

## **No more printed voter forms**

In March, the North Carolina State Board of Elections announced that it would no longer print voter registration forms for community-based voter registration drives. This decision departs from the State Board's longstanding practice of providing these forms since the passage of the National Voter Registration Act in 1993.

In response, the League of Women Voters of North Carolina and 29 other nonpartisan civic and voting rights organizations signed a letter urging the State Board to restore access to printed voter registration forms.

The letter emphasizes that both the National Voter Registration Act and North Carolina law require voter registration forms to be made available through governmental and private entities. Issues highlighted in the letter include:

- Community voter registration drives play a critical role in helping eligible voters register and vote.
- Over 217,000 North Carolina voter registrations in 2024 were connected to voter registration drives.
- Limiting access to printed voter registration forms could create barriers for voters in rural communities, students, seniors, and individuals without reliable internet or DMV access.

The organizations urged the State Board to immediately restore printed voter registration forms for community registration efforts and expand online voter registration options for individuals without DMV accounts. This could reduce printing costs, improve efficiency, reduce duplicate registrations and data entry errors, and expand voter access across North Carolina.

Voter registration is central to the League's mission of empowering voters and defending democracy. We will continue to advocate for policies that support a more inclusive democracy for all North Carolinians.

*Suzanne Fisher, Black Mountain*

*, President League of Women Voters Asheville-Buncombe County*