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- NEWS RELEASE -

# MERRILL: MORE THAN 200,000 NEW VOTERS REGISTER IN CONNECTICUT PRIOR TO 2012 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

SECRETARY OF THE STATE SEES HIGH VOTER INTEREST SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR – STRONG NEW REGISTRATION BY YOUNG VOTERS AGE 18-29

**HARTFORD:** Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today marked National Voter Registration Day by reporting that since the beginning January 1, 2012 more than 200,000 new voters have registered in Connecticut making themselves eligible to vote in the November 6, 2012 presidential election. Once again, nearly half of all new voters this year are young voters between the ages of 18-29. The total number of active registered voters in Connecticut is 2,089,311 – just shy of the all-time record of active registered voters measured prior to the 2008 presidential election. A complete breakdown of the latest voter registration statistics follows at the bottom of this news release.

"We have seen a real surge of interest in this election in the last six weeks – more than 100,000 Connecticut citizens have become newly registered voters since the end of September and I think this is a very encouraging sign," said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut's chief elections official. "Many people are now focused on the critical questions facing our country and our state as we head to the polls tomorrow, and the trick is to take that focus and turn it into action. It is very civic minded to register to vote – but now is the time to make your voice heard by casting a ballot. It is also very encouraging to see the largest group of our new voters is our young voters between the ages of 18-29. This is hopefully the beginning of a lifelong pattern of participation in Democracy."

Since January 1, 2012, more than 201,937 new voters have registered in Connecticut. As was the case in 2008, young people (18-29 years-old) represent the largest group of new voters in the state with 90,089 registering so far this year. Currently, there are 2,089,311 active registered voters in Connecticut including 767,693 Democrats, 430,439 Republicans and 872,243 unaffiliated votes. Among newly registered voters some 70,928 registered as Democrats and 33,067 registered as Republicans, while 92,592 registered as unaffiliated.

Secretary Merrill encourages voters to go online to <a href="www.sots.ct.gov">www.sots.ct.gov</a> to find out if they are registered to vote and where their polling place is located. Polls will be open for the Presidential election from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on November 6, 2012.

#### **ACTIVE VOTERS IN CONNECTICUT AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2012**

| PARTY                      |       | COUNT                                   |
|----------------------------|-------|---|
|                            |       |   |
| A Better Future            |       | 6                                       |
| A Connecticut Party        |       | 7                                       |
| A Sentinel Party           |       | 26                                      |
| Canterbury First           |       | 2                                       |
| Chatham Party              |       | 9                                       |
| Concerned Citizens         |       | 182                                     |
| Connecticut For Lieberman  |       | 83                                      |
| <b>Democratic</b>          |       | 767,693                                 |
| Enfield Taxpayers Party    |       | 2                                       |
| Friends Of Saybrook        |       | 13                                      |
| Green                      |       | 1,815                                   |
| Guilty                     |       | 1                                       |
| Independence               |       | 833                                     |
| Independence For Montville |       | 7                                       |
| Independent                |       | 13,933                                  |
| Independent Choice         |       | 1                                       |
| Libertarian                |       | 1,603                                   |
| Milford Independent Party  |       | 3                                       |
| Norwich for Change         |       | 1                                       |
| Pro-Bethel                 |       | 2                                       |
| Realistic Balance          |       | 5                                       |
| Reform                     |       | 87                                      |
| <b>Republican</b>          |       | 430,439                                 |
| Spring Glen Party          |       | 9                                       |
| Swing                      |       | 2                                       |
| The Hampton Party          |       | 1                                       |
| <b>Unaffiliated</b>        |       | 872,243                                 |
| We The People              |       | 44                                      |
| Winsted Independent        |       | 37                                      |
| Working Families           |       | 222                                     |
|                            |       | ======================================= |
|                            | TOTAL | 2,089,311                               |

#### **NEW VOTERS SINCE 1/1/12**

| PARTY                     | COUNT  |
|---------------------------|--------|
| A Connecticut Party       | 2      |
| Canterbury First          | 1      |
| Chatham Party             | 1      |
| Concerned Citizens        | 2      |
| Connecticut For Lieberman | 9      |
| <b>Democratic</b>         | 70,928 |
| Friends Of Saybrook       | 2      |

| Green               | 223                  |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Independence        | 88                   |
| Independent         | 4,537                |
| Independent Choice  | 1                    |
| Libertarian         | 398                  |
| Realistic Balance   | 2                    |
| Reform              | 9                    |
| Republican          | 33,067               |
| Spring Glen Party   | 9                    |
| Swing               | 1                    |
| Unaffiliated        | 92,592               |
| We The People       | 3                    |
| Winsted Independent | 2                    |
| Working Families    | 60                   |
|                     |                      |
|                     | <b>TOTAL 201,937</b> |

#### NEW VOTERS SINCE 1/1/12 AGE 18 TO 29

| PARTY                     | COUNT  |
|---------------------------|--------|
| A Connecticut Party       | 2      |
| Concerned Citizens        | 2      |
| Connecticut For Lieberman | 4      |
| <b>Democratic</b>         | 31,061 |
| Friends Of Saybrook       | 1      |
| Green                     | 118    |
| Independence              | 36     |
| Independent               | 2,267  |
| Independent Choice        | 1      |
| Libertarian               | 237    |
| Realistic Balance         | 1      |
| Reform                    | 4      |
| Republican                | 13,268 |
| Spring Glen Party         | 6      |
| Swing                     | 1      |
| Unaffiliated              | 43,036 |
| We The People             | 2      |
| Working Families          | 42     |
| -                         |        |

TOTAL 90,089

#### NEW VOTERS SINCE 1/1/12 AGE 30 TO 44

| PARTY                     | COUNT  |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Canterbury First          | 1      |
| Chatham Party             | 1      |
| Connecticut For Lieberman | 2      |
| <b>Democratic</b>         | 18,299 |
| Green                     | 70     |
| Independence              | 23     |
| Independent               | 1,091  |
| Libertarian               | 118    |
| Realistic Balance         | 1      |

| Reform              | 3                   |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Republican</b>   | 8,703               |
| Spring Glen Party   | 2                   |
| <b>Unaffiliated</b> | 23,916              |
| Working Families    | 9                   |
|                     | ========            |
|                     | <b>TOTAL</b> 52,239 |

#### **NEW VOTERS AS OF 1/1/12 AGE 45 TO 59**

| PARTY                     | COUNT  |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Connecticut For Lieberman | 1      |
| <b>Democratic</b>         | 12,885 |
| Green                     | 28     |
| Independence              | 13     |
| Independent               | 709    |
| Libertarian               | 24     |
| Reform                    | 2      |
| <b>Republican</b>         | 6,669  |
| Spring Glen Party         | 1      |
| <b>Unaffiliated</b>       | 15,216 |
| We The People             | 1      |
| Winsted Independent       | 2      |
| Working Families          | 5      |
|                           | ====== |
|                           |        |

**TOTAL 35,556** 

#### NEW VOTERS SINCE 1/1/12 AGE 60 AND OLDER

| PARTY                     | COUNT         |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Connecticut For Lieberman | 2             |
| <b>Democratic</b>         | 8,532         |
| Friends Of Saybrook       | 1             |
| Green                     | 7             |
| Independence              | 16            |
| Independent               | 458           |
| Libertarian               | 17            |
| Republican                | 4,324         |
| <b>Unaffiliated</b>       | <b>10,178</b> |
| Working Families          | 4             |
|                           | =========     |

TOTAL 23,539

#### ACTIVE VOTERS BY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AS OF 11/2/2012

#### **CD1:**

| PARTY                     | COUNT   |
|---------------------------|---------|
| A Connecticut Party       | 1       |
| Concerned Citizens        | 15      |
| Connecticut For Lieberman | 31      |
| <b>Democratic</b>         | 179,583 |
| Friends Of Saybrook       | 1       |
| Green                     | 275     |
| Independence              | 59      |

| Independent         | 2,517   |
|---------------------|---------|
| Libertarian         | 283     |
| Reform              | 6       |
| Republican          | 72,256  |
| <b>Unaffiliated</b> | 158,329 |
| Winsted Independent | 37      |
| Working Families    | 75      |
|                     |         |

**CD1 TOTAL** 413,468

## **CD2:**

| PARTY                      | COUNT   |
|----------------------------|---------|
| A Connecticut Party        | 1       |
| A Sentinel Party           | 26      |
| Canterbury First           | 2       |
| Chatham Party              | 9       |
| Concerned Citizens         | 8       |
| Connecticut For Lieberman  | 18      |
| <b>Democratic</b>          | 133,842 |
| Enfield Taxpayers Party    | 2       |
| Friends Of Saybrook        | 1       |
| Green                      | 504     |
| Independence               | 270     |
| Independence For Montville | 7       |
| Independent                | 3,210   |
| Libertarian                | 420     |
| Norwich for Change         | 1       |
| Reform                     | 18      |
| Republican                 | 91,599  |
| The Hampton Party          | 1       |
| <b>Unaffiliated</b>        | 197,774 |
| Working Families           | 40      |
|                            |         |

CD2 TOTAL 427,753

# CD3:

| PARTY                     | COUNT   |
|---------------------------|---------|
| A Better Future           | 6       |
| A Connecticut Party       | 4       |
| Concerned Citizens        | 18      |
| Connecticut For Lieberman | 16      |
| Democratic                | 173,054 |
| Friends Of Saybrook       | 6       |
| Green                     | 417     |
| Guilty                    | 1       |
| Independence              | 196     |
| Independent               | 1,785   |
| Libertarian               | 238     |
| Milford Independent Party | 3       |
| Realistic Balance         | 5       |
| Reform                    | 34      |
| Republican                | 64,806  |

| Spring Glen Party   |           | 9       |
|---------------------|-----------|---------|
| <b>Unaffiliated</b> |           | 176,547 |
| Working Families    |           | 28      |
|                     |           |         |
|                     | CD3 TOTAL | 417,173 |

# **CD4:**

| PARTY                     | COUNT   |
|---------------------------|---------|
| A Connecticut Party       | 1       |
| Concerned Citizens        | 5       |
| Connecticut For Lieberman | 4       |
| <b>Democratic</b>         | 146,206 |
| Friends Of Saybrook       | 3       |
| Green                     | 273     |
| Independence              | 178     |
| Independent               | 2,926   |
| Libertarian               | 348     |
| Reform                    | 23      |
| Republican                | 104,650 |
| <b>Unaffiliated</b>       | 158,337 |
| Working Families          | 24      |
|                           |         |
| CD4 TOTAL                 | 412 078 |

## **CD5**:

| PARTY                 |           | <b>COUNT</b> |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Concerned Citizens    |           | 136          |
| Connecticut For Liebe | erman     | 14           |
| <b>Democratic</b>     |           | 135,014      |
| Friends Of Saybrook   |           | 2            |
| Green                 |           | 346          |
| Independence          |           | 130          |
| Independent           |           | 3,495        |
| Independent Choice    |           | 1            |
| Libertarian           |           | 314          |
| Pro-Bethel            |           | 2            |
| Reform                |           | 6            |
| Republican            |           | 97,128       |
| Swing                 |           | 2            |
| Unaffiliated          |           | 181,260      |
| We The People         |           | 44           |
| Working Families      |           | 55           |
| -                     |           |              |
|                       | CD5 TOTAL | 417 949      |