

Join a State League Study Committee

- Term Limits
- Ballot Access
- Constitutional Convention

The state League is about to begin two studies and one position update adopted at the 2013 State League Convention. We invite interested members to join the study committees. Below you will find brief descriptions of the studies and update, with additional introductory materials linked. Our new Policy and Program Director, Sarah Podber, will be coordinating the studies and providing research, writing, and additional supports to the committees. The committees' work will be conducted via email and conference calls. Please take a look at the study and update descriptions and email [Sarah](#) ASAP if you are interested in joining a committee! Work on the studies and update will be beginning within the next few weeks.

Study/Update Descriptions

Term Limits Study

This is a study on term limits for the New York State legislature and statewide elected officials.

The 1992 LWWUS Convention authorized state and local Leagues to use national positions and principles to take action against term limits for state or local office holders. The language adopted by the convention is permissive only; that is, it allows state and local Leagues to apply the national position in opposition to term limits at other levels, but it does not require opposition to term limits at other levels. It does not supersede positions arrived at by study and consensus at the state or local League level that may support term limits for state or local office.

In 1996 the LWWNY Board decided it was time for the state to take a position on term limits as several local leagues had already done so. Although the state board had the authority to adopt such a position without referring this matter to the membership, delegates to Council 1996 voted to concur with opposition to term limits for state legislators and statewide office. At the urging of several local Leagues, LWWNY is again considering the issue of term limits via this study.

Intro Materials:

[The Term Limited States](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions about Term Limits](#)

Ballot Access Study

This study will broadly examine how candidates get onto the ballot in the general election. It will potentially encompass the primary system, fusion voting, Wilson-Pakula, run-off voting, and other aspects of election law.

Intro Materials:

[More Choices, More Voices: A Primer on Fusion Voting](#)

[Voter Turnout Analysis: Nonpartisan City Council Special Elections Have Higher Voter Turnout than Partisan State Legislative Special Elections](#)

[State Primary Election Types](#)

Constitutional Convention Position Update

This update will examine the League's position on New York's constitutional convention with an emphasis on the method of delegate selection. Our current position was adopted in 1993. The issue of a constitutional convention will come up again in 2017, when the mandatory every 20 year referendum on the subject appears on the ballot. One of the conditions stated in the position for League support involve specific changes in the current constitutionally mandated way that delegates are selected. It is very unlikely that all these changes will happen because they would have to pass the Legislature initially. There has been some interest expressed both inside and outside the League in supporting a constitutional convention as a way of fixing Albany. Under our current position, in all likelihood we would never be able to support a constitutional convention. This update would be very limited in scope, looking only at the delegate selection portion of the League's position.

Intro Materials:

[The Constitutional Convention Question is on the Horizon: Reviewing the League's Position on Delegate Selection](#)

Reminder: Email [Sarah](#) ASAP if you are interested in working on any of these Committees. We'd like representation from across the state on the Committees. Hope to hear from you soon!

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