



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF WISCONSIN  
EDUCATION FUND**

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February 12, 2010

To: Assembly Committee on Elections and Campaign Reform

Re: Statement in support of AB 619 for Feb. 17 public hearing

The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin has long supported campaign finance reforms which include significant public financing and contribution limits, as a way to prevent undue special interest influence and to increase competition in elections by making it possible for more individuals to run for office.

Within the structure of state campaign finance statutes, AB 619 allows local ordinances which would further limit:

- contributions by individuals or committees to candidates and conduit transfers;
- total contributions individuals may make to local election campaigns.

The bill also allows local ordinances to provide local public funds for campaigns, limit candidates' contributions to their own campaigns, impose registration and reporting requirements, and set up commissions to enforce their provisions.

If local communities wish to strengthen the state campaign finance limits to improve the democratic process in their governments, there is no reason not to make that possible. We urge you to support AB 619, which provides a means by which they can do so.

Thank you.