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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DON'T BE FOOLED: "ONLINE VOTING" DOES NOT EXIST

SPRINGFIELD – After receiving numerous calls from individuals inquiring about "online voting," the Illinois State Board of Elections wants to alert all voters that there is no online voting in any election.

Voters should be aware that any app, website, social media account or text message purporting to offer online voting is fraudulent and should be reported immediately to the Illinois State Board of Elections. Those reports will be forwarded to law enforcement for investigation.

Online voting is not permitted anywhere in the United States. While some states offer exemptions for military officials and U.S. citizens overseas, Illinois is not among them.

During the 2016 election, the FBI detected text message and social media campaigns that claimed to offer users the opportunity to vote electronically or promoted incorrect information about voting. The FBI believes these campaigns, which targeted potential voters of both major presidential candidates, were designed to suppress the vote by keeping voters from casting legitimate votes at early voting sites or at polling places on Election Day.

Voters who receive text messages or see online content purporting to offer voting online should forward all available information to scamalert@elections.il.gov.

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