



DENISE W. MERRILL
SECRETARY OF THE STATE
CONNECTICUT

For Immediate Release:
August 20, 2014

For more information:
James Spallone: (860) 509-6212

- PRESS RELEASE -

**MERRILL ANNOUNCES THAT PISTONE HAS
QUALIFIED FOR NOVEMBER BALLOT**

SECRETARY OF THE STATE REPORTS THRESHOLD OF 2848 SIGNATURE REACHED

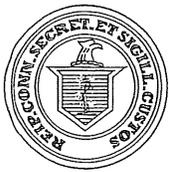
HARTFORD: Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today announced that her office has approved the nominating petition of John J. Pistone to appear on the ballot for the office of U.S. Representative for the fifth congressional district of Connecticut. The number of petition signatures of registered voters required to appear on the ballot for this office is 2848. Attached to this release is a copy of the letter of notification to Mr. Pistone from this office informing him that he will appear on the November 4 ballot as a petitioning candidate.

Petitioning candidates for the November ballot had until August 6 to file their petitions with local town clerks or with the Office of the Secretary of the State. Town clerks have two weeks from the date of receipt of each petition page to file them with the Secretary of the State. However, if petitions are turned in to the Secretary of the State, those petitions are then transmitted to local town clerks, who in turn have two weeks from the date of receipt from this office to file the counted petitions.

“Although it may be frustrating that there is no hard and fast deadline for returning petitions to my office, my interest is in fair ballot access,” said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut’s chief elections official. “I am glad the law errs on the side of greater access by allowing time for local officials to properly examine petitions and return them to my office.”

The role of the Office of the Secretary of the State in this process is not to examine signatures for validity, but rather to tally the signatures marked as valid by each town in order to produce a statewide or district wide total number of valid petition signatures. A running tally of signatures is not announced; rather, once a candidate has met the required threshold for that office, a letter of notification is sent to that candidate.

This office will release to the media letters of notification for each candidate who is approved to appear on the November ballot once that candidate has been informed.



Office of the Secretary of the State
 State of Connecticut
 P.O. Box 150470, Hartford, CT 06115-0470

DENISE W. MERRILL
 Secretary of the State
JAMES FIELD SPALLONE
 Deputy Secretary of the State

Friday, August 15, 2014

Mr. John J. Pistone
 10 Oakcrest Drive
 Brookfield CT 06804

Dear Mr. Pistone :

Congratulations. The nominating petition filed with this office on behalf of the following candidate for the office listed below, as a Petitioning Candidate, has been examined as required by law and is hereby approved.

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS District #5	JOHN J. PISTONE	10 OAKCREST DRIVE BROOKFIELD CT 06804

Such candidate is therefore qualified to appear on the ballot for the foregoing office, to be contested at the State Election to be held on Tuesday, November 04, 2014, as Petitioning Candidate.

Sincerely,

Denise Merrill
 Secretary of the State

(Ms.) O.P. Williams
 Elections Officer
 Legislation and Elections Administration Division

cc : Town Clerk 5th Cong Dist

REC NO: 14