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RELEASE: Women's Public Policy Network Launches Voter Guide Website as Early Voting Begins in Ohio

Encourages voters to use their guide as a nonpartisan educational tool to understand candidates' priorities on issues affecting women and families

COLUMBUS, OH - As early voting kicks off in Ohio, the Women's Public Policy Network is launching their [2018 General Election Voter Guide Website](#). The guide provides voters with a nonpartisan, unbiased tool to understand where candidates stand on policy issues affecting women and families.

"In an election year heralded as 'the year of the woman,' policy issues disproportionately affecting women have received great interest and attention from voters," said Elizabeth Brown, Executive Director of the Ohio Women's Public Policy Network. "From reproductive health care to paid family leave to fair wages, women's issues are all of our issues. Our newly launched Voter Guide is exactly the kind of informative tool voters want and need to understand where candidates in Ohio stand on crucial issues related to women's economic security, workplace opportunity, and health."

The information published in the Voter Guide was obtained by a questionnaire sent to candidates in contested general election races for the Ohio State House, Ohio State Senate, and Ohio State Executive Offices (Attorney General, Auditor, Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, and Treasurer). The questions were crafted by network partners to help raise awareness of the candidates' stances and priorities on the three main issue focus areas within the coalition's policy agenda:

- 1) Promoting economic security for women;
- 2) Ensuring fairness and opportunity in the workplace; and

3) Improving women's health and wellbeing

"The issues fundamentally important to women and their families should be at the center of each and every race in Ohio," said Monica Cerrezuela, Advocacy and Community Outreach Manager at The Women's Fund of Central Ohio. "This Voter Guide can serve as a non-partisan, fact-based resource to help voters make informed decisions and increase civic engagement in the 2018 general elections."

Candidate responses are searchable by office or district on the [Voter Guide website](#). The guide indicates candidates who did not respond to the questionnaire, but the group will continue to update the guide with responses received by candidates up until the date of the election.

More information about the project and the full Voter Guide are available online, at www.womenspublicpolicynetwork.org/voter-guide.

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The Ohio Women's Public Policy Network is a coalition unlike any other group in the state. Formed in 2015 and convened by Innovation Ohio Education Fund, we bring together more than 30 organizations to collaboratively advance policies that create economic security for women and strengthen Ohio families. Using a collective voice that represents the women of our state, the network works to ensure that public policy reflects the true needs of women and families. For more information, visit our website at www.womenspublicpolicynetwork.org

Partner organizations of the Women's Public Policy Network include:

ACLU of Ohio

ACTION OHIO

American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Ohio

Catholics for Choice

Children's Defense Fund - Ohio

Closing the Women's Wealth Gap

Hadassah Columbus

Innovation Ohio Education Fund

Jobs with Justice, Cleveland Chapter

Juvenile Justice Coalition

NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio

National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Central Ohio Chapter

National Council of Jewish Women, Cleveland Chapter

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

Ohio Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW)
Ohio Domestic Violence Network
Ohio Federation of Teachers
Ohio National Organization for Women
Ohio Progressive Asian Women's Leadership
Ohio Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
Ohio Urban Resources Systems (O.U.R.S.)
Planned Parenthood Advocates of Ohio
Policy Matters Ohio
ProgressOhio Education Fund
Restoring Our Own Through Transformation (ROOTT)
The Women's Fund of Central Ohio
The Women's Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Universal Health Care Action Network (UHCAN) Ohio
URGE
YWCA Columbus
YWCA Dayton
YWCA Greater Cincinnati