

TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

HB 979 Municipal Elections – Candidates – Reports of Donations and Disbursements

POSITION: Support

BY: Nancy Soreng President

Date: February 28, 2023

The League of Women Voters supports campaign finance regulations that enhance political equality for all citizens, ensure transparency, protect representative democracy from distortion by undisclosed contributions and combat corruption.

The League has consistently supported measures that enhance transparency in fundraising and expenditures related to political campaigns. We support this bill because it extends reporting requirements to candidates running in municipal elections. This is a common-sense measure that adds accountability to those running for offices that in some ways have the most direct and immediate impact on the residents they seek to represent.

We urge a favorable report on HB 979.

121 Cathedral Street, Suite 2B, Annapolis, MD 21401 410-269-0232 * info@lwvmd.org * www.lwvmd.org