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PRESS RELEASE

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SOUTH DAKOTA GENERAL ELECTION ABSENTEE VOTING PERIOD

PIERRE – The absentee voting period for South Dakota’s 2020 General Election will begin Friday, September 18. To request an absentee ballot, voters must submit an absentee ballot application form to the county auditor. Absentee ballot application forms may be requested from the county auditor or downloaded from the Secretary of State’s website at www.sdsos.gov. To account for mail processing and delivery times, voters are encouraged to request an absentee ballot as soon as possible and return the ballot to the county auditor allowing sufficient time for delivery.

Voters who completed an absentee ballot application form earlier this year will receive a ballot if they marked the option of receiving absentee ballots for all elections or the general election on the request form. Voters may verify whether they have already requested an absentee ballot by contacting their county auditor or searching the Voter Information Portal (VIP) on the Secretary of State’s website.

Voters submitting an absentee ballot application form must include a photocopy of an acceptable photo identification card or have the form notarized, as per South Dakota Codified Law 12-18-6.1.

Acceptable photo identification cards include a South Dakota driver’s license or non-driver ID card, tribal photo ID, passport or other picture ID issued by the United States government, or a current

student photo ID issued by a South Dakota high school or postsecondary education institution. Voters lacking access to a copy machine or notary public may take a photo of the ID using a phone or camera and email the photo to their county auditor. Please contact your county auditor for more information regarding this option. County auditor contact information is available on the Secretary of State's website.

Voters also have the option to in-person absentee vote with their county auditor up to the day before the election or to vote at the polls on Tuesday, November 3. To in-person absentee vote, please contact your county auditor for office hours. On Election Day, polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. local time. For polling location and sample ballot information, please visit the Voter Information Portal (VIP) on the Secretary of State's website.