

Good Morning,

I am Jo Nicholas, President of the League of Women Voters of North Carolina. We join our plaintiffs in declaring the injustice about voting rights for the people of North Carolina. The Governor signed this monster elections bill yesterday. With the new law, radical changes will be occurring in North Carolina's election process in decades. This bill restricts who can vote, where, when and how. All of the drastic measures included in this bill has been the mission of the League for over 93 years. It slices a week off early voting, ends pre-registration of teenagers, eliminates same-day voter registration during early voting, eliminates straight party ticket voting, authorizes more partisan, vigilante poll observers to disrupt and challenge voters inside polling places and much more.

The League is appalled about these restrictions. We have over 975 members across the state with 14 local leagues. We have been vigilant in registering voters for many decades. One of our newest programs is preregistering high school 16 and 17 year-olds to prepare them to vote when they reach 18. Our local leagues have reached out to their prospective high schools and worked closely with their officials in conducting a non-partisan registration event. This is sad news that we can no longer work with our students--the people of tomorrow!

As we stand here in this historic building, we are appalled that our state legislators are encroaching on our civil right to vote--freely!

We will continue to fight for the people of North Carolina so they may complete their constitutional responsibility of VOTING without restrictions! Thank You!