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- PRESS RELEASE -

MERRILL: MOBILE APPS NOW AVAILABLE FOR ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

SECRETARY OF THE STATE OFFERS GREATER USABILITY AND CONVENIENCE
FOR ELIGIBLE CONNECTICUT CITIZENS WITH DRIVER'S LICENSE TO REGISTER
TO VOTE USING SMARTPHONES AND TABLETS

HARTFORD: Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today announced that mobile applications are now available for eligible Connecticut citizens who wish to register to vote online using a smartphone or tablet. In February, Secretary Merrill joined Governor Dannel P. Malloy to officially unveil Connecticut's new online voter registration system. Since that time more than 2,000 Connecticut voters have used the system to become new registered voters or change their existing registration. As of today, the apps are available through Google Play and Apple. The link to the mobile applications is available at <https://voterregistration.ct.gov>

"I am very excited to offer these mobile apps for voter registration so any eligible Connecticut voter with a driver's license can register for this year's elections from the convenience of their Smartphone or tablet," said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut's chief elections official. "Modern features like this help to reach new eligible voters, and the more people who participate the better."

In 2014 Connecticut became the 15th U.S. state to offer online voter registration, which was built and implemented in partnership with the Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicles. Voters use an online form to enter their personal information, and grant permission to affix an electronic image of their signature – already on file at the DMV – to the enrollment form. The voter attests that all information is true and accurate. The information submitted is then sent via email to the registrar of voters where the voter is enrolling and local officials then review it for accuracy, validate, and accept it into the Centralized Voter Registration System statewide database.

Secretary Merrill stresses that this new convenience of registering to vote through a mobile device is being provided to voters while simultaneously maintaining the state's strong security precautions to protect the integrity of the Connecticut Voter Registration System. Secretary Merrill also expects online voter registration to help keep more accurate voting lists because voters enter their own personal information, therefore reducing clerical errors resulting from handwritten registration forms.

Besides Connecticut, online voter registration is currently available in the following states: Arizona, Washington, Kansas, Utah, Oregon, California, Virginia, Colorado, South Carolina, Nevada, Minnesota, Maryland, Indiana, and Louisiana. The following states are in the process of implementing online voter registration: West Virginia, Georgia, Illinois, and Hawaii. Connecticut is the first New England state to allow voters to register online.