



The League of Women Voters grew out of the long struggle to achieve the vote for women. The fight for equal suffrage was waged on two levels: state-by-state and at the federal level. Women worked in their home states to get legislatures to enact suffrage bills or to pass state constitutional amendments, and at the same time, efforts were under way to pass a national constitutional amendment. Kansas women were front and center in the suffrage battle.

Jane Brooks of Wichita, wife of a prominent attorney and president of the Kansas Equal Suffrage Association (KESA), was elected chair of the national LWV. She went home to Kansas and set about establishing **the first local LWV in the country**.

The KESA held its last meeting on Wednesday, June 4, 1919, and laid the foundation for the LWV of Kansas. The Sedgwick County League of Women Voters elected its first officers. One week later, the first meeting of the LWVK was held June 10-11, 1919,

Source: [LWVK History](#) | [LWV of Kansas](#)

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Local LWV Leagues in Kansas

[Emporia](#)
[Great Bend](#)
[Johnson County](#)

[Lawrence-Douglas County](#)
[Leavenworth County](#)
[Manhattan-Riley County](#)

[Salina](#)
[Topeka-Shawnee County](#)
[Wichita-Metro](#)

The League of Women Voters of Kansas has an Observer Corps made up of members from various Leagues. Their main responsibility is to follow bills of interest to LWVK and/or of specific interest to the Observer. Information is then reported back to the group and posted in LWVK communications. Observers have helped bring attention to many issues related to transparency in government listed in the recorded presentation.

The [Kansas Legislature website](#) provides the information needed to

- contact Senators and Representatives;
- track the status and content of a bill;
- read supplementary reports and publications;
- find out what is happening in the chambers or committees; and
- look at the current statutes.

A live audio broadcast of the [House](#) and [Senate](#) chambers allows the public to listen to debate on bills and issues.

Information about the chambers, committees, or individual legislators can be found using the appropriate tabs at the top of the page using the link above.

During the Session, House and Senate [Calendars](#) provide information about business to be considered in the chambers and a weekly agenda of committee meetings.

The [Journals](#) are the historical record of activity in the chambers.

Information regarding the status or content of bills and the content of the laws can be found under the [Bills and Laws](#) tab.