



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

*Legislative Update for February 28, 2009*

**Don't forget to "Check Your 3!"**

What does Check Your 3 mean? It is a checkoff on the NC income tax form, and the money supports public financing for statewide judicial races (Court of Appeals and Supreme Court) and a statewide Voter Guide for those judicial races (which is compiled by the Board Of Elections.) Democracy NC states "April 15th is the deadline for getting at least 350,000 North Carolinians to check YES for the Public Campaign Fund on their state income tax forms. Help us spread the word to taxpayers and accountants between now and April 15th. You can easily do this by emailing this URL (<http://www.democracy-nc.org/CheckYour3.shtml>) of our special Check 3 page to people in your email address book, or by distributing our hand-out on the program or by sponsoring a seminar on Voter-Owned Elections for a group in your area. To order 50 or 500 hand-outs or to ask about our seminar on VOE, please call (919) 286-6000 ext. 10 or write [info@democracy-nc.org](mailto:info@democracy-nc.org). And remember: Checking YES for the Public Campaign Fund does not change your tax bill or refund. It just sends \$3 to the Fund from taxes you're paying anyway."

Democracy North Carolina also reports "that a public hearing in Chapel Hill on Monday night brought out a crowd overwhelmingly in favor of the town's proposed public campaign financing program for municipal candidates. All of the residents who spoke at the hearing were in favor of the program and there was only one dissenting vote when it came time for the City Council to affirm its roll-out. The program becomes effective for this year's election. Democracy NC played a pivotal role in helping to make this breakthrough a reality -- as did our valued partners for Voter-Owned Elections: NC Voters for Clean Elections, League of Women Voters and Common Cause."

For more information on local campaign public financing, visit (<http://www.democracy-nc.org/LocalVOE.shtml>). There is new legislation in the General Assembly that would open up the VOE option to other NC cities and we'll keep you posted as details unfold.

**LOBBY DAY ALERT**

North Carolina Conservation Network reports the Clean Water Lobby Day in North Carolina to protect public health through clean water. You can join them and hundreds of concerned citizens from around the state for the 9th Annual Clean Water Lobby Day on Tuesday, March 24 in Raleigh: [http://nconconservationnetwork1.org/because\\_you\\_love\\_nc/events/cwld2009/details.tcl](http://nconconservationnetwork1.org/because_you_love_nc/events/cwld2009/details.tcl)

This year, you can help by urging your state legislators to stand strong for clean water by:

- **[Passing strong water allocation laws](#)** – Our current water laws are obsolete and do not protect existing users or the environment from over pumping of surface or groundwater.

- [Protecting the Jordan Lake rules](#) - Rules passed last year need to be kept strong in order to clean up this important drinking water source for over 400,000 people.
- **Stopping the Titan Cement plant** – Insist that a moratorium be placed on the construction of all new cement plants until the health and environmental impacts of this industry are known (stay tuned for action).

For additional information on The League of Women Voters of North Carolina and our policies and partners, please visit [www.lwvnc.org](http://www.lwvnc.org).

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*LWV is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.*