

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters of NC is pleased with the recent ruling by U.S. Magistrate Judge Joi Elizabeth Peake that correspondence and emails between legislators and outside parties must be made public and can be used in the legal case challenging the 2013 voter law. Transparency in government is a key principle of our democracy, and legislators should be held to the same rules as other government entities.

The reason that this ruling is so critical is that the League and the other parties challenging the law maintain that the intent of the law that eliminates same day registration during early voting and reduces the number of days of early voting is to suppress voter participation. We are particularly concerned about the impact on senior citizens, college students, and minorities, groups that used early voting and same day registration in large numbers. The League's mission over its history of 94 years is to educate citizens, register voters, and promote citizens in exercising their Constitutional right and civic responsibility through voting. The anticipated impact of the new voter law is a reduction in North Carolinians voting.

While the League is fighting this legal challenge to the voter law enacted in 2013, we are increasing our efforts to register voters and explain the changes in the law to our citizens. We welcome volunteers to help us in these efforts!

-- Brenda Hyde Rogers,

Board of Directors

League of Women Voters-NC