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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Early Voting Ends Thursday

CHICAGO, IL – October 27, 2010 - Thursday is the deadline for voting by personal appearance at an Early Voting Center.

However, the deadline for voting absentee by personal appearance is Monday, the day before the election. A new state law allows absentee voting by any registered voter, unlike previous general elections when a reason was required to vote absentee.

Any registered voter interested in voting absentee in person between Friday and Monday should check with their local election authority for details on the location and the hours of operation for absentee voting.

According to the Illinois Voter Registration System (IVRS) database at the State Board of Elections, voting in this election at an Early Voting Center exceeds the number of people who voted early in 2006 but it does not approach the number of people who voted early in the 2008 Presidential Election.

On Tuesday, Election Day, polling places are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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Illinois residents may check their registration online by going to www.elections.il.gov and clicking "Am I Registered?" The website also provides a registered voter with the address of his or her polling place.

Voters in this election are presented with a proposed constitutional amendment as well as deciding among the numerous candidates on the ballot.

The proposed amendment on the ballot provides the state's electors with an option to petition for a special election to recall a Governor and for the election of a successor Governor.

(A detailed explanation of the proposed amendment is located at

<http://www.ilvote.gov/ILVote/questions/Election29/CONSTITUTIONAL%20AMENDMENT%20ON%20RECALL.pdf> .)

Voters will elect candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, comptroller, U.S. Senate, representatives in Congress, state senators and representatives in the General Assembly, certain county offices and judges.

In the race for the U.S. Senate, there is a special election to fill an unexpired term as well as the election to a full six-year term. The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois declared a special election for the unexpired term for U.S. Senator to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Barack Obama on Nov. 16, 2008. The official ballot will include candidates to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term which will immediately follow the candidates on the ballot for the six-year term. The candidate elected to fill the unexpired term will serve in the current Congress from the time that the election results are final until the new Congress convenes on Jan. 3, 2011.

The State Board of Elections has scheduled a meeting Nov. 23 to certify the vote in the special election for the Senate.

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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