

# The Voter

The League of Women Voters of Columbia-Boone County, MO

### MARCH 13 CAT TV: PROTECTING THE SUNSHINE LAW

Dr. Sandy Davidson, MU Professor of Journalism, will be our guest at the March 13 CAT TV Show. Amendment 1 was overwhelmingly approved by voters in November 2018. One of the provisions of the amendment subjected the Missouri Legislature to the Sunshine Law. State legislators are now in the process of trying to change the law (see pg. 7 in this *Voter*). Dr. Davidson will explain the components of the MO Sunshine Law and how the proposed bills would affect it if passed. Randy Picht, Executive Director of the MU Journalism Institute, will moderate.

This program will be up on our website a few days later, or at http://www.columbiaaccess.tv.



The show replays on CAT TV at 7:00 a.m. on Tues., Thurs. and Sat. and 7:30 p.m. on Mon., Wed., Fri. and Sun. CAT TV is found on Mediacom Channel 85, Charter Communications 983, and CenturyTel Prism 98. A YouTube version will be sent to members.

— Carol Schreiber, <a href="mailto:carolschrei@gmail.com">carolschrei@gmail.com</a>

## LUNCH & LEARN MARCH 19: REPLACING BOONE COUNTY'S VOTING EQUIPMENT

Mark Your Calendar

Our speaker on March19 at noon at the Columbia Public Library will be Brianna Lennon, Boone County Clerk. Boone County's current voting equipment is over twelve years old and in need of replacing.

Voting equipment is a critical part of elections administration and a huge long-term investment, so it's important that voters, poll workers, civic organizations like the League of Women Voters, and disability advocates, are all a part of the conversation. We'll be discussing the opportunities for community engagement and



Brianna Lennon, Boone County Clerk

the importance of updated voting equipment.

Prior to her election, Brianna served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Consumer Protection

Division of the Missouri Attorney General's Office before joining the Missouri Secretary of State's Office under former Secretary Jason Kander. As the Deputy Director of Elections and first coordinator of the Election Integrity Unit in the Secretary of State's Office, she worked closely with local election authorities across the state to ensure that elections were simple, secure, and accessible for voters.

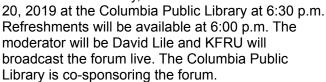
— Gayla M. Neumeyer

Mark Your Calendar

### **CANDIDATE FORUM MARCH 20**

The only races on the April 2nd Election will be for Columbia Mayor and the Columbia School Board. Candidates for Mayor are Brian Treece and Chris Kelly. The candidates for Columbia School Board are Ardella Streaty-Wilhoit, Blake Willoughby, and Jay Atkins. Brian Jones withdrew from the school board race. Voters will select two of the three to serve on the school board.

The LWV Candidate Forum will be on Wednesday, March



— Carol Schreiber, carolschrei@gmail.com

### FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING REPORT

During a lucky break in the weather, the board met on February 18 to discuss big plans for 2019, finalize written guidelines for candidate and ballot measure forums, and explore new ways of communicating about the League and important legislative issues.

A committee headed by Pam Springsteel is planning several events to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our local League and the 99th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment (see pg. 4 in this *Voter*). We hope to engage new generations to continue making progress, including eventual passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

League forums are a respected venue for members and the public to learn about local political candidates. To assure consistency, the board passed new guidelines (see below) that will allow all certified candidates in contested races to participate if they choose to do so, even if their opponent does not participate. The guidelines also spell out our expectation that the moderator will play a neutral role.

We now have 160 members—if you haven't renewed for 2019, please do so now!

As always, we have a full slate of informative activities coming up (see calendar on pg. 8), including a local candidate forum on March 20. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 30 and we will staff a table at Earth Day on April 28. Let us know if you're available to help.

The weather interfered with our Legislative Night, and it's not possible to reschedule due to their escalating legislative workload this time of year. This is unfortunate since there are several bills of concern to LWV members, highlighted elsewhere in this issue. We encourage everyone to make your voices heard now in defense of the Clean Missouri amendment, which was passed resoundingly by the voters but is in danger of being undermined by legislative actions. We will keep you informed by sharing LWV-MO Legislative Alerts. It's painless to contact your legislators by phone or e-mail (see pg. 7), and it can really make a difference!

— Mahree Skala

### **NEW GUIDELINES FOR CANDIDATE AND BALLOT ISSUE FORUMS**

The LWV policy that has caused the most frustration for candidates and audience members in our forums is the "empty chair debate" policy. This policy has been used in a two-candidate race. If one candidate did not show up, the debate was cancelled for that office. This situation has occurred several times in the past few years, including 2018.

Over the past several months, we have been searching for a revision to this policy. The LWV of Minnesota has a policy that allows the candidate who shows up to participate in the forum and the candidate declining to participate to provide a written statement explaining why they cannot attend. We contacted LWVUS to make sure that this was an acceptable policy and we received their approval.

Our new policy now reads: Each candidate present must be given equal time to present opening remarks, answer questions and closing remarks. Candidates declining to participate at a forum may provide a factual description of their reason for nonattendance and that will be shared with the audience by the moderator. Otherwise, the moderator will only state that the candidate was invited and will not attend the event.

The LWV has also been asked to co-sponsor other candidate forums. Some of the organizations did not invite all of the candidates (e.g., only female candidates). Our new policy states that any co-sponsoring organization must be "nonpartisan" and "invite all of the candidates," so we would not co-sponsor any forum that did not comply with our policy.

Finally, the new policy addresses ballot issues:

- The LWV will search for representatives from organizations opposing or supporting an issue. If speakers are not available, then LWV members can present pro or con points that are publicly available.
- If the LWV has taken a position on a ballot issue, that position will be publicized after our forum.
- LWV presentations on issues can be made to non-partisan and partisan groups, so long as the material is presented in an informational manner.

On February 18, 2019 the LWV Board approved the new guidelines and they are now in effect.

— Carol Schreiber, <a href="mailto:carolschrei@qmail.com">carolschrei@qmail.com</a>

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING

We will hold our LWVCBC Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, April 30,** from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Rock Quarry House on Grindstone.

The League will supply sandwiches, and veggie and fruit trays for a light dinner. There will be no cost for our members!

We will honor a longtime League member with the Eleanor Goodge Award for Exemplary Service to the League, have a special guest speaker, and have a short business meeting where we will vote on the Nominations Committee Report and the proposed budget for 2019-20.

Additional details will be included in the April Voter.

— Marilyn McLeod, marilyn mcleod@yahoo.com





### MARK YOUR CALENDAR! ANNUAL FUNDRAISER!



Our big fundraiser of the year will be *Hairspray*, a great musical comedy presented by the Columbia Entertainment Company, 1800 Nelwood Drive, on **Wednesday**, **June 12**.

Hairspray, winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, is a family-friendly musical, piled bouffant-high with laughter, romance and deliriously tuneful songs.

Funds raised from this event go into the general fund of LWV and support all our yearly activities. Watch for more information in the April *Voter*.

Marilyn McLeod, <u>marilyn\_mcleod@yahoo.com</u>

### FRIENDS OF THE LWV OF COLUMBIA-BOONE COUNTY

The LWV of Columbia-Boone County recognizes the many organizations and individuals who have helped us educate the public, provided meeting space, and given of their time, talent and treasure to the LWV. Each month we recognize a group of our Friends of the LWV as voted on by the LWV of Columbia-Boone County membership at our Annual Meeting on April 25, 2018. For March 2019 we recognize:

- Jake Parsons was our Lunch and Learn speaker for the program "Evaluating Information in the Age
  of Fake News and Alternative Facts" on April 17, 2018.
- Tim Gibbons, Jeff Jones and Tena Potts were our guests on the CAT TV Show entitled "Understanding Missouri's CAFOs" on April 11, 2018.
- Paul Pepper and James Mouser include the LWV each month on their KBIA show.

Thanks for being a Friend of the LWV!

### **UPDATE: 100TH ANNIVERSARY LEAGUE CELEBRATIONS IN 2019**

100 YEARS STRONG

LEAGUE of

1920 - 2020

Maura Mudd, local artist, met with the 100th Anniversary Committee and presented ideas for art work featuring Luella St. Clair Moss. It was decided to have an art student to work with her. We hope to

have the new middle school named after Mrs. Moss as she was the first female president of Columbia College ( then Christian College), the first female member of the Columbia School Board, the first president of the State LWV from Boone County, and she was called a "whirlwind in petticoats" by Walter Williams, the founder of the MU Journalism School.

### **Proclamations by Governor Parsons**

We are asking the LWV State board to request proclamations from the Governor, Secretary of State and the Missouri legislature to celebrate April 5 — the 100th Anniversary of the Governor signing the bill granting the women of Missouri the right to vote for US President and Vice President — and July 3, the 100th Anniversary of Missouri ratifying the 19th Amendment. Missouri was the 11th state to ratify the federal women's suffrage amendment.

## August 26, 2019: 99th Anniversary of the XIX Amendment

Monday evening celebration with a program featuring reenactments of local and national

suffragettes, orientation for new members, awarding of the Liz Schmidt Scholarship, door prizes and tasty refreshments.

## November 24, 2019: Columbia's Holiday Parade 3-5 p.m.

Todd Crawford has graciously agreed to drive three of our costumed members in his Model T Ford. We will be preparing Centennial Banners for the sides of the automobile.

## December 7, 2019: Centennial Celebration of our Founding

A Saturday afternoon reception is being planned with the public invited. We will send special invitations to the Friends of the League and we will ask the Mayor for a proclamation that this be LWV Week. Mothersingers will sing our Suffrage Songs. There will be a speaker and we will present the Liz Schmidt Community Service Award.

## December 11, 2019: 100th Anniversary of the Founding of our local League

We are planning a Wednesday evening party, especially for our younger members, with live music, drinks, and hors d'oeuvres.

More events, displays and exhibits are being planned. Stay tuned as plans are finalized.

— Pam Springsteel, pspring@socket.net

### STATE LWV CONVENTION MAY 3 & 4 IN ST. LOUIS



The 64th biennial convention of the League of Women Voters of Missouri will be held May 3-4 in St. Louis, with the convention on Friday afternoon and most of the day Saturday. This Convention will celebrate the centennial of the League.

Saturday's keynote speaker is Amber McReynolds, a national leader in effective and innovative practices that increase the security, convenience and efficiency of elections. Former Director of Elections for Denver, she is now Executive Director for the National Vote at Home Institute and serves as a strategic adviser on various election projects across the country.

The convention includes the business of the state League for the next two years and it is important to have our League represented. Although we can't cover travel or lodging costs, our League will pay the registration fees for some of our members to attend.

If you are interested in attending, please send your name to lwvcbc@gmail.com or call Marilyn McLeod at 573-445-3500.

— Marilyn McLeod, marilyn mcleod@yahoo.com

### **ELEANOR GOODGE AWARD FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE**

At our annual meeting in April, we will honor a League member with the Eleanor Goodge Award for Exemplary Service to the League of Women Voters. If you have someone in mind that is deserving of the award, please send a statement detailing how your nominee meets the following criteria for the award:



- · Member of LWV of Columbia-Boone County.
- Exemplary service and a long term commitment to the principles of LWV.
- Primary service should be at the local level, but may include service at the state and/or national level.

- Service goes beyond service in an elected or appointed LWV assignment.
- This award does not need to be given each year and may be given posthumously.

Some previous recipients include Carolyn Leuthold (2012), Maydell Senn (2013), Lael Von Holt (2014), Kathryn Allen (2015), Win Colwill (2016), Elaine Blodgett (2017) and Joni O'Connor (2018).

Please send your nominations to lwvcbc@gmail.com by March 10. The board will vote on this award at the March LWV board meeting and it will be presented at our Annual Meeting in April.

— Marilyn McLeod, <u>marilyn mcleod@yahoo.com</u>

### JOIN THE NEWLY FORMED ERA COMMITTEE!

The LWVCBC held a new members meeting on January 26th and when I inquired about an ERA committee, and learned that none existed, I volunteered to chair a group of interested volunteers.

This year Senator Jill Schupp has brought an ERA

resolution to the Missouri Senate (SCR7). It is a concurrent resolution, as her initial 2018 bill was never brought to the floor for a vote.

Urgency for the passage of this bill and ratification of the ERA in Missouri is viewed with similar concern across our state by active groups from Joplin, Springfield to Kansas City. We in mid-Missouri need to make our voices heard to support our sisters. Just as the suffragettes came from across different divides for voting rights, we must unite in this cause. The ERA provides opportunities for more than just women, but includes those whose lives

they touch and the institutions of our society. Missouri could be the state to push ratification forward nationally.

Our first committee meeting will be held **Wednesday, March 13th**, in Conference Room B at Columbia Public Library, at 12:30PM. If you are interested, please come join us....be prepared to work! Please contact me if you want to join this new committee, and thank you in advance.

— Teri Miller, tstm49@gmail.com



## FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE: LWV TO CO-SPONSOR ADDITIONAL MAYOR & SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM

Mark Your Calendar

WHEN: Thursday. March 7, 7:00 pm, snacks and conversation at 6:30

WHERE: Boone County Commission Chamber in the Government Center next to the Courthouse.

This forum is centered on climate change. Candidates have already been provided with a list of questions which will be read and then each can each respond. With Columbia studying a climate action plan, this is an important issue in the Mayoral race. The school Board candidates have been given questions related to school planning and curriculum. The program is co-sponsored by Peaceworks, Renew Missouri, and the League of Women Voters of Columbia & Boone County.

— Dick Parker, <u>rbparker111@gmail.com</u>

### **CLIMATE CHANGE URGENCY**

Late last year two reports were published with the alarming conclusion that global warming needs to be limited to 1.5 degrees Celsius - rather than 2 degrees as had been previously thought - in order to avoid catastrophic climate changes. Further, this needs to be accomplished by 2030 instead of 2050. This must be done to prevent climate feedback loops that can't

be reversed for many years. Atmospheric CO2 levels have doubled, from about 200 parts per million to 407 ppm during the industrial era, and increased 30% from the 1958 level of 315 ppm.

The scientific community can now predict the impact of ocean warming on hurricane strength and associated rainfall and flooding. Hurricane Maria caused about three thousand deaths in Puerto Rico primarily due to infrastructure damage interrupting health care and a lack of electricity and transportation. Hurricane Harvey flooded Houston with as much as 24 inches of rain in one day and caused \$125 billion in damage. If

warming is not stopped, warmer parts of the world will experience 120 degree Fahrenheit temperatures on multiple summer days resulting in millions of deaths in countries where not everyone can afford air conditioning.

Many of us have contributed our share to the problem. Personally, fifty years ago I did pay attention to the efficiency of my cars but only to reduce my spending on gasoline (after all \$0.26 per gallon was expensive) and not to reduce CO2.

CO2 impacts stay around for a long time. If the world added no additional CO2 to the atmosphere there will still be an impact on warming for decades. The earth's climate has a great deal of inertia, so as we step on the CO2 brakes it will take a long time to slow down.

The last five years have been the hottest five on record. Four other years in this century are among the top ten. 2016 was the hottest, at 2.2 F above the (1880 – 2010) average. Winters have also been warmer. Graphs smoothed to eliminate large year to year fluctuations show that in the 1970s, we had 19 consecutive winter days below average

temperatures, but, recently, only ten days.

Because Missouri is in the middle of a continent at middle latitude, some of the impacts will be relatively smaller here. Sea level rise is not a problem, except that refugees leaving coastal towns will come here. But the arctic region is warming about twice as fast as the rest of the world, and that is already influencing jet streams this far south. In addition, changes in ocean acidity caused by CO2 will alter ocean ecosystems and the benefits we all get from them.

The quantity of rain will likely not change a lot in Missouri, but there will be more heavy downpours. In Columbia this will cause more frequent

and greater street flooding and higher flood levels along our streams. Warmer temperatures will bring more mosquitoes and the diseases they carry. Missouri agriculture will see greater soil erosion due to rain coming in larger storms. Higher temperatures will reduce agricultural yields in Missouri, most notably for soybeans.

Columbia has initiated a program on Climate Action and Adaptation to participate in addressing the climate problem. Columbia needs to achieve net zero carbon as soon as possible. You can help. The Climate Action Plan will have an impact if there is sufficient public support to get the specifics enacted by the City Council.

— Dick Parker, rbparker111@gmail.com

#### Resources

Columbia Climate Action and Adaptation Plan - Office of Sustainability:

https://www.como.gov/sustainability/climate-action/?doing\_wp\_cron=1551213969.7807641029357910156250

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/summary-for-policy-makers/

4th National Climate Assessment https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/

### **LEGISLATION TO NARROW THE "SUNSHINE LAW"**

Missouri's "Sunshine Law," RSMo 610.010, has for decades promoted transparency in government by allowing the public to access the correspondence and records of state and local officials, with the key exception of the legislature. In November 2018 the

voters approved the Clean Missouri constitutional amendment, which among other provisions requires the legislature to comply with the Sunshine Law. In response, both houses are working to dilute the law so they still do not have to do their business in the sunlight.



The House has passed HB 445 (103 Yes to 47 No) with provisions that would gut the "Sunshine Law" not only for the state legislature but for local officials and statewide officeholders. This bill would allow officials at all levels of government to withhold from the public all correspondence with constituents (including donors and lobbyists) and any documents "consisting of advice, opinions and recommendations in connection with the

deliberative decision-making process . . ." This would be a giant step backwards toward government secrecy.

Senate Bill 132, which was heard in committee on 2/12/19, pertains only to the legislature. It would

effectively seal all communications with constituents and "all information regarding proposed legislation or the legislative process" except for the records of public meetings. This would clearly circumvent the voters' intent.

Please contact your legislators and let them know your opinion of how these bills will impact our democracy. For their

contact information, go to <a href="https://lwvmissouri.org/elected-officials/">https://lwvmissouri.org/elected-officials/</a>.

HB 445:

https://house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills191/amendpdf/0895H01.22H.pdf

SB 132: <a href="https://www.senate.mo.gov/19info/">https://www.senate.mo.gov/19info/</a>
<a href="https://www.senate.mo.gov/19info/">BTS\_Web/Bill.aspx?SessionType=R&BillID=162</a>

- Mahree Skala

### **ACTION NEEDED TO PROTECT DEMOCRACY**

We would like for you, LWV Columbia-Boone County members, to know that the Missouri state legislature is busy proposing bills in Jefferson City. Many of these bills are in direct opposition to our LWV positions. Some of the proposed issues include—Amendment 1, Minimum wage, Charter schools, Sunshine law, and the list goes on. MO State LWV continues to monitor bills and send email calling for members to take action by contacting your representative by email or phone. At this point in the legislative process, it is important for citizens to monitor what is happening and to take action to let them know what we think is best for our democracy. If you are feeling overwhelmed by the number of bills to follow and take action on, you can always choose one or two issues to monitor.

Here is the place to go for info about how to contact your elected official, <a href="https://lwvcbc.org/voter-information/elected-officials/house-and-senate/">https://lwvcbc.org/voter-information/elected-officials/house-and-senate/</a> Also, the table of information is provided below for your convenience.

District	Name	Email	Phone
House 44	Cheri Reisch	cheri.toalson-reisch@house.mo.gov	(573) 751-1169
House 45	Kip Kendrick	kip.kendrick@house.mo.gov	(573) 751-4189
House 46	Martha Stevens	martha.stevens@houlse.mo.gov	(573) 751-9753
House 47	Chuck Basye	chuck.basye@house.mo.gov	(573) 751-1501
House 50	Sara Walsh	sara.walsh@house.mo.gov	(573) 751-2134
Senate 19	Caleb Rowden	caleb.rowden@senate.mo.gov	(573)751-3931
Governnor	Mike Parson	https://governor.mo.gov/contact-us	(573) 751-3222
Lt. Governor	Mike Kehoe	<u>Itgovinfo@Itgov.mo.gov</u>	(573) 751- 4727



## **Upcoming League Events!**



MARCH 2019							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
24	25	26	27	28	MAR 1	2	
3	4	5	6	7 Climate Change Candidate Forum with Peaceworks 7pm, Boone County Commission Chambers	8	9	
10	Amendment One - Keep it Clean Meeting 7pm Columbia Public Library Friends Room	12	13 CAT-TV Sunshine Law 7:00 p.m. ERA Committee Mtg 12:30p.m. Library Room B	14	15 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	16	
17	18 Board Meeting UU Church 2615 Shepard Blvd, 6:30 p.m.	19 Lunch & Learn Boone County Voting Equipment Library Noon	20 Candidate Forum for April Election Columbia Public Library 6:30 p.m.	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31	APRIL 1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10 CAT-TV 7:00 p.m.	11	12	13	
14	15 LWV on Paul Pepper KBIA 8:50 a.m.	16 Lunch & Learn Library Noon	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30 LWV Annual Meeting Rock Quarry House 5:30-7p.m.					

### LWV Officers:

President: Open

1st VP: Barbara Hoppe (424-9668) 2nd VP: Diane Suhler (443-0549) Secretary: Carol Schreiber

(657-0639)

Treasurer: Marilyn McLeod

(445 - 3500)

### **Elected Directors:**

Meredith Donaldson (289-3018) Elaine Blodgett (256-2803) Ruth Milledge (268-9591) Gayla Neumeyer (882-8366) Sharon Schneeberger (443-4605) Mahree Skala (474-2195) Pam Springsteel (445-0642) Shirley Troth (443-7033)

### **Appointed Directors:**

Dick Parker (256-4397) Lael Von Holt (443-7747)

### **Committee Chairs:**

100th Anniversary: Pam Springsteel

**Budget: Shirley Troth** 

Civil Liberties: Marilyn McLeod

Clean Missouri: Sharon Schneeberger Education: Open

Energy Matters: Dick Parker Fundraising: Pam Springsteel

Health: Mahree Skala
Hospitality: Pam Springsteel
Membership: Meredith Donaldson
Mental Health: Lael Von Holt

Speakers Bureau: Open
Voter Service: Carol Schreiber

### Voter Editor: Ava Fajen

National: Iwv.org

Local Voter Information Portal:
<a href="https://www.columbiamo.turbovote.org">lwvcolumbiamo.turbovote.org</a>
Like us on Facebook: "League of Women Voters - Columbia, MO"

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

### Welcome to New Members Kayleigh McCarty and Anna Cranor.

To those of you haven't yet renewed for 2019, it is time to renew your LWV membership! Thank you for your past support and for renewing today so we can continue to have the impact you've come to expect from the League! As a member, you are a crucial part of our non-partisan, handson work to safeguard democracy and create lasting change.

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership dues are \$65 for individuals, \$100 for a household, and \$25 for local students. Individual and household memberships also include state (LWVMO) and national (LWVUS) membership.

Send to PO Box 239, Columbia, MO. 65205

Name			

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

State and Zip Code

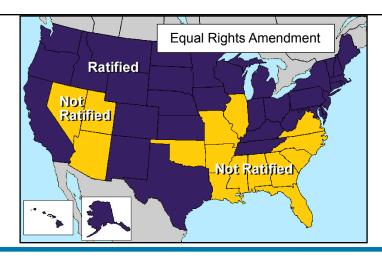
Telephone

I am particularly interested in

I would like to receive my Voter by postal mail \_\_\_\_\_\_

(Note: Tax deductible donations to the Education Fund should

be a separate check payable to LWVMO Education Fund.)





PO Box 239
Columbia MO 65205
<a href="http://lwvcbc.org">http://lwvcbc.org</a>

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### AMENDMENT 1 - KEEP IT CLEAN!

Yes, Amendment I passed at the last election in November with 62% bipartisan approval statewide. However, Missouri state legislators are proposing bills to change the various parts of the Amendment. On March 11, we will meet at the Columbia Public Library Friends Room at 7:00 p.m. to find ways to respond to the Missouri Legislature's proposed changes. Other groups are invited to join us. A representative of Clean Missouri will attend to share their ideas about actions citizens can take. Please put this event on you calendar and plan to attend; concerned citizens are needed.

As approved, Amendment 1 would do the following:

- Lower campaign contribution limits to \$2,500 for state Senate candidates and \$2,000 for state House candidates
- Eliminate almost all lobbyist gifts to members of the General Assembly
- Require that all legislative records be open to the public, including committee reports, correspondence and electronic communication, and allow taping of all meetings open to the public
- Require politicians to wait two years after leaving office before becoming lobbyists
- Ensure that neither political party is given an unfair advantage when new legislative district maps are
  drawn after each census. An independent demographer would draw maps that would then be
  reviewed by a citizen commission that must hold public hearings. Currently, politicians draw the maps
  to protect incumbents and their parties. Districts must be drawn using the following criteria, in order of
  priority:
  - make districts as equal in population as practicable;
  - comply with U.S. Constitution, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, other federal laws;
  - promote partisan fairness and competitiveness
  - be composed of contiguous territory, coincide with the boundaries of political subdivisions and be compact in form.