

Transparency in Government

The League of Women Voters believes that open and accountable government is the cornerstone to a healthy democracy. Transparency:

- Promotes accountability by providing the public with information about what the Government is doing
- Eliminates the appearance of impropriety
- Limits the possibility of electoral fraud
- Promotes public confidence and trust in the electoral system

The entire system must be sufficiently open and comprehensive that nontechnical observers can believe the results. Election transparency means full public access to all election procedures in order to allow meaningful verification of ballot handling, tabulating, auditing and related elections records.

It was not until President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Freedom of Information Act into law on July 4, 1966, that the federal government codified what the public has a right to know, and how they can exercise that right to obtain government-held information.

The LWV publications are highly recommended. They cover Observer Corps and a multitude of other topics related to our mission of informing the public.

Observing Your Government in Action, Publication No. 2080

is available from the League of Women Voters

Download a free copy or purchase a paper copy for \$5.00

http://www.lwv.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Openness_in_Government2&CONTENTID=8494&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm

Looking for Sunshine: Protecting Your Right to Know

Can be downloaded from

http://www.lwv.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Openness_in_Government2&TEMPLATE=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&CONTENTID=13810

A rigorous, risk-limiting method of doing post-election audits: California Assembly committee endorses UC Berkeley statistician's election auditing method.

By Robert Sanders, April 26, 2010

<http://www.verifiedvotingfoundation.org/article.php?id=6757>

Verified Voting's Election Transparency Project

<http://www.verifiedvotingfoundation.org/article.php?id=6389>