

The Connecticut AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. Basic to all of AAUW's public policy efforts is the understanding that true equity requires a balance between the rights of the individual and the needs of the community. We believe in the separation of church and state.

I. To preserve the rights and dignity of the individual, CT AAUW members support:

- Constitutional protection for the civil rights of all individuals, including the rights of privacy and speech.
- Affirmative action as a remedy for past discrimination, and opposition to all forms of discrimination.
- Intellectual freedom and the right of individuals to self-determination
- The federal Equal Rights Amendment and the Equal Protection clause of the Connecticut Constitution.
- The right of individual choice in one's reproductive life.
- Freedom from violence, abuse and sexual harassment, in homes, schools, workplaces and communities, including a sensible gun control program.
- Retention of the Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women.
- United Nations programs that address human rights and women and girls' concerns, including the U.S. ratification of the Convention to Eliminate Discrimination against Women. (CEDAW).
- Campaign finance reform.

II. To preserve a strong system of education and self-development over the lifespan, CT AAUW members support:

- A responsibly funded system of education that promotes gender fairness, equity and diversity, including support for Title IX.
- Appropriate funding for research, scholarship, loans, women faculty in all disciplines and special programs in higher education.
- Opposition to the use of public funds for nonpublic elementary and secondary education.
- Academic freedom protection from censorship and bias-free education.
- Student readiness, pre-school, career, vocational and alternative educational programs.
- Comprehensive K-12 health education programs and programs to reduce teen pregnancy.
- Arts and humanities, which develop and preserve human, aesthetic and cultural values.
- Increased involvement of girls and women in technology.

Items are not listed in priority order. Priorities for each state legislative session will be developed by the CT AAUW Public Policy Committee.

III. To achieve economic self-sufficiency for all women, CT AAUW members support:

- Welfare reform that empowers women, including education, job training, quality child care and child support enforcement.
- Vigorous enforcement of employment antidiscrimination statutes.
- Pay equity and fairness in compensation
- Access to quality and affordable dependent care.
- Access to quality and affordable housing for all ages.

IV. To protect our health and environment and provide a better quality of life, CT AAUW members support:

- Access to quality and affordable health services for all, including research focused on women's health.
- Conservation, environmental pollution control, recycling and resource recovery.
- Programs to clean up our waterways and Long Island Sound and provide for safe disposal of hazardous waste and/or nuclear waste.
- Programs that protect and preserve wetlands in CT
- Transportation reform and expansion of public transportation

No major policy issue benefiting American women was ever won without grass-roots lobbying by thousands of women.

Address for all state legislators
(Legislator's Name)
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Senate Democrats
860-240-8600
1-800-842-1420

Senate Republicans
860-240-8800
1-800-842-1421

House Democrats
Leadership: 860-240-8500
1-800-842-1902

Rank & File: 860-240-8585
1-800-842-8267

House Republicans
Leadership: 860-240-8700
1-800-842-1423

Rank & File: 860-240-8787
1-800-842-8270

For information on bills:
Room 103, State Capitol
860-240-0555
<http://www.cga.state.ct.us>

Take action on federal issues
by visiting the
Two-Minute Activist
<http://www.aauw.org>

White House comments: 202-456-1111
U.S. Capitol switchboard: 202-224-3121

Connecticut AAUW

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650 Members-at-Large
900 Members 13 Branches

Bridgeport Area	New Britain
Danbury Area	New Canaan
Greater Meriden	New London
Greater Middletown	Ridgefield
Greater Waterbury	Shoreline
Lower CT Valley	Stamford/Greenwich
	Storrs/ Willimantic

CT AAUW in Coalition

- CT WAGE Hub
- CT Coalition for Choice
- PCSW Advisory Councils
- CT Girls and Technology Network
- CT Healthcare for All Coalition
- CT Clean Air Coalition
- Title IX

AAUW's Two Corporations
Association
Educational Foundation

CT AAUW Public Policy Co-Chairs

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CONNECTICUT



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**STATE
PUBLIC POLICY
PROGRAM
2007-2008**