



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

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT
S.5029/Addabbo

TO: Senate Elections Committee
DATE: June 9, 2009

Subject: an ACT to amend the election law, in relation to the use of certain buildings as polling places accessible to persons with disabilities

The League of Women Voters of New York State strongly supports the above referenced legislation (S.5029) whose purpose is to expand the availability of accessible poll sites by requiring that people and entities that control buildings which receive tax breaks, subsidies, etc. make rooms available in the building for registration and voting if the board finds the rooms suitable for that purpose and accessible to persons with disabilities.

A 1989 law partially achieved this goal in the State's larger cities (over 100,000 population) where polling places were not readily available, but exempted buildings in smaller cities. This legislation corrects that omission.

With the acquisition of new voting systems which have special technical requirements and the State's commitment to full accessibility of poll sites and equipment, it becomes necessary to obtain more poll sites which meet these goals.

The New York State Board of Elections has indicated their support of such a proposal on their current 2009 Legislative agenda.

***THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW YORK STATE STRONGLY
URGES YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS LEGISLATION.***