



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

BM06:154

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, October 19, 2006

Contact: Nghia Nguyen Demovic
916-653-6575

Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Partners with Women's Groups to Encourage College Students to Register to Vote

OAKLAND, CA – Secretary of State Bruce McPherson today urged students at Mills College to register and vote. Joined by the League of Women Voters and National Association of Women Business Owners, Secretary McPherson spent time with students to talk about the importance of civic participation.

"It is vital that we do everything possible to encourage young women to register to vote and participate. By partnering with Mills College as well as joining efforts with the organizations here today, we can reach out to even more college students," said Secretary McPherson.

"Civic engagement is at the core of what we do as a College. Many of our students are actively involved in the political process, and we want to encourage all Mills women and members of the Mills community to register to vote so their voices can be heard," Courtney Young-Law, Director of Student Activities, Mills College added.

As part of Secretary McPherson's Voter Education and Participation project, McPherson has been traveling throughout the state with various organizations to encourage voter registration and civic involvement.

"Business women understand that what happens in Sacramento and in Washington D.C. and in our own communities directly impacts our businesses and quality of life. To elect qualified individuals and to vote on ballot measures which impact our homes or communities and our work places is one of the most important privileges and responsibilities we have as Americans," said Deborah Wilder, National Association of Business Women Owners.

Eligible voters can register to vote until Monday, October 23 – 15 days prior to the November 7, 2006 General Election. Voter registration cards are available at local county offices, libraries, DMV and post offices throughout the state. For more information, visit the Secretary of State's website at www.ss.ca.gov or call 1-800-345-VOTE.