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-PRESS RELEASE -

**MERRILL: VOTER REGISTRATION
DEADLINES FOR AUGUST 12TH PRIMARIES
FAST APPROACHING**

SECRETARY OF THE STATE REMINDS ELIGIBLE VOTERS THEY HAVE UNTIL
AUGUST 7TH TO REGISTER AS DEMOCRATS OR REPUBLICANS BY MAIL OR
ONLINE TO CAST A BALLOT IN THE PRIMARY

HARTFORD: Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today is reminding eligible voters who want to cast a ballot in the upcoming statewide primaries on August 12, 2014 that voter registration deadlines are fast approaching. Eligible voters must register as Democrats or Republicans in order to cast ballots in the primaries. New voter registrations or changes to voter registration status completed online or by mail must be received no later than Thursday August 7th in order to qualify a voter to cast a ballot in the primary. The final deadline to register in-person at town offices for the primary is Monday August 11, 2014 by noon. Seventeen year-old voters who will turn 18 by the November 4, 2014 general election can also register and vote in the primary, facing the same registration deadlines. Unaffiliated Connecticut voters also face the same upcoming deadlines to enroll with a major party if they would like to participate in the primary. It is now too late for an enrolled party member to switch to another party in order to cast a ballot in the August 12th primary.

“The 2014 Connecticut primaries are rapidly approaching on Tuesday, August 12th,” said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut’s chief elections official. “I am reminding all eligible, non-registered voters to register either in person, online or by mail so they can take part in deciding the candidates for the November general elections. Come out to the polls and let your voice be heard! Only registered Democrats and Republicans can vote, so if you are unaffiliated you must enroll with a major party by Monday August 11th at noon in order to cast a primary ballot.”

According to the latest voter registration numbers, Connecticut now has slightly more than 1.9 million active registered voters, including 704,561 Democrats, 399,815

Republicans, and 801,752 unaffiliated voters. Since the beginning of this year, more than 32,000 citizens have become newly registered voters. In that same time, some 3,200 Connecticut unaffiliated voters have enrolled with a major party, making themselves eligible to vote in the August 12th primaries, including 1,743 unaffiliated voters enrolling as Democrats and 1,543 voters affiliating as Republicans. Polls will be open statewide for Registered Democrats and Republicans on Tuesday August 12, 2014 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Voters can go online to www.sots.ct.gov/vote to check their registration status, register to vote, download an absentee ballot application, find out where their polling place is located, and view lists of candidates.

CURRENT CONNECTICUT ACTIVE VOTERS

PARTY	COUNT
A Better Future	2
A Brookfield Party	3
A Connecticut Party	1
A Sentinel Party	23
Canterbury First	2
Chatham Party	10
Democratic	704,561
Enfield Taxpayers Party	2
Friends Of Saybrook	13
Green	1,636
Guilty	1
Independence	12
Independence For Montville	8
Independent	15,003
Independent Choice	1
Libertarian	1,652
Milford Independent Party	4
Norwich for Change	1
Open	8
Pro-Bethel	2
Realistic Balance	4
Reform	12
Republican	399,815
Simsbury Citizens First	1
South Windsor Citizens	1
Spring Glen Party	8
Swing	1
The Hampton Party	1
U-It	6
Unaffiliated	801,702
Unaffiliated (Conservative)	1
We The People	45
Winsted Independent	37
Working Families	271
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TOTAL	1,924,850

NEW CONNECTICUT ACTIVE VOTERS SINCE 1/1/2014

<u>PARTY</u>	<u>COUNT</u>
Democratic	9,293
Green	46
Independent	751
Libertarian	83
Reform	1
Republican	5,691
Unaffiliated	16,856
Winsted Independent	1
Working Families	14
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TOTAL	32,736