

Public Policy January
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That's a sigh of relief I hear—a curtailment of political adds and requests for donations! So now, did AAUW gain any traction in this election when it comes to fulfilling our AAUWCA priorities? As a reminder, these are: Economic Security for All women, Equal access to quality Public Education for All students, and Social and Racial Justice for All members of society.

Kathi Harper, AAUWCA's Public Policy Chairperson has an excellent webinar concerning the results of our recent election and its ramifications for AAUW's priorities. I encourage members to listen to all or parts of her presentation at this link. You may have to copy and paste:

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/got-voter-fatigue/>

Kathi makes an important distinction towards helping members understand our nonpartisan role versus our political role as AAUW. The following is a paraphrase of her explanation:

While we are non-partisan, meaning we do not publicly support any one candidate, etc., that does not mean we are non-political. We have firm political priorities as stated in our AAUW policies. We Advocate (stated within our Mission statement) for our priorities, which means we are supporters, backers, promoters of the causes we want to put forth and made into laws that will accentuate our priorities.

She continues with the explanation that at this point in America's history, one of our political parties consistently pushes bills that align with causes AAUW cares about. The other political party typically has not. We just happen to have the same values as the present Democratic party, therefore having a Democratic majority in the Senate can be advantageous to our AAUW priorities. We will continue to Advocate, Educate and Research to promote gender equity for all women and girls.