



The League of Women Voters of New York State
62 Grand Street, Albany, New York 12207
Phone: 518-465-4162 Fax: 518-465-0812
www.lwvny.org E-Mail: lwvny@lwvny.org

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS *of New York State*

December 21, 2017

**Contact: Laura Ladd Bierman
Executive Director
Tel: 518-465-4162**

PRESS STATEMENT

“For the last two years Governor Cuomo has proposed implementing early voting and automatic voter registration in his executive budget. These are critical reforms that would increase New York State's abysmal rate of voter turnout out. This year we were pleased that Governor Cuomo once again prioritized these reforms as well as same day voter registration and increased infrastructure for cyber security.

Although these reforms are necessary, they require funding in our state budget in order to be implemented. All of the Governor's proposed reforms will require additional administrative costs from state and county agencies. Same day registration will also require a constitutional amendment. Allowing for the use of electronic poll books and consolidating primary elections could help to offset these costs and any potential administrative burden agencies may face.

These three reforms would enhance our voter registration systems and allow voters ample opportunity to cast their ballots. The enhancements to cyber security will ensure our voter rolls are safe from hacking attempts. We applaud the Governor's announcement and hope that the Governor and legislature will allocate appropriate funding so that these programs do not become an unfunded mandate on state agencies and county governments.”