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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EARLY VOTING DEADLINE IS THURSDAY

SPRINGFIELD, IL, Jan. 25, 2010 – The deadline for voting by personal appearance at an Early Voting Center is Thursday, Jan. 28. The Illinois primary election is Feb. 2.

Voters casting a ballot at an Early Voting Center must display photo identification such as a current driver's license, a state-issued ID card or another government-issued ID card.

There are approximately 200 Early Voting Centers in the Chicago metropolitan area and at least one in each of the state's 102 counties.

Voters may register and vote during a grace period, which ends Tuesday, or cast an absentee ballot.

More information on absentee voting, Grace Period Registration and early voting is available at the offices of county clerks and boards of election commissioners and at www.elections.il.gov.

The primary election system is established by state law. A voter can vote for candidates of one party only. The established political parties are Republican, Democratic and Green.

The State Board of Elections is an independent state agency charged with the responsibility of having general supervision over the administration of election laws of the State.

Elections are administered locally by the State's 110 election authorities.

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