



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Promotes Early Voting in California's November General Election

Last day to request an absentee ballot by mail is today, October 31, 2006

SACRAMENTO, CA - Secretary of State Bruce McPherson today reminded California voters that they may cast their ballots early at their county elections office through Election Day for the November 7, 2006 General Election.

"My goal is to make the voting process as user-friendly and as convenient as possible," said Secretary McPherson. "I encourage eligible voters to take advantage of this service offered by their local elections officials and to vote early to avoid lines at the polls on Election Day."

To better serve voters, local county elections offices are open for registered voters to cast their ballots early for the November General Election. Any registered voter may go to their county elections office and vote. Some counties offer early voting sites in addition to their elections office where voters can cast their ballots. These counties include: Alameda, Fresno, Los Angeles, Mariposa, Monterey, Napa, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Mateo, Trinity and Yolo. Interested registered voters should contact their local County Registrars' Offices for more information on early voting sites. Voters can also visit the Secretary of State's website at http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm for county contact information.

In addition, Secretary of State Bruce McPherson reminded registered voters that the deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail is today, October 31st. Requests must be received in the Registrar of Voters' Office by close of business. In order to be counted, voted absentee ballots must be received by the elections official no later than the close of the polls on Election Day, so be sure to get it in the mail in time for it to be delivered by Election Day, November 7, 2006.

For more information about the November 7, 2006 General Election, visit the Secretary of State's website at <http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections.htm>.