

September 13, 2021

## VIA Email to the Office of the Governor and Author

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor of California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 686 (Glazer) – Campaign disclosure: limited liability companies – REQUEST FOR GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom:

The League of Women Voters of California writes to request your signature on SB 686 (Glazer). The legislation would require limited liability companies (LLCs) which make contributions to, or expenditures on behalf of, candidates for public office, or in support of or opposition to ballot measures, to make specific disclosures regarding ownership interest and control.

More specifically, if an LLC qualifies as a committee or a sponsor of a committee pursuant to Gov Code Section 82103 or Section 82048.7, it must file a statement of members with the Secretary of State's office. That statement must include those who either have a membership interest in the LLC of at least 10 percent or who made a cumulative capital contribution of at least \$10,000 to the LLC after it qualified as a committee or sponsor of a committee, or within the 12 months before it qualified. While the bill's previous threshold of \$1,000 triggering reporting on contributions if made after or within two years before the LLC qualified as a committee or sponsor of a committee would have promoted greater transparency, we remain in support of the more modest, amended version.

SB 686 is consistent with the League of Women Voter of California's mission to inform voters and protect democracy by adding transparency to the campaign financing process. It will help foster effective monitoring and enforcement of campaign finance laws and work to prevent special interests from using LLCs to hide the sources of spending designed to influence elections. In the absence of effective limits on campaign spending, it is critical that voters be informed of the interests, which fuel the messages they receive. **The League of Women Voters of California supports SB 686 and requests your signature. Thank you.** 

Sincerely,

Carol Moon Goldberg

President