

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**MEDIA RELEASE: Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate encourages Iowans to participate in National Voter Registration Month**

Orange City, Iowa – County Auditor Ryan Dokter reminds residents that September is National Voter Registration Month and encourages every eligible citizen to participate. Auditor Dokter and Secretary of State Paul Pate, and other elected officials in Iowa are working together to promote voter registration.

“As Commissioner of Elections for Sioux County, I want to ensure that every eligible citizen has an opportunity to get registered to vote, as well as encourage voter participation in the election process by exercising their right to vote,” said Auditor Dokter.

"I want to do everything possible to increase voter participation in Iowa, while maintaining the integrity of the vote," Secretary Pate said. "Iowa is already one of the best states in the nation for voter registration and voter participation, but we can do even better. Registering to vote is a very simple process, and it's something every eligible Iowan should do."

Voter registration in Iowa was made quicker, easier and more accessible by the implementation of online voter registration. Secretary Pate partnered with the Iowa Department of Transportation to launch the system in January 2016, and 70,000 Iowans utilized the system to register to vote last year. The online voter registration portal can be accessed any time of day from a device with an internet connection, at [sos.iowa.gov/register tovot e](https://sos.iowa.gov/register tovot e).

There are numerous other ways to register to vote in Iowa, including at the polls on Election Day. Another method is visiting the Secretary of State's website, [sos.iowa.gov](https://sos.iowa.gov), and downloading a voter registration form. Simply fill it out and mail it to your county auditor's office. Forms are also available at auditor's offices, DOT offices, military recruiting stations, and public assistance agencies around the state.

The National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) established National Voter Registration Month in 2002 as a nonpartisan means of encouraging voter participation. NASS also supports the independently-organized [National Voter Registration Day](#) effort, which will be held on September 26, 2017.

**Get registered to vote.** Eligible citizens who are 17 ½ years of age or older may register to vote.

**Check your voter registration information online.** Updating voter registration information is critical for citizens who have recently moved, changed their name or had their voting rights restored. Go to [sos.iowa.gov/voterregistration](https://sos.iowa.gov/voterregistration) to make sure your information is current.

**Sign up for election alerts and reminders.** Be sure to sign up for election alerts and reminders by visiting [MyIowaVote.com](https://www.mylowavote.com).

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