



The League of Women Voters of New York State
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**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS**
of New York State

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF:
A.2091 (Nolan)/ S.6503 (Marcellino)

To: Assembly Committee on Education

Date: March 4, 2016

Subject: An act to amend the education law, in relation to meetings and absences of the Board of Regents.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. As such, we strongly believe that citizens have a right to know and understand all the operations of government decision-making.

The League of Women Voters of New York State supports legislation that would require the Board of Regents to give notice of their agenda several days before a scheduled meeting. The League has long been disappointed that the Board of Regents does not give the public adequate notice of their agendas and meetings. Attendees of these meetings deliberate critical issues that affect all students and teachers in New York State and without adequate notice, the public is unable to watch the proceedings. The Board of Regents should provide the time, place and agenda for its public meetings in a timely manner so that all interested parties have the opportunity to see how decisions are being made. This legislation would benefit the public and the Board by improving dialogue and transparency.

The League of Women Voters is devoted to ensuring that public officials are more responsive to the needs of all citizens across New York and therefore urges you to support A.2091.

The League of Women Voters of New York State strongly supports A.2091 (Nolan).