



**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

SB 101 Election Law – Contested Elections

POSITION: Support

BY: Nancy Soreng, President

Date: January 26, 2022

The League of Women Voters supports all measures that ensure transparency and the public's right to know who is donating money to candidates. While this legislation doesn't address transparency in funding campaigns, it will reveal who is financing recounts for candidates which can be costly.

If enacted, this legislation will require the formation of Recount Committees when candidates are accepting donations to fund a recount. The reporting requirements for these committees would be very similar to those of a campaign committee.

This bill also changes the threshold to be able to request a recount. Because the League has never studied the recount practice in Maryland, we cannot comment on that aspect of the legislation.

Because our best tool for limiting the influence of money on politics is transparency, we urge a favorable report on SB 101.