AAUWNM- Santa Fe Annual Meeting May 19, 2018 Public Policy Update Rebecca Phillips and Lindsay Conover

- AAUW Get out the Vote is active now. Early voting for the NM primary on June 5, 2018. The New Mexico General Election will be November 6, 2018. Voter Registration Deadline is Tuesday October 9, 2018. If a resident will be 18 on Election Day they can register to vote. We are encouraging Legal members to join with other voter registration efforts. You are permitted to provide Action Network signup sheets as means for allowing registrants to hear more from AAUW. No AAUW-NM led voter registration drive is currently planned. https://www.aauw.org/resource/aauw-election-dos-and-donts/
- 2. AAUW Lobby Corps will be increasingly active as the year progresses. We will be asking members to re-register for the Lobby Corps because we are capturing interests and representative and senatorial district information so that requests for action can be more targeted. We are seeking greater involvement without peppering our membership.
- 3. Activity is year round. This year (including yesterday May 18, 2018) we are being asked questions based on current events.
  - a. Gun safety
    - i. AAUW believes in the right to privacy and freedom from violence.
    - ii. Freedom from violence and fear of violence, including hate crimes, in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities
    - iii. AAUW's Public Policy Priorities state that "AAUW recognizes that gun violence is a public health crisis" and that we advocate "Freedom from violence and fear of violence, including hate crimes, in homes, schools, workplaces, and communities." In addition, the organization passed a resolution in 2001 that urged the membership to engage in gun violence prevention efforts (more information about that history here). To that end, state affiliates are welcomed to join local efforts towards gun violence prevention provided that doing so is in keeping with our policies on collaboration and nonpartisanship. Specifically, I would keep an eye open for language around "voting out" candidates who do not support gun reform, as this might prove problematic for AAUW involvement. Our team would be happy to vet any state legislative proposals about gun issues and will keep folks apprised of our position on any federal legislation via Action Network and our letters, comments, and testimony pages. At the national organization, we are monitoring the landscape and with more information, hope to be able to sign on as an endorser of the March for Our Lives. Elizabeth Holden, Grassroots Advocacy Manager, American Association of University Women 2/20/18
    - iv. https://www.aauw.org/article/history-of-position-on-gun-violence-prevention/
  - b. Reproductive Rights
    - AAUW supports choice in the determination of one's reproductive life and increased access to healthcare and family planning services. <u>https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/aauw-issues/reproductive-rights/</u>

- ii. Reproductive freedom is tied to Women's economic security. <u>https://www.aauw.org/2018/01/18/reproductive-freedom-is-tied-to-womens-economic-security/</u>
- iii. FYI the proposed rule change about Title 10 funding. We received this information from Linda McDowell, AAUWNM-ABQ PP chair and liaison with Coalition4Choice, "Planned Parenthood in NM does not receive title 10 funding. This means as far as we can tell right now this will not impact any of our patients at any health centers in NM."