. All members are invited.

LWVLEXINGTON - LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP! RENEWAL FORMS HAVE BEEN MAILED!

Membership renewal forms for 2016-2017 have been mailed. Thank you to our members who have already renewed their membership for the coming year.

If you haven't already renewed your 2016-2017 membership, please do so soon. To renew your membership, you may use the form you received in the mail or use the form on our website www.lwvlexington.org

If you have a friend or neighbor who may be interested in joining the League as a new member, please encourage them to do so at this time.

Thank you!

LWVMA Voting Information

For more information on the upcoming election, go to lwmma.org to find information on the following:

- Massachusetts Voters' Bill of Rights
- Who Can Register to Vote?
- How to Register
- Early Voting
- Absentee Ballots
- On Election Day
- Election Calendar
- Be a Poll Worker

Voting is a right and a responsibility of citizens in a democracy. The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts empowers Massachusetts voters with comprehensive information about voting, elections and candidates to help all citizens participate fully.

The information in this section will help you exercise your right to vote. For additional information, call the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts at 617-523-2999. You can also find information about candidates, ballot questions, voter registration, and location of your polling place at the League's election information site, www.VOTE411.org. You can also download and print our trifold brochure, *Voting in Massachusetts*, [here](#).



2016 BALLOT QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1: Law Proposed by Initiative Petition

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow the state Gaming Commission to issue one additional category 2 license, which would permit operation of a gaming establishment with no table games and not more than 1,250 slot machines.

The proposed law would authorize the Commission to request applications for the additional license to be granted to a gaming establishment located on property that is (i) at least four acres in size; (ii) adjacent to and within 1,500 feet of a race track, including the track's additional facilities, such as the track, grounds, paddocks, barns, auditorium, amphitheatre, and bleachers; (iii) where a horse racing meeting may physically be held; (iv) where a horse racing meeting shall have been hosted; and (v) not separated from the race track by a highway or railway.

A YES VOTE would permit the state Gaming Commission to license one additional slot-machine gaming establishment at a location that meets certain conditions specified in the law.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws regarding gaming.

QUESTION 2: Law Proposed by Initiative Petition

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would allow the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to approve up to 12 new charter schools or enrollment expansions in existing charter schools each year. Approvals under this law could expand statewide charter school enrollment by up to 1% of the total statewide public school enrollment each year. New

charters and enrollment expansions approved under this law would be exempt from existing limits on the number of charter schools, the number of students enrolled in them, and the amount of local school districts' spending allocated to them.

If the Board received more than 12 applications in a single year from qualified applicants, then the proposed law would require it to give priority to proposed charter schools or enrollment expansions in districts where student performance on statewide assessments is in the bottom 25% of all districts in the previous two years and where demonstrated parent demand for additional public school options is greatest.

New charter schools and enrollment expansions approved under this proposed law would be subject to the same approval standards as other charter schools, and to recruitment, retention, and multilingual outreach requirements that currently apply to some charter schools. Schools authorized under this law would be subject to annual performance reviews according to standards established by the Board.

The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2017.

A YES VOTE would allow for up to 12 approvals each year of either new charter schools or expanded enrollments in existing charter schools, but not to exceed 1% of the statewide public school enrollment.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to charter schools.

QUESTION 3: Law Proposed by Initiative Petition

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

This proposed law would prohibit any farm owner or operator from knowingly confining any breeding pig, calf raised for veal, or egg-laying hen in a way that prevents the animal from lying down, standing up, fully extending its limbs, or turning around freely.

The proposed law would also prohibit any business owner or operator in Massachusetts from selling whole eggs intended for human consumption or any uncooked cut of veal or pork if the business owner or operator knows or should know that the hen, breeding pig, or veal calf that produced these products was confined in a manner prohibited by the proposed law. The proposed law would exempt sales of food products that combine veal or pork with other products, including soups, sandwiches, pizzas, hotdogs, or similar processed or prepared food items.

The proposed law's confinement prohibitions would not apply during transportation; state and county fair exhibitions; 4-H programs; slaughter in compliance with applicable laws and regulations; medical research; veterinary exams, testing, treatment and operation if performed under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian; five days prior to a pregnant pig's expected date of giving birth; any day that pig is nursing piglets; and for temporary periods for animal husbandry purposes not to exceed six hours in any twenty-four hour period.

The proposed law would create a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation and would give the Attorney General the exclusive authority to enforce the law, and to issue regulations to implement it. As a defense to enforcement proceedings, the proposed law would allow a business owner or operator to rely in good faith upon a written certification or guarantee of compliance by a supplier.

The proposed law would be in addition to any other animal welfare laws and would not prohibit stricter local laws.

The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2022. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would prohibit any confinement of pigs, calves, and hens that prevents them from lying down, standing up, fully extending their limbs, or turning around freely.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to the keeping of farm animals.

QUESTION 4: Law Proposed by Initiative Petition

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or the House of Representatives on or before May 3, 2016?

SUMMARY

The proposed law would permit the possession, use, distribution, and cultivation of marijuana in limited amounts by persons age 21 and older and would remove criminal penalties for such activities. It would provide for the regulation of commerce in marijuana, marijuana accessories, and marijuana products and for the taxation of proceeds from sales of these items.

The proposed law would authorize persons at least 21 years old to possess up to one ounce of marijuana outside of their residences; possess up to ten ounces of marijuana

inside their residences; grow up to six marijuana plants in their residences; give one ounce or less of marijuana to a person at least 21 years old without payment; possess, produce or transfer hemp; or make or transfer items related to marijuana use, storage, cultivation, or processing.

The measure would create a Cannabis Control Commission of three members appointed by the state Treasurer which would generally administer the law governing marijuana use and distribution, promulgate regulations, and be responsible for the licensing of marijuana commercial establishments. The proposed law would also create a Cannabis Advisory Board of fifteen members appointed by the Governor. The Cannabis Control Commission would adopt regulations governing licensing qualifications; security; record keeping; health and safety standards; packaging and labeling; testing; advertising and displays; required inspections; and such other matters as the Commission considers appropriate. The records of the Commission would be public records.

The proposed law would authorize cities and towns to adopt reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of operating marijuana businesses and to limit the number of marijuana establishments in their communities. A city or town could hold a local vote to determine whether to permit the selling of marijuana and marijuana products for consumption on the premises at commercial establishments.

The proceeds of retail sales of marijuana and marijuana products would be subject to the state sales tax and an additional excise tax of 3.75%. A city or town could impose a separate tax of up to 2%. Revenue received from the additional state excise tax or from license application fees and civil penalties for violations of this law would be deposited in a Marijuana Regulation Fund and would be used subject to appropriation for administration of the proposed law.

Marijuana-related activities authorized under this proposed law could not be a basis for adverse orders in child welfare cases absent clear and convincing evidence that such activities had created an unreasonable danger to the safety of a minor child.

The proposed law would not affect existing law regarding medical marijuana treatment centers or the operation of motor vehicles while under the influence. It would permit property owners to prohibit the use, sale, or production of marijuana on their premises (with an exception that landlords cannot prohibit consumption by tenants of marijuana by means other than by smoking); and would permit employers to prohibit the consumption of marijuana by employees in the workplace. State and local governments

could continue to restrict uses in public buildings or at or near schools. Supplying marijuana to persons under age 21 would be unlawful.

The proposed law would take effect on December 15, 2016.

A YES VOTE would allow persons 21 and older to possess, use, and transfer marijuana and products containing marijuana concentrate (including edible products) and to cultivate marijuana, all in limited amounts, and would provide for the regulation and taxation of commercial sale of marijuana and marijuana products.

A NO VOTE would make no change in current laws relative to marijuana.

Watch the League's Forums on Demand

If there is a League of Women Voters of Lexington's First Friday Forum that you've missed or would like to see again, log onto <http://www.lexmedia.org/ondemand.html> and scroll down to "League of Women Voters" under Categories.

The League is Looking for Volunteers

The League is looking for volunteers to fill position openings it has. If interested, contact the League at 781-307-3116 for more information.

LWVUS

We're in the final stretch before Election Day, so I will simply say: hang in there, and keep up the great work!

Leagues are out in front protecting voters against last-minute challenges, working hard to ensure our voters' guides and other good information is making it into the media coverage—and thus into the hands of voters who need us—and, most important, encouraging everyone in our lives to get out and VOTE on November 8.

Thanks to all who have already joined in our "[I Know My Vote Will Count](#)" campaign – we hope you all will help us in getting this important unified message out from all levels of the League.

Thank you for making this a banner year for the League and for the millions of voters we serve!

Chris

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Carson".

President, LWWUS

We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you'd like to submit an article for the December 2016 Bulletin, please send it to Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti at Nancor1106@gmail.com by November 25, 2016.

Dates to Save:

- November 2 Massachusetts Ballot Initiatives discussion, facilitated by State Senator Michael J. Barrett, Lexington Community Center, seating begins at 6:30 P.M., presentation starts at 7:00 P.M.
- November 4 *How Different the Center of Lexington Is from the First Time Paul Revere Rode Through On His Horse!*, Cary Memorial Library, Large Meeting Room, 9:30 a.m.
- November 4 Early Voting option in the Ellen Stone Room, Cary Memorial Building ends.
- November 8 Election Day, Polls Open 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.
- November 14 LWV Lexington Board Meeting, Lexington Community Center, Marrett Road, 7:00 P.M.



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