

PUBLIC POLICY

The Voter Information Night, which is reviewed in this newsletter, discussed many aspects of the voting process. The meeting specifically discussed the 5 proposals to amend the NYS constitution which were on the back of the ballot.

New Yorkers overwhelmingly rejected proposals 1,3&4. These constitutional amendments would have allowed same day registration and no excuse absentee voting in future elections. Proposal 1 would have enacted a list of changes to the State redistricting process was also rejected.

Voters passed proposals 2&5. Proposal 2 guarantees the right to clean air and water. Proposal 5 raises the financial ceiling for civil courts in NYC.

The ballot proposals were rejected by margins of 4 to 1 in Upstate NY and the North Country. Both the Republican and Democratic Election officials from Jefferson County stated that proposals 3&4 would make voting more accessible in NYS while remaining safe.

This is a reminder that, AAUW's Washington Update sent an email saying that this year AAUW will focus its advocacy on prioritizing women in crisis and economic recovery, particularly through the Build Back Better Act. Congress should be urged to include 3 critical needs in the budget process: Permanent universal family and medical leave; affordable child care; and mechanisms to reduce child poverty.

AAUW requests that its members contact their members of Congress to support this legislation and these AAUW priorities.

Although our congresswoman Stefanik has opposed such legislation we should still contact her. As constituents we need to tell her that our organization does not agree with her position . We need to respectfully ask how she would address these AAUW priorities in her Northern NY district.

Her office can be reached at
315-782-3150 Watertown
202-225-4611 Washington DC.

Think globally. Act Locally.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE



Questions? Contact
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A few members have not yet renewed their 20-21 AAUW Membership. This has been a difficult year for everyone but the important work of AAUW continues as it has for 140 years. Sexism and Racism are still two of the major problems facing women and the only way to mitigate them is to speak out and offer help. AAUW gives us information so that we can speak out with knowledge and facts. Every day AAUW does that for us in the Halls of Congress. If you have not yet renewed but believe in the mission of AAUW, you can join and let your voice be heard. Numbers do count.