

OFFICE OF SIOUX COUNTY AUDITOR

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NEWS RELEASE 2018 Primary Election

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Sioux County Voters will see Changes in Elections Starting with the 2018 Primary.

Sioux County Auditor' Office is reminding voters of changes they will see in the election process starting with the June 5 Primary Election.

The changes are from legislation approved during the 2017 Iowa legislative session that included voter identification (ID) requirements and changes to the absentee voting process.

“It is important that voters know the requirements prior to voting.” states Ryan Dokter, Sioux County Auditor and Commissioner of Elections. “That knowledge and preparation will help to make the voting experience positive.”

Voters who will vote on Election Day at the polls or who want to vote absentee in person will now have to show an ID. Voters who fail to show a proper ID in 2018 will be asked to sign an oath verifying their identity. In 2019, the appropriate ID will be required, and an oath will not be an option. A voter without ID in 2019 will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot.

Valid forms of identification to vote in person include:

- Iowa driver's license
- Iowa non-operator's ID
- U.S. Passport
- Military ID
- Veteran's ID
- Voter ID card

Voters requesting an absentee ballot, either in person or through a mailed request, will have to provide a personal identification number (PIN). A space on the absentee ballot request form is provided for a voter to enter their PIN.

That PIN will most likely be your Iowa driver's license number or your Iowa non-operator's ID number. If a voter does not have either of those, the voter should have been sent a PIN in December from the Iowa Secretary of State's Office.

Another change in absentee voting is the time allowed for voting. The new law has reduced the number of days allowed for absentee voting. Domestic absentee voters now have only 29 days to vote absentee. The first day to vote an absentee ballot in person or have a ballot mailed out is Monday, May 7, 2018.

The new deadline to request a ballot to be mailed is now 11 days before a Primary and General Election. For the 2018 Primary Election, the last day ballots will be mailed out is Friday, May 25, 2018.

For more information, please contact the Sioux County Auditor Office at 712-737-2216 or visit our website at www.siouxcounty.org

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