

Progressive legacy

To the editor: As a relatively new member of the League of Women Voters, I understand the confusion around its nonpartisan status, as expressed in a recent letter (Feb. 3). The letter writer expressed the view that the league's positions always leaned "left," therefore it was clear which party it supports.

The League's nonpartisan status simply means it doesn't support any particular party or candidate. Locally, for example, when we sponsor candidate forums, all candidates are invited to speak and are treated uniformly. However, the league does take positions on governmental policies and issues, including voter ID laws, campaign finance reform and universal health care. These positions are arrived at after careful study, based on facts and merit, not on whether a particular party proposed or supports the issue. Therefore our positions are indeed "nonpartisan." It's true that league positions are generally "progressive." Our history with that label stretches back to the beginning of the previous century, when the league formed to help women, who had just won the right to vote, stay informed about issues of civic importance. We are proud of this progressive legacy and will continue our work to inform the voting public on issues that we consider vital to our future. **Liz Hill, Hendersonville**

