



Louisiana SECRETARY OF STATE

NANCY LANDRY


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June 12, 2025

LOUISIANA SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE ISSUES CALL FOR VOTING SYSTEM AND COMPONENT CERTIFICATION

BATON ROUGE, La.— Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry invites all parties seeking to have a voting system or system component certified by the State of Louisiana per recently issued standards, [viewable here](#), to apply for upcoming certification opportunities.

According to Act 480 of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session, certification of a voting system or system component is a required step in order to be eligible to receive a procurement contract for Louisiana's voting system.

Certification will take place at the Louisiana Old Governor's Mansion, located at 502 North Blvd. in Baton Rouge, during the following periods:

- July 28-Aug. 1
- Aug. 25-27
- Sept. 8-12
- Sept. 15-19

Interested parties must apply using [this link](#) no later than July 11, 2025. Once the application, documentation, and application fee are received, the Secretary of State's Office will contact the applicant to arrange certification testing dates, based on availability. The fee is \$7,000 for system certification or \$3,500 for a single system component.

Vendors with questions should contact electionvendors@sos.la.gov. Members of the public will have the opportunity to view the certification testing.

###

Louisiana Secretary of State

Nancy Landry

NEWS & EVENTS

Qualifying procedures for the Oct. 11 Open Primary/Orleans Municipal Parochial Primary Election

QUALIFYING PROCEDURES FOR OCT. 11 OPEN PRIMARY/ORLEANS MUNICIPAL PAROCHIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

July 8, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Qualifying for the Oct. 11, 2025 Open Primary/Orleans Municipal Parochial Primary Election will take place Wednesday, July 9 through Friday, July 11.

All local candidates must qualify with their parish Clerk of Court. Candidates may qualify for office by paying a qualifying fee or filing a nominating petition and are encouraged to check with their local Clerk of Court for specific parish hours. More information, including [contact information for parish Clerk of Court Offices](#), can be found by visiting [GeauxVote.com](#) and selecting the Election Qualifying link. Once qualified, candidates will appear on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.la.gov.

Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes [18:461](#) and [18:463](#), qualifying candidates will be required to provide an email address and present a valid Louisiana driver's license or Louisiana identification card. The email address provided will be listed on the Secretary of State's website.

For more information on qualifying, visit the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.la.gov or call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805.

###

Secretary Landry announces passage of voter protection bills

SECRETARY OF STATE NANCY LANDRY ANNOUNCES PASSAGE OF VOTER PROTECTION BILLS

June 13, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La.—Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry is proud to announce the passage of multiple legislative instruments in the Department of State's Voter Protection Package during the 2025 Regular Legislative Session.

"I am exceedingly grateful to the authors and sponsors of the bills in our Voter Protection Package and the members who supported those pieces of legislation," Secretary Landry said. "Thanks to them, four instruments from our legislative slate passed overwhelmingly, all with bipartisan support. These instruments will help Louisiana continue on the path to being ranked first in the nation in election integrity. I thank Governor Landry for signing several of these bills into law, and I look forward to working with him to ensure the remaining instruments become law."

The department's package of bills that were passed are:

- SB 90 by Senator Rick Edmonds: Bans wagering on elections
- HB 206 by Representative Michael Melerine: Requires legislative approval of election-related consent decrees
- HB 351 (Act 80) by Representative Mike Johnson: Assesses court costs and attorney's fees for knowingly attesting to false information in a Notice of Candidacy
- SCR 35 by Senator Rick Edmonds: Calls for a procedural election audit by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor every four years

The contents of SB 109 by Senator Alan Seabaugh and HB 590 by Representative Annie Spell, which bans foreign funding of election contests and ballot measures, were amended into Representative Mark Wright's HB 693.

Secretary Landry will be available for 10-minute interviews with credentialed media via phone, Google Meet, or Zoom on Tuesday, June 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Interested media outlets can contact Joel Watson, Deputy Secretary of State for Communications, at joel.watson@sos.la.gov or 225-922-0820 to schedule an interview time.

###

Louisiana Secretary of State's Office issues call for voting system and component certification

LOUISIANA SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE ISSUES CALL FOR VOTING SYSTEM AND COMPONENT CERTIFICATION

June 12, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La.— Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry invites all parties seeking to have a voting system or system component certified by the State of Louisiana per recently issued standards, [viewable here](#), to apply for upcoming certification opportunities.

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Certification will take place at the Louisiana Old Governor's Mansion, located at 502 North Blvd. in Baton Rouge, during the following periods:

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Interested parties must apply using [this link](#) no later than July 11, 2025. Once the application, documentation, and application fee are received, the Secretary of State's Office will contact the applicant to arrange certification testing dates, based on availability. The fee is \$7,000 for system certification or \$3,500 for a single system component.

Vendors with questions should contact electionvendors@sos.la.gov. Members of the public will have the opportunity to view the certification testing.

###

Louisiana becomes first state to utilize new voter list maintenance database

LOUISIANA FIRST STATE TO UTILIZE NEW VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE DATABASE

May 21, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana has become the first state to utilize a new voter list maintenance database from the federal Department of Government Efficiency. This database combines information on individuals' immigration status and death records.

"Since taking office, I have repeatedly requested this critical data from the federal government to check Louisiana's voter registration list," Secretary of State Nancy Landry said. "After being stymied by the previous administration, I am thankful to President Trump for his quick work in crafting a cost-free, user-friendly database with valuable information that will help keep Louisiana's voter rolls accurate. Clean voter rolls are critical to the integrity of our elections."

Secretary Landry discussed and offered feedback on this new database with White House staff, the Department of Government Efficiency, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and the Social Security Administration at recent meetings in Washington, D.C. Additionally, after being vetoed three times by Governor John Bel Edwards, Act 2 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session took effect this year and will allow for expanded voter list maintenance through mailed confirmation cards to individuals who have not voted or had contact with election offices in ten or more years.

###

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for May 3 election

MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR MAY 3 ELECTION

April 29, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry's Office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, April 29 at 2 p.m. in preparation for the upcoming May 3 Municipal General and Special Primary Election for State Representative in the 67th Representative District. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and **do not reflect any actual results**.

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics, and websites in conjunction with the test. To prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers and viewers that the results are only a test and not official.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY

In preparation for election night, credentialed media outlets may reserve a limited number of seats at the Secretary of State's Office. To reserve a seat, sign up for the XML feed, or report any issues, please contact Kaylee Trisler in the Communications Office at 225.362.5086 or kaylee.trisler@sos.la.gov.

Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary for Communications Joel Watson and Public Information Officer John Ryan McGehee. Watson can be reached at 225.922.0820 or joel.watson@sos.la.gov. McGehee can be reached at 225.362.5108 or john.mcgehee@sos.la.gov.

###

Louisiana Secretary of State's Office recognized for excellence in election administration with national Clearinghouse Award

LOUISIANA SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE IN ELECTION ADMINISTRATION WITH NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE AWARD

April 16, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry is proud to announce that the [United States Election Assistance Commission](#) recognized her office for excellence in election administration with a national [Clearinghouse Award](#) for Best Practices in Recruiting, Retaining, and Training Poll Workers. The office also received an Honorable Mention for its 2024 "I Voted" sticker.

"This award and honorable mention are incredible honors that recognize the countless hours of hard work that go into administering Louisiana's elections," Secretary Landry said. "I am immensely proud of my staff for implementing this recruitment program to help alleviate our state's poll worker shortage. Poll workers are an essential part of the election administration process, and we are always looking for innovative ways to recruit more citizens to serve their communities by working the polls."

EAC Chairman Donald Palmer, Vice Chair Thomas Hicks, and Commissioners Christy McCormick and Ben Hovland praised the 2024 Clearinghouse Award winners in a joint statement:

"This year's Clearinghouse Award-winning programs truly shined amid the high voter turnout in 2024. They are examples of the outstanding work election officials did to support tens of millions of voters during the presidential election. After nearly a decade, the Clearinghouse Awards continue to grow with a record number of entries received this year. These programs show how state and local election offices are the incubators of innovation. We are pleased to lift their ideas up and celebrate them on a national stage."

Also known as the "Clearies," the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) presents the awards program annually to celebrate the hard work of election offices across the country. Now in its ninth year, this year's Clearie Awards honored programs that took place during the 2024 presidential election year. The EAC is an independent, bipartisan federal agency solely focused on election administration. Submissions were judged on innovation, sustainability, outreach, cost-effectiveness, replicability, and the generation of positive results.

Louisiana citizens interested in serving as poll workers are encouraged to contact their local Clerk of Court or visit [GeauxVote.com](#).

###

Secretary Landry announces voter protection measures for the 2025 Regular Legislative Session

SECRETARY LANDRY ANNOUNCES VOTER PROTECTION MEASURES FOR THE 2025 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

April 9, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry announced the Department of State's 2025 voter protection package for the upcoming legislative session.

"Louisiana is ranked second in the nation for election integrity due, in part, to legislation our office has championed over the years. However, I won't be satisfied until we are number one," Secretary Landry said. "This package of bills will move us even closer to that goal. I appreciate all of the legislators who have worked with us to bring this legislation for the upcoming regular session."

The Department's bill package includes:

- SB 109 (Constitutional Amendment) by Senator Alan Seabaugh to ban foreign funding of candidates or ballot measures
- SB 90 by Senator Rick Edmonds to ban wagering on elections
- HB 206 by Representative Michael Melerine to require legislative approval of consent decrees signed by the Secretary of State on certain election matters
- HB 351 by Representative Mike Johnson to assess court costs and attorney's fees for knowingly attesting to false information in a Notice of Candidacy
- HB 590 by Representative Annie Spell to statutorily enforce a ban on private funding in election administration and foreign funding of candidates or ballot measures
- HB 223 by Representative Jessica Domangue to increase election commissioner pay
- An SCR by Senator Rick Edmonds to call for a procedural election audit by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor every four years

The 2025 Regular Legislative Session begins April 14. Secretary Landry will be available for 10 minute interviews by credentialed media via phone, virtually, or in-person at the Secretary of State's Office on Thursday, April 10, 2025 from 9-11 a.m. Interested media outlets can contact Joel Watson at joel.watson@sos.la.gov or 225-922-0820 to schedule a time to speak with Secretary Landry.

###

May 3 election reminders

MAY 3 ELECTION REMINDERS

April 1, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that Saturday, May 3 is Election Day for the Municipal General and Special Primary Election for State Representative in the 67th Representative District.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Landry encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is April 2.
- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is April 12.
- Early voting is April 19 - 26 (excluding Sunday, April 20) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Early voting locations can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is April 29 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a voter to return a voted absentee ballot to their parish's [Registrar of Voters](#) Office is May 2 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination.
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters are encouraged to sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the May 3 election**ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE MAY 3 ELECTION**

April 1, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the May 3 Municipal General and Special Primary Election for State Representative in the 67th Representative District.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, April 29 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters Office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information, and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Friday, May 2 by 4:30 p.m.** Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

Absentee voters should be aware of new laws that took effect after the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. Based on those new statutes, an individual may assist a voter with their absentee ballot and deliver an absentee ballot for:

- Any immediate family members; and
- One non-immediate family member.

Immediate family member is defined in statute as "the individual's children, the spouses of his children, his brothers and their spouses, his sisters and their spouses, his parents, his spouse, and the parents of his spouse."

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Early voting begins April 19 for the May 3 election**EARLY VOTING BEGINS APRIL 19 FOR THE MAY 3 ELECTION**

April 1, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that early voting for the May 3 Municipal General and Special Primary Election for State Representative in the 67th Representative District will take place **Saturday, April 19** through **Saturday, April 26** (excluding Sunday, April 20) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations, which can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, find their Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via [LA Wallet](https://la.wallet.com)).

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Voter registration deadlines for the May 3 election

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE MAY 3 ELECTION

April 1, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the May 3 Municipal General and Special Primary Election for State Representative in the 67th Representative District are quickly approaching. The deadline to register in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is **Wednesday, April 2**. The deadline to register through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](https://www.GeauxVote.com) is **Saturday, April 12**. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote, as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the free GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information, and election results.

Early voting for the May 3 election will take place Saturday, April 19 through Saturday, April 26 (excluding Sunday, April 20) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Secretary Landry issues statement on President Trump's Executive Order

SECRETARY LANDRY ISSUES STATEMENT ON PRESIDENT TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDER

March 26, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry issued the following statement regarding President Trump's Executive Order on Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections:

"I thank President Trump for his recent executive order concerning the security of our elections. By directing agencies under his purview to provide critical data regarding immigration, illegal non-citizen voting, and the Social Security Administration's Death Index, our state will have the crucial tools it needs to further ensure that our voter rolls are accurate.

Further, by reforming how the Election Assistance Commission lists citizenship requirements on its national voter registration form, our state will more quickly be able to implement and enforce Act 500 of the 2024 legislative session.

I believe this executive order respects the states' Constitutional authority to administer elections, per Article I, Section 2, while requiring the federal government to give the states the tools they need to keep our elections safe and secure."

This executive order comes the same week that The Heritage Foundation announced that Louisiana is ranked second in the nation on its updated [Election Integrity Scorecard](https://www.heritage.org/election-integrity-scorecard).

###

Louisiana ranked second in the nation for election integrity

LOUISIANA RANKED SECOND IN THE NATION FOR ELECTION INTEGRITY

March 24, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry announced that Louisiana is now ranked second in the nation for election integrity by the Heritage Foundation after previously being ranked ninth by the same group. Scores are calculated from 12 different categories, including voter ID implementation, absentee ballot management, vote counting practices, and verification of citizenship.

"This latest ranking proves once again that Louisiana's elections are safe and secure," Secretary Landry said. "I am proud of the hard work that our elections team does day in and day out to ensure the integrity of our elections. While this news is cause for celebration, there is still much work to be done. I won't be satisfied until Louisiana is number one in the nation, and I am confident that will happen when we transition to a new, fully-auditable voting system."

The Department of State has begun the process of procuring a new voting system, and Secretary Landry has indicated that the agency will secure one within the year.

###

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for March 29 Municipal Primary Election

MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR MARCH 29 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION

March 24, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry's Office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, March 25 at 2 p.m. in preparation for the upcoming March 29 Municipal Primary Election. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and do not reflect any actual results.

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics, and websites in conjunction with the test. To prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers and viewers that the results are only a test and not official.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY

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Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary for Communications Joel Watson and Public Information Officer Kaylee Trisler. Watson can be reached at 225.922.0820 or joel.watson@sos.la.gov. Trisler can be reached at the information listed above.

###

Secretary Landry announces successful follow-up audit

SECRETARY LANDRY ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL FOLLOW-UP AUDIT

March 17, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La.—The Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) conducted a follow-up to their award-winning 2021 audit of the Louisiana Department of State's election integrity procedures. The original report found "[overall]...DOS has procedures and practices to ensure election integrity." The follow-up concluded that the agency has implemented or is in the process of implementing all recommendations made in the 2021 audit.

"I appreciate the thorough work of Louisiana Legislative Auditor Michael Waguespack and his team," Secretary Landry said. "This latest report confirms what the voters of our state know to be true: Louisiana's elections are safe, secure, and accurate. I look forward to continuing to strengthen our policies and procedures to make us number one in the nation for election integrity."

LLA made five recommendations in its 2021 audit. The follow-up report found that the Department of State implemented three (ensuring documentation of test vote results, formal documentation of post-election verification activities, and consistent categorization of complaints to the Division of Election Integrity) and is in the process of implementing two (additional state-by-state data matches and post-election audits). It further found that legislation was enacted relating to six matters for legislative consideration, including:

- Act 2 (2024): The adoption of an expanded annual voter canvass to ensure an accurate voter registration list.
- Act 321 (2024): The establishment of uniformity on what information is required for absentee by mail ballots.
- Act 639 (2022): The development of rules to create uniformity for what absentee by mail ballots are referred to the Parish Board of Election Supervisors.
- Act 572 (2022): The requirement of a signed certification of voting machine testing.
- Act 741 (2022): The adoption of uniform policies and procedures for the conduct of a post-election tabulation audit of paper records.
- Act 640 (2024): A provision for six weeks between primary and general elections beginning in 2026.

###

State Board of Election Supervisors meeting

[Click here to view the agenda for the March 11 State Board of Election Supervisors meeting.](#)

Secretary Landry announces additional voter list maintenance data sharing agreements with neighboring states

SECRETARY OF STATE NANCY LANDRY ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE DATA SHARING AGREEMENTS WITH NEIGHBORING STATES

February 25, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry announced new voter list maintenance data sharing agreements with Texas, Mississippi, and Arkansas. These agreements will help ensure the further accuracy of Louisiana's voter rolls by detecting duplicate registrations within neighboring states.

"I am thankful to Secretary Nelson of Texas, Secretary Watson of Mississippi, former Secretary Thurston and current Secretary Jester of Arkansas for working with our office to help keep our voter list accurate and up-to-date," Secretary Landry said. "Election integrity is my highest priority as Louisiana's Secretary of State. These agreements underscore how focused my office is on maintaining safe and secure elections, while also safeguarding voters' sensitive data."

Secretary Landry previously announced a similar agreement with Alabama Secretary of State Wes Allen in July 2024.

###

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for Feb. 15 Special Election

MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR FEB. 15 SPECIAL ELECTION

February 10, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry's Office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. in preparation for the upcoming Feb. 15 Special Primary Election for Senate Districts 14 and 23. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and **do not reflect any actual results**.

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics, and websites in conjunction with the test. To prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers and viewers that the results are only a test and not official.

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###

March 29 Municipal Primary Election Reminders

MARCH 29 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION REMINDERS

February 4, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that Saturday, March 29 is Election Day for the Municipal Primary Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Landry encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is Feb. 26.
- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is March 8.
- Early voting is March 15 - 22 (excluding Sunday, March 16) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Early voting locations can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.

- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is March 25 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a voter to return a voted absentee ballot to their parish's [Registrar of Voters](#) Office is March 28 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination.
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters are encouraged to sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the March 29 Municipal Primary Election

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE MARCH 29 ELECTION

February 4, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the March 29 Municipal Primary Election.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, March 25 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters Office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information, and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Friday, March 28 by 4:30 p.m.** Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

Absentee voters should be aware of new laws that took effect after the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. Based on those new statutes, an individual may assist a voter with their absentee ballot and deliver an absentee ballot for:

- Any immediate family members; and
- One non-immediate family member.

Immediate family member is defined in statute as "the individual's children, the spouses of his children, his brothers and their spouses, his sisters and their spouses, his parents, his spouse, and the parents of his spouse."

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Early voting begins March 15 for the March 29 Municipal Primary Election

EARLY VOTING BEGINS MARCH 15 FOR THE MARCH 29 ELECTION

February 4, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that early voting for the March 29 Municipal Primary Election will take place **Saturday, March 15** through **Saturday, March 22** (excluding Sunday, March 16) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations, which can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, find their Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via [LA Wallet](#)).

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Voter registration deadlines for the March 29 Municipal Primary Election

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE MARCH 29 ELECTION

February 3, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the March 29 Municipal Primary Election are quickly approaching. The deadline to register in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is **Wednesday, Feb. 26**. The deadline to register through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is **Saturday, March 8**. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote, as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the free GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information, and election results.

Early voting for the March 29 election will take place Saturday, March 15 through Saturday, March 22 (excluding Sunday, March 16) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Qualifying procedures for March 29 Municipal Primary Election

QUALIFYING PROCEDURES FOR MARCH 29 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION

January 28, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Qualifying for the March 29 Municipal Primary Election will take place Jan. 29 - 31.

All local candidates must qualify with their parish Clerk of Court. Candidates may qualify for office by paying a qualifying fee or filing a nominating petition and are encouraged to check with their local Clerk of Court for specific parish hours. More information, including contact information for parish Clerk of Court Offices, can be found by visiting GeauxVote.com and selecting the Election Qualifying link. Once qualified, candidates will appear on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.la.gov.

All candidates qualifying for Associate Justice from Louisiana Supreme Court District 3 and Court of Appeal, 1st Circuit, 2nd District, Subdistrict 2, Division D, will qualify at the Secretary of State's Office at 8585 Archives Avenue in Baton Rouge. Hours of operation for the Secretary of State's Office are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. Once qualified, candidates will appear on the Secretary of State's website in real-time on the home page at www.sos.la.gov.

Pursuant to Louisiana Revised Statutes 18:461 and 18:463, qualifying candidates will be required to provide an email address and present a valid Louisiana driver's license or Louisiana identification card. The email address provided will be listed on the Secretary of State's website.

For more information on qualifying, visit the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.la.gov or call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805.

###

Feb. 15 Special Election Reminders

FEB. 15 SPECIAL ELECTION REMINDERS

January 10, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that Saturday, Feb. 15 is Election Day for the Special Primary Election for State Senator in the 14th and 23rd Senatorial Districts.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Landry encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is Jan. 15.
- The deadline to register to vote through the GeauxVote Online Registration System is Jan. 25.
- Early voting is Feb. 1 - 8 (excluding Sunday, Feb. 2) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Early voting locations can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Feb. 11 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the Voter Portal or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a voter to return a voted absentee ballot to their parish's Registrar of Voters Office is Feb. 14 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination.
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the Voter Portal.
- Voters are encouraged to sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Division of Election Integrity at 800-722-5305.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the Feb. 15 Special Primary Election

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE FEB. 15 SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

January 10, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the Feb. 15 Special Primary Election for State Senator in the 14th and 23rd Senatorial Districts.

The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Tuesday, Feb. 11 by 4:30 p.m. Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters Office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information, and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to return a completed ballot is Friday, Feb. 14 by 4:30 p.m. Completed ballots can be returned to the parish Registrar of Voters by mail, in-person by the voter, or by a voter's immediate family member. Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

Absentee voters should be aware of new laws that took effect after the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. Based on those new statutes, an individual may assist a voter with their absentee ballot and deliver an absentee ballot for:

- Any immediate family members; and
- One non-immediate family member.

Immediate family member is defined in statute as "the individual's children, the spouses of his children, his brothers and their spouses, his sisters and their spouses, his parents, his spouse, and the parents of his spouse."

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Division of Election Integrity at 800-722-5305.

###

Early voting begins Feb. 1 for the Feb. 15 Special Primary Election

EARLY VOTING BEGINS FEB. 1 FOR THE FEB. 15 SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

January 10, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that early voting for the Feb. 15 Special Primary Election for State Senator in the 14th and 23rd Senatorial Districts will take place Saturday, Feb. 1 through Saturday, Feb. 8 (excluding Sunday, Feb. 2) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations, which can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, find their Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Division of Election Integrity at 800-722-5305.

###

Voter registration deadlines for the Feb. 15 Special Primary Election

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE FEB. 15 SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

January 10, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the Feb. 15 Special Primary Election for State Senator in the 14th and 23rd Senatorial Districts are quickly approaching. The deadline to register in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is Wednesday, Jan. 15. The deadline to register through the GeauxVote Online Registration System is Saturday, Jan. 25. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote, as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the free GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information, and election results.

Early voting for the Feb. 15 election will take place Saturday, Feb. 1 through Saturday, Feb. 8 (excluding Sunday, Feb. 2) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Division of Election Integrity at 800-722-5305.

###

Qualifying procedures for February 15 Special Election

QUALIFYING PROCEDURES FOR FEBRUARY 15 SPECIAL ELECTION

January 6, 2025

BATON ROUGE, La. — Qualifying for the Feb. 15 Special Primary Election for State Senator in the 14th and 23rd Senatorial Districts will take place Jan. 7 - 9.

All candidates must qualify with their parish clerk of court. Candidates may qualify for office by paying a qualifying fee or by filing a nominating petition, and are encouraged to check with their local Clerk of Court for specific parish hours. More information, including [contact information for parish Clerk of Court Offices](#), can be found by visiting www.sos.la.gov and selecting the Election Qualifying link. Once qualified, candidates will appear on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.la.gov.

Pursuant to [Act 312 of the 2020 Regular Session](#) and [Act 35 of the 2022 Regular Session](#), qualifying candidates will be required to provide an email address and present a valid Louisiana driver's license or Louisiana identification card. The email address provided will be listed on the secretary of state's website.

For more information on qualifying, visit the secretary of state's website at www.sos.la.gov or call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805.

###

January 3, 2025 NOI Meeting

[See meeting notice.](#)

Dec. 7 General Election reminders**DEC. 7 GENERAL ELECTION REMINDERS**

November 6, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that Saturday, Dec. 7 is Election Day for the General Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Landry encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is Nov. 6.
- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is Nov. 16.
- Early voting is Nov. 22 - 30 (excluding Sunday, Nov. 24, Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Early voting locations can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Dec. 3 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a voter to return a voted absentee ballot to their parish's [Registrar of Voters](#) Office is Dec. 6 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination.
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters are encouraged to sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Division of Election Integrity at 800-722-5305.

###

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for December 7 election**MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR DECEMBER 7 ELECTION**

December 2, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry's Office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 2 p.m. in preparation for the upcoming Dec. 7 General Election. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and do not reflect any actual results.

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics, and websites in conjunction with the test. To prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers and viewers that the results are only a test and not official.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY

In preparation for election night, credentialed media outlets may reserve a limited number of seats at the Secretary of State's Office. To reserve a seat, sign up for the XML feed, or report any issues, please contact Kaylee Trisler in the Communications Office at 225.362.5086 or kaylee.trisler@sos.la.gov.

Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary for Communications Joel Watson and Public Information Officer Kaylee Trisler. Watson can be reached at 225.922.0820 or joel.watson@sos.la.gov. Trisler can be reached at the information listed above.

###

Electoral College to meet at state capitol December 17**ELECTORAL COLLEGE TO MEET AT STATE CAPITOL DECEMBER 17**

December 2, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La.—Secretary of State Nancy Landry will host Louisiana's Electoral College meeting on **Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 11:30 a.m. in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol**. Secretary Landry will administer the oaths of office to the eight electors of the Republican Party before they cast their

official votes for president and vice president of the United States.

Individuals who wish to watch a live stream of the proceedings can do so by visiting www.legis.la.gov and clicking on the live streaming link.

Louisiana's electors include: Christian Gil, at large; Randolph August Bazet III, at large; Raymond M. Griffin, Jr., 1st Congressional District; Lloyd A. Harsch, 2nd Congressional District; Luke Anthony Dupre, 3rd Congressional District; Matthew Kay, 4th Congressional District; Phillipp Jeffrey Bedwell, 5th Congressional District; and Carl W. Benedict, 6th Congressional District. In the event that one of these electors is not present, an alternative elector will assume his duties by law.

The Electoral College, administered by the National Archives and Records Administration, is a process that began as part of the original design of the United States Constitution. The Founding Fathers established the Electoral College as a compromise between election of the president by Congress and election by a popular vote. The people of the United States vote for the electors who then vote for president.

For more information on the Electoral College, visit <https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/electoral-college/>.

- www.sos.la.gov -

Secretary Landry announces new hire at Old Governor's Mansion

SECRETARY LANDRY ANNOUNCES NEW HIRE AT OLD GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Nov. 14, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry is proud to announce a new hire at the Louisiana Department of State. Dr. Sinella Aghasi will serve as the Director of the Old Governor's Mansion. In her role, Dr. Aghasi will enhance the Old Governor's Mansion as a cornerstone of Louisiana's cultural heritage, collaborating with tourism and economic development agencies to elevate this historic site.

"I am incredibly pleased that we were able to bring Dr. Aghasi onto our team. She brings a tremendous amount of unique experience and specialized knowledge to the Old Governor's Mansion," Landry said. "I am proud to count Dr. Aghasi among our amazing staff who tirelessly serve the people of Louisiana with honor and integrity, day in and day out."

Dr. Aghasi holds a Doctorate in Music and Nonprofit Management from Louisiana State University. She previously served as Associate Executive Director of Kid's Orchestra, Director of Education for the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, and Associate Director of Opera Louisiane. Dr. Aghasi has also been recognized as one of Baton Rouge Business Report's Forty Under 40.

###

Louisiana notary exam to move to computer-based format in 2025

LOUISIANA NOTARY EXAM TO MOVE TO COMPUTER-BASED FORMAT IN 2025

November 13, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. - Secretary of State Nancy Landry is excited to announce that the Louisiana Notary Public Examination will transition to a computer-based format in the spring of 2025. Once implemented, the computer-based test will be offered exclusively at Louisiana State University's Baton Rouge campus multiple times each month. The new format will allow the test to be offered more frequently and provide more time per question than the paper format currently allows.

"We are very excited by this development. The new format will provide more opportunities to pass the examination, significantly shorten the wait-time for re-taking it, and allow for scores to be released faster. It is our hope that eventually we can make the examination available at other testing sites around the state," Secretary Landry said.

Registration is now open for the final paper-based exam, which will be administered on Jan. 11, 2025. After the January examination, all 2025 notary exams will use the 2025 edition of the study guide, which will be available for purchase in January on the Secretary of State's website.

To learn more, please visit sos.la.gov/notary or call the Secretary of State's Notary Division at 225-922-0507.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the Dec. 7 General Election

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE DEC. 7 GENERAL ELECTION

November 6, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the Dec. 7 General Election.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, Dec. 3 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters Office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information, and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Friday, Dec. 6 by 4:30 p.m.** Completed ballots can be returned to the parish Registrar of Voters by mail, in-person by the voter, or by a voter's immediate family member. Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

Absentee voters should be aware of new laws that took effect after the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. Based on those new statutes, an individual may assist a voter with their absentee ballot and deliver an absentee ballot for:

- Any immediate family members; and
- One non-immediate family member.

Immediate family member is defined in statute as "the individual's children, the spouses of his children, his brothers and their spouses, his sisters and their spouses, his parents, his spouse, and the parents of his spouse."

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Division of Election Integrity at 800-722-5305.

###

Early voting begins Nov. 22 for the Dec. 7 General Election

EARLY VOTING BEGINS NOV. 22 FOR THE DEC. 7 GENERAL ELECTION

November 6, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that early voting for the Dec. 7 General Election begins **Friday, Nov. 22** and continues through **Saturday, Nov. 30** (excluding Sunday, Nov. 24, Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations, which can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, find their Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via [LA Wallet](https://LAWallet.com)).

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Division of Election Integrity at 800-722-5305.

###

Voter registration deadlines for the Dec. 7 General Election

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE DEC. 7 GENERAL ELECTION

November 6, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the Dec. 7 General Election are quickly approaching. The deadline to register in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is **Wednesday, Nov. 6**. The deadline to register through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](https://GeauxVote.com) is **Saturday, Nov. 16**. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote, as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the free GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information, and election results.

Early voting for the Dec. 7 election will take place Friday, Nov. 22 through Saturday, Nov. 30 (excluding Sunday, Nov. 24, Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Division of Election Integrity at 800-722-5305.

###

Louisiana breaks multiple election records**LOUISIANA BREAKS MULTIPLE ELECTION RECORDS**

Nov. 6, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry is pleased to announce multiple new records in the wake of the Nov. 5 election. The results of over 2 million votes were uploaded to the Secretary of State's website in less than three hours. Nearly 850,000 voters cast their ballots early in-person, and over 100,000 of those were on the final day of early voting, breaking the records set in 2020. Additionally, over 1 million voters also participated on Election Day.

"Louisiana has once again executed a safe and secure election," Sec. Landry said. "With record numbers of voters showing up to vote early in-person and with all results uploaded in less than three hours of polls closing, I am pleased to say that this election went exceedingly well. I want to thank Commissioner of Elections Sherri Wharton Hadskey and her team; our Clerks of Court and their staffs; our Registrars of Voters and their staffs; and the thousands of election commissioners across the state who were professional, courteous, and dedicated to delivering democracy to the people of Louisiana. I also want to express my appreciation to the voters of Louisiana for making their voices heard, and the candidates who offered themselves for service."

###

Nov. 5 Presidential General and Open Congressional Primary Election reminders**NOV. 5 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL AND OPEN CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY ELECTION REMINDERS**

October 3, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that Tuesday, Nov. 5 is Election Day for the Presidential General and Open Congressional Primary Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Landry encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV office is Oct. 7.
- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is Oct. 15.
- Early voting is Oct. 18 - 29 (excluding Sunday, Oct. 20 and Sunday, Oct. 27) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Early voting locations can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Nov. 1 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline to return a voted absentee ballot to a [Registrar of Voters](#) Office is Nov. 4 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination.
- Polls open at 6 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters are encouraged to sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for November 5 election**MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR NOVEMBER 5 ELECTION**

October 29, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry's Office will test its electronic election results system on Thursday, Oct. 31 at 2 p.m. in preparation for the upcoming Nov. 5 Presidential General and Open Congressional Primary Election. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and **do not reflect any actual results**.

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics, and websites in conjunction with the test. To prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers and viewers that the results are only a test and not official.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY

In preparation for election night, credentialed media outlets may reserve a limited number of seats at the Secretary of State's Office. To reserve a seat, sign up for the XML feed, or report any issues, please contact Kaylee Trisler in the Communications Office at 225.362.5086 or kaylee.trisler@sos.la.gov.

Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary for Communications Joel Watson and Public Information Officer Kaylee Trisler. Watson can be reached at 225.922.0820 or joel.watson@sos.la.gov. Trisler can be reached at the information listed above.

###

Secretary Landry announces new temporary early voting site in Orleans Parish

SECRETARY LANDRY ANNOUNCES NEW TEMPORARY EARLY VOTING SITE IN ORLEANS PARISH

October 17, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La.—Secretary of State Nancy Landry announced a new, temporary early voting site in New Orleans today. The new, temporary site will be at the Treme Recreation Community Center, located at 900 North Villere Street.

"I'd like to thank our hardworking Elections Division staff, along with Orleans Parish Registrar of Voters Dr. Sandra Wilson and her staff for their help in securing this site to better serve New Orleans voters," Secretary Landry said.

Early voting for the Nov. 5 election runs 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., from Oct. 18 through Oct. 29, except for Sundays.

For more information, contact the Elections Division at 800.883.2805 or elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Voter registration deadlines for the Nov. 5 Presidential General and Open Congressional Primary Election

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE NOV. 5 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL AND OPEN CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY ELECTION

October 3, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the Nov. 5 Presidential General and Open Congressional Primary Election are quickly approaching. The deadline to register in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is **Monday, Oct. 7**. The deadline to register through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is **Tuesday, Oct. 15**. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote, as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the free GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information, and election results.

Early voting for the Nov. 5 election will take place Friday, Oct. 18 through Tuesday, Oct. 29 (excluding Sunday, Oct. 20 and Sunday, Oct. 27) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the Nov. 5 Presidential General and Open Congressional Primary Election

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE NOV. 5 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL AND OPEN CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY ELECTION

October 3, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the Nov. 5 Presidential General and Open Congressional Primary Election.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Friday, Nov. 1 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters Office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information, and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Monday, Nov. 4 by 4:30 p.m.** Completed ballots can be returned to the parish Registrar of Voters by mail, in-person by the voter, or by a voter's immediate family member. Due to unpredictable mail delivery speeds, absentee voters utilizing the United States Postal Service are encouraged to allow additional time for their ballot to reach its destination. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in-person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

Absentee voters should be aware of new laws that took effect after the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. Based on those new statutes, an individual may assist a voter with their absentee ballot and deliver an absentee ballot for:

- Any immediate family members; and
- One non-immediate family member.

Immediate family member is defined in statute as "the individual's children, the spouses of his children, his brothers and their spouses, his sisters and their spouses, his parents, his spouse, and the parents of his spouse."

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Early voting begins Oct. 18 for the Nov. 5 Presidential General and Open Congressional Primary Election

EARLY VOTING BEGINS OCT. 18 FOR THE NOV. 5 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL AND OPEN CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY ELECTION

October 3, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that early voting for the Nov. 5 Presidential General and Open Congressional Election begins **Friday, Oct. 18** and continues through **Tuesday, Oct. 29** (excluding Sunday, Oct. 20 and Sunday, Oct. 27) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations, which can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, find their Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via [LA Wallet](https://LAWallet.com)).

For more information, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov. To report potential polling place accessibility issues, please email the Elections ADA Compliance Officer at ADA@sos.la.gov. Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Election Integrity Division at 800-722-5305.

###

Louisiana Voter Registration Week 2024 begins Sept. 16

LOUISIANA VOTER REGISTRATION WEEK 2024 BEGINS SEPT. 16

Sept. 13, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La.—Secretary of State Nancy Landry joins Registrars of Voters across the state the week of Sept. 16 – Sept. 20, 2024 to promote Voter Registration Week activities aimed at registering Louisiana citizens to vote ahead of the Nov. 5 election. The deadline to register to vote in person or by mail is Monday, Oct. 7, and the deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](https://GeauxVote.com) is Tuesday, Oct. 15.

"The first step to participating in the electoral process is registering to vote. It's never been easier to register or update your registration information in Louisiana—any citizen with a Louisiana license or ID can register online in a matter of minutes at GeauxVote.com," Secretary Landry said.

To register and vote in Louisiana, individuals must:

- be a U.S. citizen;
- be at least 17 years old (16 years old if registering in person at the Registrar of Voters Office or at the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles) to register and 18 years old prior to the next election to vote;
- not be under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony or, if under such an order, not have been incarcerated pursuant to the order within the last five years, and not be under an order of imprisonment related to a felony conviction for election fraud or any other election offense pursuant to La. R.S. 18:1461.2;
- not be under a judgment of full interdiction for mental incompetence or partial interdiction with suspension of voting rights;
- be a resident in the state and parish in which they seek to register and vote;
- apply at least 20 days prior to an election if registering online or 30 days prior to an election if registering in person or by mail.

Citizens with a valid Louisiana driver's license or Louisiana Special ID card can register online 24 hours a day, seven days a week by visiting <https://voterportal.sos.la.gov>. Louisiana residents can also register in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office, when they apply for or renew their driver's license at any Office of Motor Vehicles, or when obtaining services at public assistance agencies and Armed Forces recruitment offices.

For more information about elections and voting, please contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 800.883.2805 or elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Louisiana civil rights leader Johnnie Jones named Margaret Chase Smith American Democracy Award recipient

LOUISIANA CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER JOHNNIE JONES NAMED MARGARET CHASE SMITH AMERICAN DEMOCRACY AWARD RECIPIENT

July 19, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry is pleased to announce that Louisiana native Johnnie Jones, a veteran of the Second World War and key figure of the Civil Rights Movement, has been posthumously named the 2024 Margaret Chase Smith American Democracy Award winner. Jones was named the recipient of this prestigious honor on Friday, July 12 at the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) Summer Conference in Puerto Rico. NASS members recognize award recipients for individual acts of political courage, uncommon character, and selfless action in the realm of public service.

A native of Laurel Hill, Louisiana, Jones was drafted into the U.S. Army when the United States entered the Second World War and took part in the Normandy Invasion as part of the 494th Port Battalion. He was wounded aboard the SS Francis C. Harrington when it struck a mine and then came under fire from German aircraft. Despite his injuries, Jones continued to fight for the liberation of France, fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and served as an aide to General Dwight D. Eisenhower. He was awarded a Purple Heart for his injuries sustained in combat at a ceremony in 2021 at Louisiana's Old State Capitol.

When Jones returned home from war, he was beaten by a police officer on his way to a medical appointment to care for his injuries. This compelled him to pursue his law degree at Southern University Law Center. After graduating from law school in 1953, Mr. Jones was asked to represent protestors and members of the United Defense League who were participating in the Baton Rouge Bus Boycott. This protest became the blueprint for the Montgomery Bus Boycott. He continued to serve as a civil rights activist as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, and after his one term in office, he returned to practicing law until the age of 93. Jones passed away at the age of 102 in 2022.

"I was pleased to nominate Mr. Jones for this prestigious award and am honored that my colleagues have seen fit to name him as this year's award recipient," Secretary Landry said. "From his service on the beaches of Normandy, to the Baton Rouge Bus Boycott, to his time in the state capitol, Mr. Jones spent his life fighting for what he believed in and represented the very best of Louisiana."

Previous award recipients include Rosa Parks, the Little Rock Nine, former U.S. Secretary of State Dr. Condoleezza Rice, and former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

###

Louisiana Legislative Auditor releases audit of Department of State's financial controls

LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR RELEASES AUDIT OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S FINANCIAL CONTROLS

July 18, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — The Louisiana Legislative Auditor has released an audit meant to "evaluate certain controls DOS uses to ensure accurate financial reporting, compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and accountability over public funds." The report found that the Department's controls "provide reasonable assurance of accountability over public funds."

"As a public servant, it is incumbent upon me to be a responsible steward of taxpayer funds," Secretary of State Nancy Landry said. "I am extremely proud to say that the Louisiana Legislative Auditor has once again confirmed that our agency is meeting and exceeding the people's expectations. Not only do we have secure elections, but the Secretary of State's office is also a trustworthy caretaker of Louisianians' tax dollars. I could not be prouder of the dedicated staff who work every day to make this possible, and I also wish to thank Michael Waguespack and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor team for their incredible work."

###

Qualifying procedures for November 5 election

QUALIFYING PROCEDURES FOR NOVEMBER 5 ELECTION

July 16, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Qualifying for the November 5, 2024 Presidential General/Open Congressional Primary Election will be held Wednesday, July 17 through Friday, July 19.

All candidates for the following state and federal offices will qualify at the Louisiana State Archives located at 3851 Essen Lane in Baton Rouge from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.:

- United States Representative, Districts 1 – 6;
- Associate Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, District 2;
- Judges, Court of Appeal, (9 offices);
- Public Service Commission, District 2.

Local and municipal candidates must qualify with the clerk of court in the parish in which they are registered to vote. Candidates are encouraged to check with their local clerk of court for specific parish hours.

Pursuant to [Act 312 of the 2020 Regular Session](#) and [Act 35 of the 2022 Regular Session](#), qualifying candidates will be required to provide an email address and present a valid Louisiana driver's license or Louisiana identification card. The email address provided will be listed on the secretary of state's website.

For more information on qualifying, visit the secretary of state's website at www.sos.la.gov or call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805.

###

Secretary Landry announces Louisiana voter list maintenance data sharing agreement with Alabama

SECRETARY OF STATE NANCY LANDRY ANNOUNCES LOUISIANA VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE DATA SHARING AGREEMENT WITH ALABAMA

July 10, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La.— Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry and Alabama Secretary of State Wes Allen have signed a data sharing memorandum of understanding (MOU) that will allow both states to ensure the further accuracy of their voter registration lists.

"I am pleased to join my colleague Secretary Wes Allen of Alabama in signing this critical data sharing agreement," Secretary Landry said. "One of the most important roles I have as Louisiana's Chief Election Officer is to ensure our voter rolls are accurate. Today's agreement underscores how seriously I take this responsibility, and I look forward to working with Secretary Allen and other colleagues across the country to ensure that Louisiana's elections remain safe, secure, and accurate."

###

Secretary Landry announces passage of election integrity package and press availability

SECRETARY OF STATE NANCY LANDRY ANNOUNCES PASSAGE OF ELECTION INTEGRITY LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE AND PRESS AVAILABILITY

June 3, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La.—Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry has announced the successful passage of all bills in the Department of State's Election Integrity Legislative Package.

"I could not be more thankful to the authors and sponsors of the bills in our election integrity package and the members who supported those instruments," Secretary Landry said. "Thanks to them, all 11 bills in our legislative package have passed overwhelmingly and will help Louisiana continue on the path to being ranked first in the nation in election integrity. I thank Governor Landry for signing several of these bills into law already and I look forward to working with the Governor to ensure the remaining bills in this package become law so that we can continue our work of making Louisiana's elections the safest and most secure in the country."

The department's package of bills are:

- HB 114 by Representative Les Farnum: Enacts an expanded voter canvass to further ensure that Louisiana's voter rolls are accurate
- HB 285 (Now Act 264) by Representative Mark Wright: Creates the Division of Election Integrity within the Department of State
- HB 449 (Now Act 25) by Representative Michael Melerine: Requires court judgments of interdiction be delivered to the Registrar of Voters in the parish in which the interdicted individual is registered
- HB 476 by Representative Josh Carlson: Further cracks down on absentee ballot harvesting
- HB 506 by Representative Polly Thomas: Requires that those conducting voter registration drives register with the Secretary of State's office, ensuring that voter registrations are timely submitted and that voters' personal information is further protected
- HB 581 by Representative Polly Thomas: Provides for more specific penalties for those witnessing more than one absentee ballot of a non-family member; requires that those signing as a witness on an absentee ballot be at least 18 years of age; and requires the witness to provide their address

- SB 101 (Now Act 291) by Senator Blake Miguez: Bans ranked-choice voting in Louisiana elections
- SB 155 (Now Act 302) by Senator Caleb Kleinpeter: Prohibits individuals from assisting with more than one absentee ballot except for immediate family members
- SB 218 (Now Act 317) by Senator Caleb Kleinpeter: Restricts the unsolicited distribution of absentee ballot applications
- SB 226 (Now Act 321) by Senator Heather Cloud: Creates uniform standards for tabulating absentee ballots
- SB 436 by Senator Mike Fesi: Allows the Secretary of State to require proof of United States citizenship when registering to vote

Secretary Landry will be available for 15 minute interviews by credentialed media via phone, Google Meet, or Zoom on Wednesday, June 5, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Interested media outlets can contact Korey Ryder, Deputy Secretary of State for Outreach, at korey.ryder@sos.la.gov or 225-362-5111 to schedule a time to speak with Secretary Landry.

###

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for April 27 election

MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR APRIL 27 ELECTION

April 23, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry's office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, April 23 at 2 p.m. in preparation for the upcoming April 27 Municipal General Election. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and **do not reflect any actual results.**

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics, and websites in conjunction with the test. To prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers and viewers that the results are only a test and not official.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY

In preparation for election night, credentialed media outlets may reserve a limited number of seats at the Secretary of State's office. To reserve a seat, sign up for the XML feed, or report any issues, please contact Kaylee Trisler in the Communications Office at 225.362.5086 or kaylee.trisler@sos.la.gov.

Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary for Communications Joel Watson and Public Information Officer Kaylee Trisler. Watson can be reached at 225.362.5111 or joel.watson@sos.la.gov. Trisler can be reached at the information listed above.

###

Secretary Landry warns voters about mailers distributed by third-party group

SECRETARY LANDRY WARNS VOTERS ABOUT MAILERS DISTRIBUTED BY THIRD-PARTY GROUP

April 8, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. —The Louisiana Secretary of State's Office is aware of mailers distributed by a third-party group known as "The Voter Participation Center." These mailers suggest that someone at the address may not be registered to vote, and they include a voter registration form with pre-filled information. These mailers sometimes contain incorrect or misleading information. Voters should know that this mailer is not official correspondence from the Louisiana Secretary of State or a parish Registrars of Voters, nor is it an indication of a change in a voter's registration status.

Secretary Landry encourages all Louisianans to visit [geauxvote.com](https://www.sos.la.gov/GeauxVote) or download the free, award-winning Geaux Vote mobile app to update their registration, or call their parish Registrar of Voters with any questions about their registration status.

###

April 27 Municipal General Election Reminders

APRIL 27 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION REMINDERS

April 1, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that Saturday, April 27 is Election Day for the Municipal General Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Landry encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV office is March 27.
- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](https://www.sos.la.gov/GeauxVote) is April 6.

- Early voting is April 13 – 20 (excluding Sunday, April 14) from 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Early voting locations can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is April 23 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](https://voterportal.sos.la.gov) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a [registrar of voters](https://voterportal.sos.la.gov) to receive a voted absentee ballot is April 26 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](https://voterportal.sos.la.gov).
- Voters can sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the April 27 Municipal General Election

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE APRIL 27 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION

April 1, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the April 27 Municipal General Election.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, April 23 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Friday, April 26 by 4:30 pm.** Completed ballots can be returned to the parish Registrar of Voters by mail, in-person by the voter, or by a voter's immediate family member. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in-person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Early voting begins April 13 for the April 27 Municipal General Election

EARLY VOTING BEGINS APRIL 13 FOR THE APRIL 27 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION

April 1, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that early voting for the April 27 Municipal General Election begins **Saturday, April 13** and will continue daily through **Saturday, April 20** (excluding Sunday, April 14) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations, which can be found at voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via [LA Wallet](https://la.wallet.com)). Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Elections Compliance Unit at 800.722.5305.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Voter registration deadlines for the April 27 Municipal General Election

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE APRIL 27 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION

April 1, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the April 27 Municipal General Election are fast approaching. The deadline to register in person, by mail, or at the OMV Office is **Wednesday, March 27**. The deadline to register through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is **Saturday, April 6**. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote, as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information, and election results.

Early voting for the April 27 election will take place Saturday, April 13 through Saturday, April 20 (excluding Sunday, April 14) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

- www.sos.la.gov -

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for March 23 election

MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR MARCH 23 ELECTION

March 18, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry's office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, March 19 at 2 p.m. in preparation for the upcoming March 23 Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Primary Election. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and **do not reflect any actual results**.

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics, and websites in conjunction with the test. To prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers and viewers that the results are only a test and not official.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY

In preparation for election night, credentialed media outlets may reserve a limited number of seats at the Secretary of State's office. To reserve a seat, sign up for the XML feed, or report any issues, please contact Kaylee Trisler in the Communications Office at 225.362.5086 or kaylee.trisler@sos.la.gov.

Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary for Communications Joel Watson and Public Information Officer Kaylee Trisler. Watson can be reached at 225.362.5111 or joel.watson@sos.la.gov. Trisler can be reached at the information listed above.

###

Secretary Landry announces staff promotions and new hires

SECRETARY LANDRY ANNOUNCES STAFF PROMOTIONS AND NEW HIRES

March 12, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry is proud to announce several new hires and promotions within the Louisiana Department of State. Shanda Jones will serve as Chief of Staff in addition to her role as Undersecretary of Management and Finance, while Quincy Mouton, who formerly served the Department of State as Small Business Liaison, has been promoted to Deputy Secretary for [geauxBIZ](#). Chip Coulter and Elisabeth Daigle, both newcomers to the office, will serve as the department's Legislative Liaison and Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Officer, respectively.

"I am incredibly pleased to announce Shanda and Quincy's well-deserved promotions, and welcome Chip and Elisabeth to our agency. They each bring a tremendous amount of unique experience and specialized knowledge to their respective roles," Landry said. "I am proud to count these outstanding professionals among our amazing staff who tirelessly serve the people of Louisiana with honor and integrity, day in and day out."

Jones began working for the State of Louisiana in 1995 and has been with the Secretary of State's office since 2005. She previously served as head of the Accounting Division and was named Undersecretary of Management and Finance in 2018. That same year, she received the Dunbar Career Civil Service Award for her outstanding public service.

Mouton practiced law at a civil litigation firm representing small businesses, municipalities, and their insurers before joining the Department of State as the Small Business Liaison. In that role, he focused on initiatives that support small businesses and reduce regulations. He is currently a member of the 705, a young professionals organization, and he serves as a member of advisory groups focused on small business issues.

Coulter brings years of experience in state government to the Legislative Liaison role, including serving as assistant executive counsel for a previous governor, special counsel to the Louisiana Supreme Court, two stints at the Louisiana Department of Justice, and, most recently, serving as Director of Governmental Affairs for the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services.

Daigle began practicing law at the Louisiana Department of Justice in the Solicitor General's Office as the inaugural E.D. White Fellow. She then served as Assistant General Counsel for 40 Days for Life, an international non-profit, and, most recently, she was the Communications Director for Attorney General Liz Murrill's campaign.

###

Secretary Landry announces 2024 election integrity legislative package and press availability

SECRETARY OF STATE NANCY LANDRY ANNOUNCES 2024 ELECTION INTEGRITY LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE AND PRESS AVAILABILITY

March 7, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry announced the Department of State's 2024 election integrity legislative package for the upcoming regular legislative session.

"Louisiana has some of the most well-run elections in the nation, but there is always room for improvement," Secretary Landry said. "This package of bills will further boost our state's election integrity policies and procedures, which the Louisiana Legislative Auditor praised in its March 2022 report, and it will bring us closer to being ranked first in the nation for election integrity. I appreciate all of the legislators who have worked with us to bring this legislation for the upcoming regular session."

The Department's package of bills are:

- HB 114 by Representative Les Farnum to enact an expanded voter canvass to further ensure that Louisiana's voter rolls are accurate
- HB 476 by Representative Josh Carlson to further crackdown on absentee ballot harvesting
- HB 285 by Representative Mark Wright to create the Division of Election Integrity within the Department of State
- SB 155 by Senator Caleb Kleinpeter to prohibit individuals from assisting with more than one absentee ballot, except for immediate family members
- SB 218 by Senator Caleb Kleinpeter to restrict the unsolicited distribution of absentee ballot applications
- SB 101 by Senator Blake Miguez to ban ranked-choice voting in Louisiana elections
- HB 581 by Representative Polly Thomas to provide for more specific penalties for those witnessing more than one absentee ballot of a non-family member; to require that those signing as a witness on an absentee ballot be at least 18 years of age; and to require the witness to provide their address
- HB 506 by Representative Polly Thomas to require that those conducting voter registration drives register with the Secretary of State's office, ensuring that registrations are timely submitted and that voters' personal information is further protected
- SB 226 by Senator Heather Cloud to create uniform standards for tabulating absentee ballots
- HB 449 by Representative Michael Melerine to require court judgements of interdiction be delivered to the Registrar of Voters in the parish in which the interdicted individual is registered

The 2024 Regular Legislative Session begins March 11. Secretary Landry will be available for 15 minute interviews by credentialed media via phone or Google Meets on Friday, March 8 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Interested media outlets can contact Joel Watson at joel.watson@sos.la.gov or 225-922-0820 to schedule a time to speak with Secretary Landry.

###

Secretary Landry's letter to President Biden

[Click here to read the letter Secretary Landry sent to President Biden](#)

March 23 Presidential Preference Primary Reminders

MARCH 23 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY REMINDERS

February 8, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that Saturday, March 23 is Election Day for the Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Primary Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Landry encourages voters to remember:

- **The Presidential Preference Primary is a closed party primary, which means only registered Democrats and Republicans will be allowed to vote in their party's respective primary. However, there are local elections in 24 parishes in which all voters may cast their ballots, regardless of party, if their jurisdiction is included. Voters are encouraged to check their voter registration—including party affiliation—before the registration deadlines.**

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV office is Feb. 21.
- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is March 2.
- Early voting is March 9 - 16 (excluding Sunday, March 10) from 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Early voting locations can be found at [voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting](#).
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is March 19 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a [registrar of voters](#) to receive a voted absentee ballot is March 22 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting [www.GeauxVote.com](#) and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters can sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at [www.sos.la.gov](#).

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at [elections@sos.la.gov](#).

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the March 23 Presidential Preference Primary

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE MARCH 23 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

February 8, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the March 23 Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Primary Election.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, March 19 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting [voterportal.sos.la.gov](#) and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting [voterportal.sos.la.gov](#), entering the appropriate voter information and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Friday, March 22 by 4:30 pm.** Completed ballots can be returned to the parish Registrar of Voters by mail, in-person by the voter or by a voter's immediate family member. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in-person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on [voterportal.sos.la.gov](#) or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at [elections@sos.la.gov](#).

###

Early voting begins March 9 for the March 23 Presidential Preference Primary

EARLY VOTING BEGINS MARCH 9 FOR THE MARCH 23 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

February 8, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that early voting for the March 23 Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Primary Election begins **Saturday, March 9**, and continues through **Saturday, March 16**, (excluding Sunday, March 10) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations, which can be found at [voterportal.sos.la.gov/earlyvoting](#).

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting [voterportal.sos.la.gov](#) or by selecting Elections and Voting on [sos.la.gov](#).

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via [LA Wallet](#)). Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Elections Compliance Unit at 800.722.5305.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at [elections@sos.la.gov](#).

###

Voter registration deadlines for the March 23 Presidential Preference Primary

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE MARCH 23 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY

February 8, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the March 23 Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Primary Election are fast approaching. The deadline to register in person, by mail or at the OMV Office is **Wednesday, Feb. 21**. The deadline to register through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is **Saturday, March 2**. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote, as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

The Presidential Preference Primary is a closed party primary, which means only registered Democrats and Republicans will be allowed to vote in their party's respective primary. However, there are local elections in 24 parishes in which all voters may cast their ballots, regardless of party, if their jurisdiction is included. Voters are encouraged to check their voter registration—including party affiliation—before the registration deadlines.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information and election results.

Early voting for the March 23 election will take place Saturday, March 9, through Saturday, March 16 (excluding Sunday, March 10), from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

- www.sos.la.gov -

State Board of Election Supervisors Meeting

Click [here](#) to view the notice and agenda for the Feb. 1 State Board of Election Supervisors meeting.

Secretary Landry announces department staff promotions

SECRETARY LANDRY ANNOUNCES DEPARTMENT STAFF PROMOTIONS

January 10, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Nancy Landry is proud to announce that Melanie C. Montanaro and Joel Watson, Jr. have been promoted to new positions within the Department of State. Montanaro, a resident of Baton Rouge, now serves as State Archivist and Executive Director of the Louisiana State Archives. A longtime agency employee, she has served as Archives Manager since 2019, and previously worked in the State Archives' Conservation Lab and as Supervisor over the permanent archival collections. Montanaro holds a Master of Arts in Cultural Geography from Louisiana State University and earned her bachelor's degree in Geography from Northeast Louisiana University.

Watson, a Houma native, now serves as Deputy Secretary of State for Communications, and brings over 10 years of experience in political communications to the role. He previously served as Deputy Secretary of State for Outreach Services, Director of Special Projects, and Congressional Liaison under Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin. Watson previously worked for numerous campaigns at the local, state and federal level, and has held positions with The Leadership Institute and the Republican National Senatorial Committee.

"I am incredibly pleased to have Melanie and Joel on our team. They bring a tremendous amount of experience and depth of knowledge to their respective roles," Landry said. "I am grateful that these two extremely qualified professionals will continue to share their talents in public service on behalf of the people of Louisiana."

###

Secretary Landry announces Catherine J. Newsome as appointee for First Assistant Secretary of State

SECRETARY LANDRY ANNOUNCES CATHERINE J. NEWSOME AS APPOINTEE FOR FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

January 8, 2024

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry issued the following statement regarding her appointment of Catherine J. Newsome as First Assistant Secretary of State:

"I am proud to announce that I have appointed Catherine Newsome to be the next First Assistant Secretary of State. She has diligently served as the State Archivist and Executive Director of the Louisiana State Archives for over four years, and she brings fifteen years of legal experience in the public and private sectors to the role," Landry said. "She has proven herself to be an invaluable member of our department's staff. Her efforts and leadership on the Operation Geaux Vote Task Force in 2020 and 2021 led to us being able to deliver safe, secure, and accurate elections to the people of Louisiana in two statewide elections following devastating natural disasters. I am confident she will be successful as our next First Assistant Secretary of State."

Newsome will go before the Louisiana State Senate to be confirmed as First Assistant. She is a graduate of the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at Louisiana State University and received her undergraduate degree in journalism from Mississippi College. She lives in Baton Rouge with her husband Saul Newsome, who is an international business and national security law attorney, and their three children.

###

Qualifying procedures for March 23, 2024 Presidential Preference and Municipal Primary

QUALIFYING PROCEDURES FOR MARCH 23, 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE AND MUNICIPAL PRIMARY

Dec. 12, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Qualifying for the March 23, 2024 Presidential Preference and Municipal Primary Election will be held from Wednesday, Dec. 13 through Friday, Dec. 15.

Local, municipal, parish executive committee and state central committee candidates qualify with the clerk of court in the parish in which they are registered to vote. Candidates are encouraged to check with their local clerk of court for specific parish hours.

All candidates for Judge, 1st Circuit Court of Appeal, 1st District, Election Section 1, Division C will qualify at the Louisiana Secretary of State's office located at 8585 Archives Avenue in Baton Rouge. Candidates for presidential nominee of the Democratic, Republican, or Independent Parties in Louisiana must file the required qualifying paperwork with the Louisiana Secretary of State's office during the qualifying period, from 8 a.m. on Dec. 13 through 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 15. Any paperwork received before or after this period will not be accepted.

Voters are encouraged to check and update their registration via the online voter portal at voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free Geaux Vote mobile app.

Pursuant to [Act 312 of the 2020 Regular Session](#) and [Act 35 of the 2022 Regular Session](#), qualifying candidates will be required to provide an email address and present a valid Louisiana driver's license or Louisiana identification card. For more information on qualifying, visit the secretary of state's website at www.sos.la.gov.

- www.sos.la.gov -

Second General Election for Cameron Parish Police Juror District 5 and City of Opelousas Alderman District A to be held Dec. 16

SECOND GENERAL ELECTION FOR CAMERON PARISH POLICE JUROR DISTRICT 5 AND CITY OF OPELOUSAS ALDERMAN DISTRICT A TO BE HELD DEC. 16

November 28, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin reminds voters that Saturday, Dec. 16 is Election Day for Cameron Parish Police Juror District 5 and City of Opelousas Alderman District A, both of which resulted in ties during the Nov. 18 General Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Ardoin encourages voters to remember:

- This election is only for the precincts listed below.
 - **St. Landry Parish: 00/09A, 00/13, 00/13A, 00/14, 00/14A, 00/19, 00/19A, 00/20, 00/20B, 00/21, 00/21A, 00/23, 00/23A**
 - **Cameron Parish: 00/13, 00/16B, 110/17**
- Early voting is Dec. 2-9 (excluding Sunday, Dec. 3) from 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Dec. 12 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a [registrar of voters](#) to receive a voted absentee ballot is Dec. 15 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their precinct, polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters can sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for November 18 election

MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR NOVEMBER 18 ELECTION

November 8, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. —Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin's office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 2 p.m. in preparation of the upcoming Nov. 18 General Election. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and **do not reflect any actual results**.

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics and websites in conjunction with the test. In order to prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers and viewers that the results are only a test and not official.

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Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary, Communications John W. Tobler and Public Information Officer Kaylee Trisler. Mr. Tobler can be reached at 225.362.5111 (office) or john.tobler@sos.la.gov. Mrs. Trisler can be reached at the information listed above.

###

Notice of Intent to adjust Archive fees on the Department of State's Non-Statutory Fee Schedule

Notice of Intent to adjust Archive fees on the Department of State's Non-Statutory Fee Schedule:

<https://www.doa.la.gov/media/mdpnd1xv/2308.pdf>.

The changes to the fee schedule is to recoup the costs of microfilming/imaging projects, which have now been passed on to the agency's contracted vendor for overflow work, as the contracted vendor's fees have increased over what the Department is allowed to charge. The anticipated effective date is December 20, 2023.

The current fee schedule: <https://www.doa.la.gov/media/xghbqvfs/04v01-09.pdf>, is on page two.

Interested persons may submit written comments relative to the proposed Rule or request a public hearing by U.S. mail to Louisiana Department of State, Attn: Steve Hawkland, P.O. Box 94125, Baton Rouge, LA 70804 (225) 287-7475, no later than October 8, 2023.

October 27, 2023 Summary Report to Legislative Oversight Committees

Secretary Ardoin issues statement regarding election of Rep. Mike Johnson as Speaker of the House**SECRETARY ARDOIN ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON AS SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

October 25, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin issued the following statement regarding the election of Representative Mike Johnson as Speaker of the House:

"I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Representative Johnson on his election as the 56th Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. Our state and nation will be well served by his leadership in this important role. I am especially pleased that the two highest positions in the House of Representatives are now held by Louisianians. Today is a great day for the State of Louisiana."

Secretary Ardoin also reminds Louisiana citizens that early voting for the November 18th General Election begins next week on Friday, November 3.

###

November 18 General Election reminders**NOVEMBER 18 ELECTION REMINDERS**

October 17, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin reminds voters that Saturday, Nov. 18, is Election Day for the General Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Ardoin encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV office is Oct. 18.

- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is Oct. 28.
- Early voting is Nov. 3 - 11 (excluding Sunday, Nov. 5 and Friday, Nov. 10 for Veterans Day) from 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Nov. 14 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a [registrar of voters](#) to receive a voted absentee ballot is Nov. 17 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters can sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the Nov. 18 General Election

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE NOVEMBER 18 ELECTION

October 17, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the Nov. 18 General Election.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, Nov. 14 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Friday, Nov. 17 by 4:30 pm.** This instructional [video](#) shows step-by-step how to properly fill out and return an absentee ballot. Completed ballots can be returned to the parish Registrar of Voters by mail, in-person by the voter or by a voter's immediate family member. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in-person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Early voting begins Nov. 3 for the Nov. 18 General Election

EARLY VOTING BEGINS NOVEMBER 3 FOR THE NOVEMBER 18 ELECTION

October 17, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin reminds voters that early voting for the Nov. 18 General Election begins **Friday, Nov. 3**, and continues through **Saturday, Nov. 11** (excluding Sunday, Nov. 5 and Friday, Nov. 10 for Veterans Day) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via [LA Wallet](#)). Complaints involving possible election code violations should be reported to the Secretary of State's Elections Compliance Unit at 800.722.5305.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Voter registration deadlines for the Nov. 18 General Election

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE NOVEMBER 18 GENERAL ELECTION

October 17, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the Nov. 18 General Election are fast approaching. The deadline to register in person, by mail or at the OMV Office is **Wednesday, Oct. 18**. The deadline to register through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is **Saturday, Oct. 28**. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote, as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information and election results.

Early voting for the Nov. 18 election will take place Friday, Nov. 3 through Saturday, Nov. 11 (excluding Sunday, Nov. 5, and Friday, Nov. 10 for Veterans Day), from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information, or to report potential polling place accessibility issues, please call the Elections Hotline at 800-883-2805, with TDD/TTY access at 711, or email the Elections Division at elections@sos.la.gov.

- www.sos.la.gov -

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for Oct. 14 election

MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR OCTOBER 14 ELECTION

October 3, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. —Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin's office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, Oct. 10 at 2 p.m. in preparation of the upcoming Oct. 14 Gubernatorial Primary Election. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and **do not reflect any actual results**.

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics and websites in conjunction with the test. In order to prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers/viewers that the results are only test results and not official.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY

In preparation for election night, credentialed media outlets may reserve a limited number of seats at the Secretary of State's office on election night. If any issues are encountered, to sign up for the XML feed or to reserve a seat, please contact Kaylee Trisler in the Communications Office at 225.362.5086 or kaylee.trisler@sos.la.gov.

Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary, Communications John W. Tobler and Public Information Officer Kaylee Trisler. Mr. Tobler can be reached at 225.362.5111 (office) or john.tobler@sos.la.gov. Mrs. Trisler can be reached at the information listed above.

###

Secretary Ardoin announces interim Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Officer

SECRETARY OF STATE KYLE ARDOIN ANNOUNCES INTERIM AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE OFFICER

September 27, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — In accordance with Act 277 of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session, Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin has announced Bryce Bourg as the Department of State's interim Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Officer.

"Bryce Bourg has worked with members of the disability community to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act in her current capacity in the Elections Division, and, as the ADA Compliance Officer, will continue to ensure that the right to vote can be safely exercised by all eligible Louisiana citizens, no matter their ability," Secretary Ardoin said.

Those who wish to report a potential election accessibility issue are asked to call the Department of State's Election Hotline at 800-883-2805 or with TDD/TTY access at 711.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the Oct. 14 election

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE OCTOBER 14 ELECTION

August 28, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoyn reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the Oct. 14 Gubernatorial Primary Election.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, Oct. 10 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Friday, Oct. 13 by 4:30 pm.** This instructional [video](#) shows step-by-step how to properly fill out and return an absentee ballot. Completed ballots can be returned to the parish Registrar of Voters by mail, in-person by the voter or by a voter's immediate family member. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in-person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

For more information, please contact the Elections Division at 800.883.2805 or elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Early voting begins Sept. 30 for the Oct. 14 election

EARLY VOTING BEGINS SEPTEMBER 30 FOR THE OCTOBER 14 ELECTION

August 28, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoyn reminds voters that early voting for the Oct. 14 Gubernatorial Primary Election begins **Saturday, Sept. 30**, and continues through **Saturday, Oct. 7** (excluding Sunday, Oct. 1) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via [LA Wallet](#)).

For more information, contact the Elections Division at 800.883.2805 or elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Voter registration deadlines for the Oct. 14 election

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES FOR THE OCTOBER 14 GUBERNATORIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

August 28, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoyn reminds voters that the deadlines to register to vote in the Oct. 14 Gubernatorial Primary Election are fast approaching. The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail or at the OMV Office is **Wednesday, Sept. 13**. The deadline to register through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is **Saturday, Sept. 23**. This deadline is for citizens who have never registered to vote as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens may check their registration or register to vote online at www.GeauxVote.com. After registering, voters should download the GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information and election results.

Early voting for the Oct. 14 election will take place Saturday, Sept. 30 through Saturday, Oct. 7 (excluding Sunday, Oct. 1), from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information about the Secretary of State's Elections Division, visit www.GeauxVote.com or call the Elections Hotline at 800.883.2805.

- www.sos.la.gov -

Election Reminders for the October 14 Gubernatorial Primary Election

OCTOBER 14 ELECTION REMINDERS

August 28, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoyn reminds voters that Saturday, Oct. 14, is Election Day for the Gubernatorial Primary Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Ardoyn encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote in person, by mail, or at the OMV office is Sept. 13.
- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is Sept. 23.
- Early voting is Sept. 30 – Oct. 7 (excluding Sunday, Oct. 1) from 8:30 a.m.- 6 p.m.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is Oct. 10 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a [registrar of voters](#) to receive a voted absentee ballot is Oct. 13 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters can sign up for electronic notifications via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, please contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 800.883.2805 or elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Secretary Ardoin declares August 26 and 27 a "Weekend of Prayer in Louisiana"

SECRETARY OF STATE KYLE ARDOIN DECLARES AUGUST 26 AND 27 A "WEEKEND OF PRAYER IN LOUISIANA"

August 25, 2023

Baton Rouge, La.—In the midst of record-high temperatures, historic drought conditions, and wildfires raging across Louisiana, Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin has declared Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27 a "Weekend of Prayer in Louisiana."

"I implore Louisianans of all faiths and religious affiliations to join together in prayer for relief from these extreme conditions, for those who have lost their homes in these wildfires and those forced to evacuate because of them, and the brave first responders who are working around the clock to keep us safe," Ardoin said. "Prayer is powerful, and just like they always do, I know Louisianans will come together to help those who have lost so much in these difficult days."

Secretary Ardoin also reminds Louisiana citizens to be mindful of the statewide burn ban, and to adhere to state and local officials, as well as emergency personnel.

###

Statement from Secretary Ardoin on HB 646

STATEMENT FROM SECRETARY ARDOIN ON HB 646

July 18, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La.—Today, Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin issued the following statement on the failure of the legislature to override the governor's veto of HB 646 by Representative Les Farnum:

"I am disappointed that the legislature was not able to override the governor's misguided and highly partisan veto of HB 646," Secretary Ardoin said. "I have long said that this bill is critical to maintaining accurate voter rolls in our state. Although this bill did not become law, our office will continue to implement and execute the election integrity policies and procedures that make our state a national leader in safe and secure elections."

"I wish to thank Representative Les Farnum for his work on this legislation for the past three years, and all members of the legislature who recognized the importance of the legislation and voted to override its veto. I call upon the next Secretary of State to pursue this legislation under a pro-election integrity governor next year."

###

Qualifying procedures for Oct. 14 election

QUALIFYING PROCEDURES FOR OCTOBER 14 GUBERNATORIAL PRIMARY ELECTION

July 17, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Qualifying for the Oct. 14 Gubernatorial Primary election will be held from Tuesday, Aug. 8 through Thursday, Aug. 10.

Local and municipal candidates qualify with the clerk of court in the parish in which they are registered to vote. All candidates for state office will qualify at the Louisiana State Archives located at 3851 Essen Lane in Baton Rouge. Hours of operation for the secretary of state are 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. daily. Candidates are encouraged to check with their local clerk of court for specific parish hours.

Pursuant to [Act 312 of the 2020 Regular Session](#) and [Act 35 of the 2022 Regular Session](#), qualifying candidates will be required to provide an email address and present a valid Louisiana driver's license or Louisiana identification card. For more information on qualifying, visit the secretary of state's website at www.sos.la.gov.

- www.sos.la.gov -

Secretary Ardoin urges legislature to override veto of H.B. 646

SECRETARY ARDOIN URGES LEGISLATURE TO OVERRIDE VETO OF H.B. 646

July 17, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La.—Today, following the announcement that the legislature would hold a veto override session, Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin again called on the legislature to override the veto of HB 646 by Representative Les Farnum.

"HB 646 is critical to election integrity and the maintenance of accurate voter rolls in Louisiana. While the Governor's veto was misguided and blatantly partisan, the legislature has a chance to right that wrong by overriding that veto," Secretary Ardoin said.

HB 646 would phase in an additional subset of voters in the annual voter canvass to include voters who have not voted or had any voter activity in ten or more years.

###

Secretary Ardoin issues statement on H.B. 646

SECRETARY ARDOIN ISSUES STATEMENT ON H.B. 646

July 5, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La.— Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin issued the following statement after Governor John Bel Edwards vetoed House Bill 646 by Representative Les Farnum, which would enhance the annual voter canvass to ensure the accuracy of Louisiana's voter rolls.

"The insistence by the governor that this process is unnecessary is blatantly partisan and ignores not only the recommendation of the nonpartisan Louisiana Legislative Auditor and election experts, but also the relevant testimony and real-life examples presented in committee. I believe preserving election integrity is the most important role of the Secretary of State, and my office and our local election partners need this statutory authority to uphold my duty to deliver safe, secure, and accurate elections to the people of Louisiana. I call on the legislature to convene a veto override session and consider H.B. 646. No other election integrity measure is more critical to our state at this juncture."

###

Secretary Ardoin declares Saturday, June 24 "LSU Baseball Day"

SECRETARY ARDOIN DECLARES SATURDAY, JUNE 24 "LSU BASEBALL DAY"

June 23, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — In honor of the LSU Baseball team's return to the NCAA College World Series Finals for the first time since 2017, Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin proclaimed Saturday, June 24 as "LSU Baseball Day" in Louisiana.

"The LSU baseball team has had an incredible run, led by Coach Jay Johnson and an amazing roster of players," Ardoin said. "I encourage all Louisianans to wear purple and gold this Saturday, June 24 to show their support for the Tigers as they look to win their seventh national championship."

LSU's baseball team is making its eighth appearance in the NCAA tournament finals, and its first appearance since 2017. The Tigers have a record of 52-16 so far, with players like National Pitcher of the Year Paul Skenes setting the school strikeout record, and both Skenes and Dylan Crews being finalists for the Golden Spikes Award.

The official proclamation can be seen [here](#).

###

Secretary Ardoyn issues statement on Louis Ruffino sentencing in Tangipahoa Parish vote buying conspiracy**SECRETARY ARDOIN ISSUES STATEMENT ON LOUIS RUFFINO
SENTENCING IN TANGIPAHOA PARISH VOTE BUYING CONSPIRACY**

June 22, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoyn issued a statement on the sentencing of political operative and former Roseland Mayor Louis Ruffino for his involvement in a vote-buying scheme in Tangipahoa Parish.

"Though I am disappointed in the lenient sentence, I am grateful that this matter is finally resolved, and that Mr. Ruffino will now forever be recognized as a convicted felon who should not be involved in elections," Ardoyn stated. "I applaud the Department of State's Elections Compliance Unit investigators for their diligent work to support federal investigators in the quest to bring all individuals in this illegal vote-buying conspiracy to justice."

Last year, former Amite City Chief of Police Jerry Trabona and Amite City Councilman Kristian Hart were each sentenced to one year in prison for conspiring to pay, or offering to pay, voters for voting in a federal election. Ruffino was sentenced to one year of probation for his involvement in the scheme.

For more information about the Secretary of State's Elections Division, visit www.GeauxVote.com or call 225.922.0900. To report suspected cases of election fraud or violations of the election code, contact the Election Fraud Hotline at 1.800.722.5305.

###

Secretary Ardoyn issues statement regarding legislation passed during 2023 Regular Legislative Session**SECRETARY ARDOIN ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING LEGISLATION PASSED DURING 2023 REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

June 12, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Following the conclusion of the 2023 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature this week, Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoyn issued the following update on the Department of State's legislative package:

"I am grateful to the legislature for passing instruments included in our agency's legislative package, and I am especially thankful to the members who carried these bills and worked so hard to ensure their passage. I call on Governor Edwards to swiftly sign these unsigned bills into law so that we can continue to improve upon our stellar election integrity measures," Ardoyn said. "Louisiana voters will also have the opportunity to vote on a constitutional amendment to ban the private funding of elections in October, thanks to Representative Blake Miguez's HB 311."

Selected bills that were part of the department's package include:

- HB 311 by Representative Blake Miguez, which would amend the constitution to ban the private funding of elections in Louisiana (This bill does not require the Governor's signature).
- HB 646 by Representative Les Farnum, which would make improvements to the annual voter canvass to improve the accuracy of Louisiana's voter rolls.
- HB 135 by Representative Mike Johnson, which would ban sex offenders from serving as election commissioners (This bill passed the legislature unanimously).
- HB 216 by Representative Dodie Horton, which will allow members of the military stationed in Louisiana, and their dependents, to serve as election commissioners (This bill has been signed into law and is now Act 18).
- HB 361 by Representative Daryl Deshotel, which would ban TikTok on state-owned devices and networks (This bill passed the legislature unanimously).

###

Statement from Secretary Ardoyn on the passage of HB 311**STATEMENT FROM SECRETARY ARDOIN ON THE PASSAGE OF HB 311**

June 8, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — The Louisiana Senate joined the House of Representatives in passing HB 311 by Representative Miguez, which will place a constitutional amendment on the ballot this fall prohibiting the use of funds and resources from a foreign government or a nongovernmental source in the conduct of Louisiana elections, functions and duties called for in the election code ([Title 18](#) of the Louisiana Revised Statutes).

"Louisiana's elections are among the safest in the nation, and this endorsement of Representative Miguez's legislation by a supermajority of members in both houses only serves to help further protect Louisiana's ballot from outside influences," said Secretary of State Kyle Ardoyn. "I thank Representative Miguez for his diligence in bringing this opportunity for Louisiana's citizens to decide this crucial issue once and for all!"

A link to the bill's final language can be found [here](#).

###

Media Advisory: Secretary of State to test election results transmission for April 29 Municipal General Election**MEDIA ADVISORY: SECRETARY OF STATE TO TEST ELECTION RESULTS TRANSMISSION FOR APRIL 29 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION**

April 25, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. —Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin's office will test its electronic election results system on Tuesday, April 25 at 2 p.m. in preparation of the upcoming April 29 Municipal General Election. During the test period, the Secretary of State's website will display mock results. These election results are only for testing purposes and **do not reflect any actual results.**

Media outlets are strongly urged to test their election night broadcast systems, graphics and websites in conjunction with the test so any technical issues can be identified and remedied with assistance from the Secretary of State's IT staff prior to election night. In order to prevent any confusion, media outlets are urged to put banners on their websites showing their readers/viewers that the results are only test results and not official.

CREDENTIALLED MEDIA ONLY

In preparation for election night, credentialed media outlets may reserve a limited number of seats at the Secretary of State's office on election night. If any issues are encountered, to sign up for the XML feed or to reserve a seat, please contact Kaylee Trisler in the Communications Office at 225.362.5086 or kaylee.trisler@sos.la.gov.

Finally, the Communications Office for Election Day will be staffed by Deputy Secretary, Communications John W. Tobler and Public Information Officer Kaylee Trisler. Mr. Tobler can be reached at 225.362.5111 (office) or john.tobler@sos.la.gov. Mrs. Trisler can be reached at the information listed above.

###

Louisiana Legislative Auditor nationally recognized for audit of Louisiana's election integrity measures**LOUISIANA LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED FOR AUDIT OF LOUISIANA'S ELECTION INTEGRITY MEASURES**

April 14, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — The National State Auditor's Association has named the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's report on the Department of State's election integrity procedures as its 2023 Small Performance Audit Excellence in Accountability Award winner.

The Louisiana Legislative Auditor's team, led by Michael Waguespack, conducted an exhaustive review of Louisiana's election integrity policies in 2021, leading up to a comprehensive report issued in March 2022 that concluded, "Overall, we found that the Louisiana Department of State has procedures and practices in place to ensure election integrity."

"Legislative Auditor Michael Waguespack and his team are most deserving of this award for their thoroughness and professionalism in reviewing our election integrity efforts, and I sincerely thank them for their hard work," Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin said. "Their report detailed the extensive efforts our office, our local election partners, and election workers across the state undertake to ensure that Louisiana's elections are safe, secure, and accurate. Their report has been most helpful in correcting the myths surrounding our great elections, which have been lauded by others like the Heritage Foundation and Electoral Integrity Project."

The 2022 report, entitled "Louisiana Department of State – Election Integrity," can be found [here](#).

###

Secretary Ardoin declares Saturday, April 15 "LSU Gymnastics Day"**Secretary Ardoin declares Saturday, April 15 "LSU Gymnastics Day"****Secretary Ardoin announces he will not seek re-election****SECRETARY ARDOIN ANNOUNCES HE WILL NOT SEEK RE-ELECTION**

April 11, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin issued the following statement:

"I have decided not to seek re-election.

For the last five years, I have had the blessing of serving as Louisiana's 44th Secretary of State. In that time, we have faced unprecedented challenges including major hurricanes, a global pandemic, and lies about our election processes and procedures. Through it all, I have been able to witness the unyielding dedication of election staff across the state who worked countless late nights and weekends, sometimes putting their own needs on hold, to deliver democracy to the people of Louisiana. I could not be prouder of their work, and being tasked with leading these individuals has been the honor of a lifetime.

I trust that the next Secretary of State will be able to build off of the accomplishments we have achieved in the last five years, including widespread recognition from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, the Heritage Foundation, and the Electoral Integrity Project for our election integrity measures.

I hope that Louisianans of all political persuasions will stand against the pervasive lies that have eroded trust in our elections by using conspiracies so far-fetched that they belong in a work of fiction. The vast majority of Louisiana's voters know that our elections are secure and accurate, and it is shameful and outright dangerous that a small minority of vocal individuals have chosen to denigrate the hard work of our election staff and spread unproven falsehoods.

I am thankful for the tireless work of my staff over these last five years, and for the love and support of my family through the many challenges we have faced. I look forward to continuing to serve the people of Louisiana through the remainder of my term."

###

April 29 election reminders

APRIL 29 ELECTION REMINDERS

April 5, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin reminds voters that Saturday, April 29, is Election Day for the Municipal General Election.

In preparation for the election, Secretary Ardoin encourages voters to remember:

- The deadline to register to vote through the [GeauxVote Online Registration System](#) is April 8.
- Early voting is April 15-22 (excluding Sunday, April 16) from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
- The deadline to request an absentee ballot is April 25 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters). Voters can request an absentee ballot online through the [Voter Portal](#) or in writing through the Registrar of Voters Office.
- The deadline for a [registrar of voters](#) to receive a voted absentee ballot is April 28 by 4:30 p.m. (other than military and overseas voters).
- Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. on Election Day. Anyone in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote.
- Voters can find their polling location and sample ballot by downloading the GeauxVote Mobile app for smartphones, or by visiting www.GeauxVote.com and logging into the [Voter Portal](#).
- Voters can sign up for text alerts via GeauxVote Mobile.
- Voters should bring an ID with them to vote (Louisiana driver's license, Louisiana Special ID card, a generally recognized picture identification card with name and signature such as a passport, or a digital license via LA Wallet).
- Election results can be viewed in real-time via GeauxVote Mobile or at www.sos.la.gov.

For more information, please contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 800.883.2805 or elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Absentee ballot deadlines for the April 29 Municipal General Election

ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES FOR THE APRIL 29 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION

April 5, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin reminds voters of the upcoming absentee ballot deadlines for the April 29 Municipal General Election.

The deadline to **request** an absentee ballot is **Tuesday, April 25 by 4:30 p.m.** Requests can be made online by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov and selecting "Request Absentee Ballot," or in person at the parish Registrar of Voters office. Voters who have requested but not yet received an absentee ballot may check their absentee ballot status by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov, entering the appropriate voter information and selecting "Check Absentee Ballot Status."

The deadline to **return** a completed ballot is **Friday, April 28 by 4:30 pm.** This instructional [video](#) shows step-by-step how to properly fill out and return an absentee ballot. Completed ballots can be returned to the parish Registrar of Voters by mail, in-person by the voter or by a voter's immediate family member. Should a voter be unable to meet an absentee ballot deadline, they can still vote in-person on Election Day. Polling locations can also be found on voterportal.sos.la.gov or on the free GeauxVote mobile app.

For more information, please contact the Elections Division at 800.883.2805 or elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Early voting begins April 15 for the April 29 Municipal General Election**EARLY VOTING BEGINS APRIL 15 FOR THE APRIL 29 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION**

April 5, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin reminds voters that early voting for the April 29 Municipal General Election begins **Saturday, April 15**, and continues through **Saturday, April 22** (excluding Sunday, April 16) from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Citizens who want to vote early may do so in person at their parish Registrar of Voters Office or at other designated locations.

Voters are encouraged to utilize Louisiana's award-winning, free smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to locate parish early voting locations, Election Day voting site, or view their sample ballot. GeauxBot, the virtual voter assistant, is also available to access pertinent election information such as registration deadlines, election dates, polling locations, and hours. GeauxBot is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by visiting voterportal.sos.la.gov or by selecting Elections and Voting on sos.la.gov.

In addition to a Louisiana driver's license, a Louisiana Special ID or a generally recognized ID with picture and signature, voters may use a digital license via [LA Wallet](#).

For more information, contact the Elections Division at 800.883.2805 or elections@sos.la.gov.

###

Secretary Ardoin announces legislative package for 2023 Regular Legislative Session**SECRETARY OF STATE KYLE ARDOIN ANNOUNCES LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE FOR 2023 REGULAR SESSION**

April 3, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin announced the Department of State's legislative package ahead of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session.

"The legislative package we are championing this year include bills that will strengthen our election integrity and cybersecurity posture. I am calling on the legislature to pass the bills in our package, and for the governor to use his remaining time in office to strengthen our election integrity by signing them into law," Secretary Ardoin said.

The package of bills includes:

- HB 159 by Rep. Les Farnum to provide for a supplemental voter canvass.
- HB 311 by Rep. Blake Miguez (Constitutional Amendment) to prohibit the private funding of elections.
- HB 361 by Rep. Daryl Deshotel to prohibit the use of TikTok on state devices or networks.
- HB135 by Rep. Mike Johnson to prohibit sex offenders from serving as election commissioners.
- HB 216 by Rep. Dodie Horton to allow for military members and their dependents stationed in Louisiana to serve as election commissioners.
- HB 174 by Rep. Julie Emerson to protect the personal, identifiable information of active duty military members and their dependents from being released in a public records request.

The legislative session begins on April 10 and ends on June 8.

###

Secretary Ardoin declares Friday, March 21 "LSU Women's Basketball Day"**SECRETARY ARDOIN DECLARES FRIDAY, MARCH 31 "LSU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL DAY"**

March 28, 2023

BATON ROUGE, La. — In honor of the LSU Women's Basketball team's return to the NCAA Final Four for the first time since 2008, Louisiana Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin proclaimed Friday, March 31 as "LSU Women's Basketball Day" in Louisiana.

"The LSU women's basketball team has had an incredible run, led by Coach Kim Mulkey and an amazing roster of players," Ardoin said. "I encourage all Louisianans to wear purple and gold this Friday, March 31 to show their support for the Lady Tigers as they look to make it to the national championship game on Sunday."

LSU's Women's Basketball team will be making its sixth appearance in the Final Four, and its first appearance since 2008. The Lady Tigers have a record of 32-2 so far, with players like forward Angel Reese setting the SEC single season double-double record.

See the official proclamation [here](#).

###

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SECRETARY OF STATE
POLICY # 20 – Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 1, 2002
Revised: November 28, 2005
Revised: August 20, 2012
Revised: July 1, 2013
Revised: May 1, 2018
Revised: October 28, 2019

SUBJECT: Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

AUTHORIZATION: 
Shanda R. Jones, Undersecretary

I. PHILOSOPHY

Employees of the State of Louisiana deserve to be treated with respect and dignity, and to work in a professional environment free of harassment and discrimination. The Louisiana Department of State is committed to providing its employees a work environment free from inappropriate and offensive behavior of a sexual nature. To accomplish this, DOS has formulated this policy to define sexual harassment and conduct of a sexual nature that is prohibited in the workplace, and the procedure for effectively reporting such conduct. Employees should realize that the behavior proscribed by this policy includes words and conduct that are inappropriate, offensive or create a hostile working environment. As such, any behavior of a sexual nature or connotation which negatively impacts the workforce is prohibited even though such behavior may not constitute actionable sexual harassment as defined by law.

Prevention and elimination of sexually inappropriate behavior requires the personal involvement and commitment of every DOS employee. Unless and until management is apprised of its occurrence, corrective action to address such behavior cannot be taken. Through this policy and related training requirements, DOS seeks to reinforce its intolerance of sexually inappropriate behavior, and encourages employees who experience, observe, or are informed of such behavior to promptly initiate the reporting process set forth in this policy. Employees can be assured that DOS will objectively and thoroughly investigate reports; implement preventive measures to protect against recurrence; impose corrective action to address violations; and protect complainants and individuals involved in the investigative process from any form of harassment, reprisal, or retaliation.

II. PURPOSE

All DOS employees have a right to a work environment free of harassment and discrimination. For this reason, employees must refrain from offensive and inappropriate conduct, especially of a sexual nature, within the workplace. Managers and supervisors

are responsible for disseminating and discussing this policy with subordinates and ensuring that the workplace is free of such behavior.

Through this policy and the mandatory associated training required for all employees, the DOS seeks to:

- Unequivocally state intolerance for sexually inappropriate behavior
- Identify the scope of such prohibited behavior
- Establish an effective, uniform reporting process
- Require prompt action to protect against recurrence of the prohibited behavior
- Ensure resolution that imposes appropriate corrective action
- Protect complainants and individuals involved in the investigative process from harassment, reprisal, or retaliation
- Respect confidentiality and the privacy rights of employees

III. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all DOS employees regardless of rank or status. This includes classified and unclassified employees, full time, part time, seasonal and temporary employees. The tenets of this policy are equally applicable to appointing authorities, executive management, administrators, directors, managers, supervisors, staff members, student workers, and interns.

This policy also applies to non-employees, including visitors and individuals who transact business with DOS such as vendors, maintenance personnel, clients, contractors, and consultants. These non-employees are prohibited from engaging in the behaviors prohibited in this policy and are also protected from experiencing such behavior by DOS employees.

This policy applies not only to the customary workplace and work locations where DOS employees may be assigned, but also prohibits such behavior while traveling for work, while attending conference or off-site meetings, workshops, training, business trips, and business related social events. In addition, this policy applies to off-duty, off-premises behaviors which has an impact on and a relation back to the workplace.

IV. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Sexually inappropriate behavior proscribed by this policy can take many forms, including unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Such inappropriate behavior may be by a person of either gender against a person of the same or opposite gender. Such behavior may include conduct of a supervisor, manager or administrator towards a subordinate employee, or conduct by one employee towards another employee of equal or greater rank. It may also include words or conduct by a vendor, contractor, client or visitor to DOS. Finally, an employee may be the victim of inappropriate behavior even though not the target of such behavior.

Sexual harassment, a form of prohibited discrimination, is defined by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) as unsolicited and unwelcomed sexual

advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature wherein :

- A) Submission to such conduct is explicitly/implicitly a term or condition of employment; or
- B) Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as a basis for employment decisions (i.e. continued employment, evaluations, wages, advancements, assigned duties, shifts, training opportunities, or any other condition of employment or career development); or
- C) Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

Inappropriate, unacceptable words or conduct which may constitute sexual harassment could be verbal, non-verbal, or physical. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A) Unwelcomed sexual flirtations, advances or propositions;
- B) Unwelcomed request for sexual favors;
- C) Unwelcomed sexual teasing, jokes, remarks, insults, innuendo or inquiries;
- D) Unwelcomed physical contact (i.e. touching, rubbing, leaning over, pinching, invading another's space by leaning over, purposefully cornering, or blocking passage);
- E) Unwelcomed sexual looks or gestures;
- F) Verbal, written or physical abuse of a sexual nature;
- G) Graphic verbal or sexual comments about an individual or to describe an individual's appearance;
- H) Degrading words and demeaning or inappropriate terms (i.e. referring to a person as Babe, Honey, etc.);
- I) Sexually insulting noises;
- J) Using crude and offensive language;
- K) Discussing sexual activities, or exploits;
- L) Inappropriate commenting on a person's attributes; and/or
- M) Displaying sexually suggestive objects, statements, graffiti, books, magazines, photographs, cartoons or pictures.
- N) Unwelcomed repeated requests for dates or social engagement

NOTE: Employees must be reminded that the verbal and physical behavior proscribed by this policy is always inappropriate in the workplace and hence, violates departmental policy, although such behavior may not be actionable in a court of law as a civil action for sexual harassment. DOS prohibits all sexually inappropriate behavior, regardless of severity, pervasiveness, or identifiable impact.

V. REPORTING PROCEDURE

Early reporting of sexually inappropriate behavior enhances the credibility of the complainant and facilitates the investigative process. DOS does not require a fixed reporting time or deadline—the sooner the better is preferred and immediately reporting is ideal. The initial report need only convey the occurrence of words or actions that are offensive and need not provide detailed information. This report can be verbal (in person

or via telephone) or in writing (letter, memo, email, text) and need not utilize a specific form.

Any employee experiencing, witnessing or having knowledge, directly or indirectly, of sexually inappropriate behavior by anyone or towards anyone associated with DOS or on department premises, including any administrator, manager, supervisor, co-worker, vendor, client or visitor, should immediately report the occurrence. Any such complaint may be made verbally or in writing. Under most circumstances, complaints should be made by the employee to his/her supervisor. If the complaint involves the employee's supervisor or someone within the direct line of supervision, or if the employee, for any reason, is uncomfortable reporting such behavior to a supervisor, he/she may report the incident to another supervisor or manager, or directly contact the Human Resources Director at Post Office Box 94125, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9125 or (225) 925-4696.

VI. INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINT

- A) All reports of sexually inappropriate behavior will ultimately be reported to the Human Resources Director who generally will direct the investigative process. Management personnel in a need to know capacity will be apprised of the complaint.
- B) DOS will investigate **all** complaints. "Informal" complaints or requests to withhold investigation (unless or until a future occurrence) will be treated the same as a formal complaint and investigated immediately.
- C) To prevent further occurrences or to preserve the integrity of the investigation, temporary reassignment, transfers, forced leave or other personnel actions permissible under the Civil Service Rules may be utilized.
- D) The investigation will be thorough and include interviews with the complainant, the accused, witnesses and other individuals possessing relevant information. Records, logs, reports, photos, or other documentation pertinent to the complaint will be reviewed.
- E) The investigative process will be memorialized, thus requiring that all involved prepare written statements or provide verbal statements that will be recorded.
- F) Persons called upon to participate in the investigation are required to answer all questions truthfully and cooperatively. Employees do not have the option of remaining silent or declining to be involved.
- G) The investigative process will be conducted expeditiously and professionally, with appropriate emphasis on the rights of all involved.
- H) To the extent allowed by law, the investigative process will be conducted in a confidential manner, with only those in a need-to-know position involved. Employees who are called on to participate will be instructed that the complaint and all information provided during the investigation are to remain confidential.

- I) Upon completion of the investigation, the Human Resources Director will apprise management of the outcome and recommendations for resolution. The complaining employee and accused will be apprised of the outcome of the investigation, with appropriate emphasis on the rights of all involved.

VII. COMPLAINT RESOLUTION

- A) Any employee found, after appropriate investigation, to have engaged in sexually inappropriate behavior will be disciplined in accordance with applicable law and the Civil Service Rules. Such action may include counseling, reprimand, suspension, demotion, reduction in pay or termination.
- B) In addition to corrective action, other appropriate measures, including follow-up inquiries and re-training, will be utilized to ensure that the inappropriate behavior does not recur.
- C) Regardless of the outcome, the complainant has the option of pursuing a claim under state or federal law. Initiation of such a claim is not dependent upon the outcome nor completion of the DOS's administrative investigation.

VIII. NON-RETALIATION

- A) Any employee making a good faith complaint of sexually inappropriate behavior will be protected from retaliation, reprisal and harassment. Likewise, any employee providing information or otherwise participating in the investigation of such a complaint will be protected from retaliation, reprisal and harassment.
- B) If a complaint is made and the investigation reveals that retaliation, reprisal or harassment has occurred against a complaining employee or anyone participating in the investigative process appropriate, severe disciplinary action will be taken, including the possibility of termination.

IX. TRAINING

DOS recognizes that implementation of a policy prohibiting sexually inappropriate behavior in the workplace alone is insufficient to prevent and address such behavior. To support this policy and encourage a culture where employees willingly report concerns, DOS requires all employees to successfully complete training on this topic upon hire and on a continuing basis thereafter. At a minimum, DOS requires the following training for its employees:

- Upon hire, all new employees must complete the agency onboarding process which contains a copy of this policy and covers the contents of the policy in detail. Supervisors are required to ensure that the onboarding process is completed within 30 days of hire thereby insuring that the new employee has reviewed the contents of this policy.
- Within 30 days of hiring, all new employees are required to complete the most recent CPTP training course on sexual harassment. Certification of successful completion will be documented through CPTP.
- On an annual basis, all employees are required to complete the most recent CPTP training course on sexual harassment. Certification of successful completion will

- be documented through CPTP.
- Within 30 days of attaining a supervisory position, all new supervisors are required to complete the most recent CPTP training on sexual harassment designated for supervisory personnel. This training, which emphasizes identifying, preventing, and responding to sexually inappropriate behavior, is thereafter to be completed on an annual basis. Certification of successful completion will be documented through CPTP.

X. FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS

This policy establishes a procedure to administratively report and address complaints of sexually inappropriate behavior. This policy is intended to supplement rather than replace or supersede the private and/or statutory procedures regarding sexually inappropriate workplace behavior available to employees under state and federal law, including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act and La. R.S. 23:331 et seq. Employees should be aware that there are certain procedures and time delays, including the filing of a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) or the Louisiana Commission on Human Rights (LCHR), which must be satisfied prior to initiating civil litigation regarding inappropriate workplace sexual behavior.

For more information or to initiate a claim under federal or state law, employees are referred to the EEOC and the LCHR:

- EEOC
800-669-4000 (voice)
504-589-2958 (TDD)
504-595-2844 (fax)
<https://www.eeoc.gov>
- LCHR
225-342-6969 (voice)
888-241-0859 (TDD)
225-342-2063 (fax)
<http://gov/page/lchr>

XI. VIOLATIONS

Any employee, regardless of rank or status, found to have violated the prohibitions of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. After investigation and satisfaction of due process requirements, corrective action may be imposed for the following:

- Failure to comply with mandatory training requirements
- Failure by a supervisor or manager to timely report a complaint of sexually inappropriate behavior
- Failure to participate in or cooperate with the investigative process
- Providing false information or withholding information during questioning
- Filing a false, malicious, or frivolous complaint
- Harassment, reprisal, or retaliation towards a complainant or anyone involved in the investigative process

Any employee, regardless of rank or status, who intentionally fails to properly and timely report sexually inappropriate workplace behavior will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination.

Any employee found to have intentionally or maliciously falsely accused another of sexually inappropriate workplace behavior will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. This prohibition is not intended to discourage employees from filing good faith complaints of behavior proscribed by this policy.

XII. PERSONAL LIABILITY

An Individual experiencing sexually inappropriate behavior in the workplace has the right to initiate civil litigation under state or federal law. When this occurs, as an employer, the State of Louisiana may be cast in judgement or a settlement of claims may be negotiated to avoid the risk of litigation. In either event, the financial burden falls upon the taxpayers of the State of Louisiana.

To reduce this impact, upon determination that an employee has engaged in sexually inappropriate workplace behavior, La. R.S. 42:351 mandates that consideration be given to requiring that the employee reimburse all or a portion of any judgment or settlement that may result from a claim or civil litigation. The process and factors to be considered in making this determination are set forth in La. R.S. 42:353, which also authorizes the Attorney General to file suit against an employee to enforce the state's right to reimbursement and indemnification.

Accordingly, Department of State employees are hereby placed on notice that dire consequences, in the nature of employment sanctions and personal financial liability, may result from any violation of the prohibitions and requirements of this policy.

XIII. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

This policy shall remain available to employees for review at all times on the DOS intranet site. Notices related to workplace harassment and discrimination are conspicuously posted at DOS work locations throughout the state.

Questions or comments concerning sexual harassment, sexually inappropriate behavior or the interpretation or enforcement of this policy should be addressed to the Human Resources Director. To the extent possible, such inquiries will be maintained in strict confidence. Employees are reminded that complaints will be appropriately investigated notwithstanding the employee's request that no action be taken or that the investigative process be delayed.

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SECRETARY OF STATE
POLICY # 20 – Sexual Harassment in the Workplace**

EMPLOYEE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

My signature hereon acknowledges that:

- 1) I have received a copy of the Sexual Harassment in the Workplace Policy #20, Revised October 28, 2019, of the Department of State;
- 2) I have read this Policy;
- 3) I understand the content of this Policy;
- 4) I agree to comply with the terms and provisions of this Policy;
- 5) I understand that compliance with this Policy is a condition of employment/continued employment.
- 6) I understand that disciplinary action, including the possibility of termination, will be imposed for violating the terms and conditions of this policy; and
- 7) I understand that I may be personally liable and responsible for reimbursing the State of Louisiana for all or a portion of any judgement or settlement if a determination is made that I have engaged in sexually inappropriate workplace behavior.

EMPLOYEE (SIGNATURE)

EMPLOYEE NAME (PRINTED)

DATE



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