



KYLE ARDOIN

S E C R E T A R Y O F S T A T E



65 and Older Vote by Mail Program

- COVID-19 has greatly threatened our state and country. The April 4 and May 9 elections have been postponed to July 11 and August 15, a decision was made in close cooperation with the Governor.
- There is strong evidence that the virus most gravely affects older adults, and it is important to know about existing programs to assist in the voting process.
- The 65 and Older Absentee-By-Mail Program has been law for nearly a decade and gives qualifying voters the option to receive an absentee ballot for the upcoming election only or all future elections.
- At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic our office sent out a mass mailer to voters who are eligible for the program, however, due to a data entry error, some voters were not mistakenly included in the initial mailing.
- This was an innocent human error that we are moving quickly to remedy. The mailer was intended to go to all registered voters 65 years of age and older who are not currently in the program, and political affiliation was in no way considered.
- We are in the process of mailing letters to those who were not included in the first round. Constituents can expect those letters within 7-10 days.
- The mailing from our office includes:
 - A letter from Secretary Ardoin
 - An application for the absentee by mail program
 - A pre-paid, pre-addressed return envelope
- If you choose to participate in the program for the upcoming elections, the enclosed application must be returned to your local Registrar of Voters Office by July 7 at 4:30 pm for the Presidential Preference/Municipal Primary and August 11 at 4:30 pm for the Municipal General, although we strongly encourage you to submit your application at your earliest convenience.
- Thank you for exercising your right to vote, one of our most fundamental rights as Americans. Please feel free to contact my office should you need assistance in the future.
- Again, the only requirement for admission into this program is reaching the age of 65. This program is always open to eligible voters, and the form can be found on our website, or by contacting the local Registrar of Voters.