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Tulsa League of Women Voters Pleaded State Supreme Court is Allowing Voter ID Case to Continue
Co-Plaintiff in an Earlier Law Suit, the League Is Not Party to This Suit

TULSA—The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa was pleased that the Oklahoma Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that the challenge to Oklahoma’s Voter ID law can move forward.

“The right to vote is one of the most basic rights of American citizens,” said Kathleen Kastelic, president, Tulsa League of Women Voters. “We said at the time this referendum was put before Oklahoma voters in 2010 that it is a solution in search of a problem because there is no documented voter fraud in this state. We continue to believe that the law is simply an effort to disenfranchise a certain class of voter and are pleased the Oklahoma Supreme Court has ruled to allow this case to proceed.

“The League of Women Voters was founded 94 years ago to support the right to vote. We fought to gain the vote for women, for minorities and for 18-year-olds, and we have worked to remove barriers to voting like poll taxes and literacy tests. Voter ID is another roadblock to voting that we continue to oppose,” Kastelic said.

The Tulsa League was initially a party to the law suit filed by Tulsa Attorney James C. Thomas in 2010 to overturn the Voter ID law. As this issue has moved through the Oklahoma court system, Thomas refiled his case choosing to have only one plaintiff. The League is not party to the current suit.

The League of Women Voters has worked since the July 2011 implementation of the Voter ID law to educate voters so that they know what they will need to exercise their fundamental right to vote.

“We work to inform the public with every voters’ guide we produce that they will need either government-issued photo identification or their county election board identification to cast their ballot,” Kastelic said. “While we hope this law is eventually found unconstitutional and Oklahomans again enjoy unimpeded access to the polls, in the meantime we will continue our core mission of voter education.”

About the League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Tulsa is a non-partisan political organization. Its mission is to encourage informed and active participation in government, to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. For more information about the League, visit lwvtulsa.org or call 918-747-7933.

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