

AAUW-OR's Public Policy Goals

PUBLIC EDUCATION

- Vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to equal access to education;
- Improved and stable public funding for academic and workforce programs at all levels;
- Equal educational opportunities for all with emphasis on the protection and preservation of academic freedom and access to broad-based, bias-free education at all levels;
- Opposition to public funds for vouchers, private schools, non-accredited education programs;
- Access to high quality, affordable education for women and girls;
- Increased participation of women and girls in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), as well as civics, history and political science (CHiPS);
- Increased financial assistance for childcare costs of student parents.

ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION & VIOLENCE

- Protection of all persons without regard to gender, race, color, sexual orientation, nationality, marital status, disability, age or class;
- Elimination of bullying or sexual harassment;
- Support of efforts to improve racial, ethnic and gender justice, including creating a diverse culture where the richness of ideas, backgrounds and perspectives are fully appreciated and utilized;
- Adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment to the United States Constitution and the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women;
- Support of programs that address human trafficking;
- Freedom from violence and fear of violence, including hate crimes, in homes, schools, workplaces and communities;
- Recognition that firearms and violence is a public health issue.

STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Fair and equitable taxation at all levels of government;
- Elimination of the Kicker and establishment of an adequate reserve fund;
- Reaffirmation of the separation of church and state;
- Ensuring adequate long-term funding for education, public safety and human services;
- Improved public access to the legislative process;
- Accountability and transparency in government operations;
- Vigorous enforcement of and full access to civil and constitutional rights, including voting rights;
- Promote meaningful campaign finance reform, open and fair elections.

HEALTH CARE

- Universal availability, accessibility and quality health services;
- The right of all persons to have access to reproductive health care options of their choice;
- Oppose any efforts to undermine Medicare and Medicaid, including privatization.

ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY

- Greater availability of and access to benefits that promote work and life balance, including paid family and medical leave and quality, and quality and affordable dependent care;
- Safe, livable and affordable housing;
- A clean, healthy and sustainable environment;
- Promote strengthening of retirement benefits, including protecting Social Security;
- Pay equity and fairness in compensation.