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DANIEL W. WHITE
Executive Director

ELECTION NEWS

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100 W. Randolph Street
Suite 14-100
Chicago, Illinois 60601
312/814-6440
312/814-6431 (TDD)

1020 S. Spring Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704
217/782-4141
217/782-1518 (TDD)
www.elections.il.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: DANIEL W. WHITE
(312) 814-6440

Certification Required Before New Senator Takes Seat

CHICAGO, IL, November 3, 2010 -- The Illinois State Board of Elections has scheduled a board meeting for Tuesday, Nov. 23 to officially certify the results of the special election to fill the unexpired term of the U.S. Senate vacancy created by the resignation of Barack Obama from that position upon his election as President in 2008.

Tuesday's election results are not official until first certified by the state's 110 election authorities and then certified by the State Board of Elections.

Former Gov. Rod Blagojevich appointed Roland Burriss to fill the vacancy created by President Obama's resignation from the Senate, and a court ordered the special election to be conducted on the same day as the Nov. 2 general election. The winner of the special election will take the oath of office after the official State Board certification and serve until the new Congress convenes in January.

The winner of the regularly scheduled Nov. 2 general election will serve a six-year term beginning in January.

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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