



The League of Women Voters of Saratoga County  
PO Box 1029, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

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To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters of Saratoga County condemns this week's decision by the Saratoga County Board of Supervisor's to lobby against early voting and automatic voter registration. This near unanimous decision (only the Saratoga Springs Supervisors voted against it) demonstrates the board's hypocrisy and disregard for voters and the facts.

They say that they want to encourage voter turnout but then they oppose early voting because, without conducting any kind of cost analysis they say it will be too expensive. And they continue to say this even after the Governor put \$7 million in his budget to cover the cost of offering residents access to at least one early voting poll site per 50,000 voters during the 12 days leading up to Election Day, including weekday and weekend hours. They seem not to recognize that residents often commute an hour to their job, have long, unpredictable shifts & family responsibilities that sometimes keep them from getting to the polls on the one day the polls are open.

And some of the Supervisors argue that anyone who can't get to the polls can just use an absentee ballot. But that is not what the law says. We need a constitutional amendment to get no-excuse absentee voting in this state.

The Board also argues against having people automatically signed up to register to vote when they interact with government agencies like the Department of Motor Vehicles – rather than having to opt in as we do now. This is proven to increase voter turnout, but the board says it will be too confusing.

Does this sound like a Board of Supervisors that wants to encourage voter participation? You decide.

Barbara Thomas

Co-president

League of Women Voters of Saratoga County