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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 8, 2018 **Contact:** Erin Grunze, Executive Director 608-256-0827; egrunze@lwvwi.org

League of Women Voters of Wisconsin celebrates record turnout and a smooth election

MADISON, WI – The Wisconsin Elections Commission has reported that unofficial results show nearly 60% of the voting age population in Wisconsin voted in Tuesday's election.¹ Some municipalities are reporting they had as much as 80-90% voter turnout. This is continuing an upwards trend for midterm election turnout in Wisconsin.²

"It's a great show of civic engagement and commitment that so many Wisconsin voters participated in this election. League members across the state worked tirelessly to help voters get to the polls, informing them on what is needed to register and vote. For some people voting is easy. For others it isn't. The League tries to help make everyone's voting experience a positive one," said Erin Grunze, Executive Director of the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin.

The League applauds the work of the Wisconsin Elections Commission, county and municipal clerks, and election worker, who oversaw a record-breaking election with relatively few major problems reported to-date. The League is collecting and reviewing the Election Observation notes from our volunteer observers who monitored approximately 500 polling locations during Tuesday's election. We will compile a final report with a summary and recommendations for improving election procedures and processes.

"Voters have made it clear they want government to be representative of the people and to work together, not to use divisive tactics to stop another party or change the rules to create an advantage for one party over another. We look forward to a smooth transition of power in the weeks to come," Grunze said.

The League reminds individuals who need to follow up on their provisional ballot to get their acceptable form of photo ID to their municipal clerk by 4pm this Friday, November 9 so their ballot can be counted by the Board of Canvassers. Free Wisconsin ID cards are available from the DOT.

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The League of Women Voters of Wisconsin is a nonpartisan political organization that advocates for informed and active participation in government. There are 20 local Leagues in Wisconsin. More information at lwvwi.org.

¹ <u>https://elections.wi.gov/node/6293</u> Wisconsin Election Commission Post-Election Update -- Unofficial Turnout 59.38% Nov 7, 2018

² https://twitter.com/bcburden/status/1060202979599491078 Dr. Barry Burden and the UW Election Project