



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GEORGIA

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POYTHRESS ELECTED NEW PRESIDENT OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GEORGIA

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Elizabeth Poythress

ATLANTA, GA – The League of Women Voters of Georgia announced today that it has elected Elizabeth Poythress as President for the 2011 – 2013 term. Poythress was elected along with a slate of four officers and seven directors at the League’s biennial convention held in Carrollton, GA on April 30, 2011.

In her acceptance remarks, Poythress proposed that the League make the matter of political civility a central part of its agenda. “We should publicly call out, without fear or favoritism, acts of incivility that so undermine the legitimacy and the real, constructive value of honest political debate. We should be the organization that is not afraid to throw the flag, whenever we see this basic rule of political discourse broken by anyone in public debate.”

Poythress also noted the important role that the League of Women Voters will play this summer as they monitor and report to the public on the reapportionment process that will take place in a special session of the Georgia General Assembly. “The role of the League is not to encourage any particular outcome,”

said Poythress. "But rather to assure that the reapportionment process is carried out openly and with maximum citizen input." The League has historically monitored the reapportionment process, which takes place every ten years based on new census data.

ABOUT THE LEAUGE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF GEORGIA

The League of Women Voters of Georgia was formally organized in 1920 to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibilities as voters, encouraging them to use their new power to participate in shaping public policy. From the beginning, the League has been an activist, grassroots, non-profit and non-partisan organization whose leaders believe that citizens should play a critical role in advocacy. The League's work is based on the belief that citizens who have well researched and unbiased information will make wise decisions for their communities and their nation. The League helps citizens ensure that their voices are heard at the local, state and national levels through coalition building around shared issues.

ABOUT ELIZABETH POYTHRESS

Elizabeth is a true southern gal born in Louisiana, where her father worked Delta for Airlines. Elizabeth attended college as a working adult and successfully received her B. S. degree in Management from Shorter College and her M. S. in Human Resource Management from Troy State University. Elizabeth is a registered Mediator in the State of Georgia and serves on a panel of mediators for Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) cases.

Elizabeth worked in the field of Human Resources for about 25 years with positions of increasing responsibility until she retired in 2001. She served as President of the Georgia Society of Human Resource Management in 1997 and served on the Board of Directors of the organization until 2009. She has been certified by the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) as a Lifetime Senior Professional in Human Resources.

As First Lady of the Georgia National Guard, while her husband David was Adjutant General, Elizabeth was very involved with the families of the soldiers and airmen - both deployed and at home. She continually stressed the importance of volunteerism and reaching out to others to give a helping hand.

Internationally, Elizabeth participated in the State Department's Program between the Georgia National Guard and the Republic of Georgia, – visiting the country on numerous occasions - working with the U. S. Embassy in Tbilisi and Georgian universities and orphanages. Since David's retirement from the National Guard, she has maintained her relationship with the "other" Georgia and with the Sister Cities Atlanta-Tbilisi Program. She and David live in the Atlanta area and are members of the Peachtree Road United Methodist Church.