

**Attn: News Dept.**

**Media Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Greater Peoria League of Women Voters April 19, 2017 event,**

**The Neighborhood Safety Act**

*How The Neighborhood Safety Act Can Make Communities Safer  
and Reduce Overuse of Prisons*

The League of Women Voters Drinks & Dialogue program on April 19, will discuss the Neighborhood Safety Act and how it will impact victims and perpetrators of violent crime. IL. Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth (D-92) will lead the discussion.

League members and the public are invited to participate in the dialogue on Wednesday, April 19, at 5:30 p.m., at the Lariat Club, 2232 West Glen. League member Jan Deissler will facilitate the dialogue.

The Neighborhood Safety Act was introduced into the Illinois House of Representatives by Representative Jehan Gordon Booth and was recently signed into law by the governor. The legislation will offer trauma recovery services for victims of crime by establishing a pilot program to provide support services to victims of violent crimes, including counseling, financial assistance, help relocating and guidance as they try to navigate the legal system.

The Act also provides inmates with the opportunity for rehabilitation services, including job training and substance abuse programs. It also gives judges the freedom to give appropriate sentences, with the hope that the state can see a reduction of 25% in the state prison population by the year 2025. The League of Women Voters has historically taken positions for safety for individuals and communities.

There is no cost to participate. Refreshments are available to purchase.

Drinks and Dialogue is offered monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, for one hour, starting at 5:30 p.m. and ending promptly at 6:30 p.m., at the Lariat Club Steak House. Discussion will focus on local, state and national topics relating to approved LWV positions. (LWVIL.org) Please join us at Drinks and Dialogue and join the LWV in "Making Democracy Work!"

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