

<u>For Immediate Release:</u> April 15, 2016

For more information:

Patrick Gallahue: (860) 509-6255

Cell: (860) 463-5939

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IMPORTANT PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY INFORMATION

HARTFORD: Connecticut Secretary of the State Denise Merrill is alerting voters that important deadlines for the presidential primary are swiftly approaching and that absentee ballots are now available.

Secretary Merrill said, "If you intend to vote but cannot be present at your polling place on April 26, then please apply for an absentee ballot. Don't get left out of this important primary!"

Information on how to apply for an absentee ballot is available here: http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/cwp/view.asp?a=3179&q=533084

Secretary Merrill added, "People are registering to vote at a record-setting pace and switching their status from unaffiliated voters in order to participate in the presidential primary. New or unaffiliated voters who intend to vote in the primary but have not updated their registration status need to know that time is running out. April 21 is the deadline to use the online system to change affiliation and everyone must remember that there is no Election Day registration for a primary."

New and unaffiliated voters have until noon on April 25 to enroll in a party in person.

Since January, almost 22,000 unaffiliated voters in Connecticut have switched to a major party. According to the latest counts, 13,722 people switched from unaffiliated voters to the Democratic Party and 8,232 people switched from unaffiliated to the Republican Party.

More deadlines for the presidential preference primary are available here: http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/lib/sots/electionservices/calendars/2016_election/2016_ppp_calendar_pdf