



League of Women Voters of Licking County
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To The Editor:

The League of Women Voters of Licking County encourages informed and active participation in democracy. As such we are responding to an ad (“Granville Residents Seeking Enforcement of Voting Laws for Denison Students”) appearing in the October 9 Newark Advocate and October 13 Granville Sentinel. This ad, placed by the Granville Common Sense Coalition (GCSC), contains many inaccurate and misleading statements we wish to clarify.

1. **According to Licking County Board of Elections data, 244 total ballots were cast in Granville Village Precinct C** (the area of the Village that includes the Denison campus) in the last Granville School Board election (November 2021). Therefore, it is impossible that “five hundred Denison students voted in that election” as claimed by the GCSC. In our review of the voter file, we found **fewer than 15 Denison students** voted locally.
2. **While voting in two places is illegal, being registered in two places is not** – and this happens not infrequently when a new registration has been filed, but the old one has yet to be cancelled by the Board of Elections. When anyone registers to vote in Ohio, they are encouraged but not required to notify the jurisdiction in which they have previously registered. Thus, the GCSC claim that “a large number of students were registered in Ohio and in their home state, which is illegal” is incorrect.
3. **The Ohio voter registration form asks only that signers verify that they are citizens, age 18 or over, and will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election.** The GCSC claim that “you must swear that Ohio is your one true legal place of residence” is untrue.
4. **Paying taxes is not equated with the right to vote – in Ohio or any other state.** In addition, the Village of Granville confirms that students don't register to pay taxes if they work at Denison because Granville income tax is already withdrawn from their Denison paycheck. Thus, the GCSC implication that Denison students are not paying income taxes is false and the attempt to link paying taxes with the right to vote is misleading.
5. **Thad Claggett is not a State Representative.** While Mr. Claggett is a candidate for this position, the GCSC wrongly identifies him as holding this office.

The League of Women Voters encourages open dialogue about important issues (the Granville Schools levy being one of those). We encourage members of the GCSC to use accurate information in their attempts to shape the school levy election outcome.

Members of the Board of Directors, League of Women Voters of Licking County

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