News Release

In - Person Absentee Voting Deadline Extended to Monday, January 9, 2017 at 2pm

RICHMOND, VA – Earlier today, Governor McAuliffe declared a state of emergency in response to the inclement weather fast approaching the Commonwealth. Taking this into consideration, the Commissioner of the Department of Elections extended the Saturday, January 7, 2017 in-person absentee voting deadline for the three legislative special elections occurring in multiple localities across the commonwealth on January 10, 2017. **The new deadline is Monday, January 9, 2017 at 2 p.m. The localities holding a January special election include parts of: Virginia Beach, Prince Edward, Charles City, Cumberland, Fluvanna, Goochland, Hanover, Henrico, Louisa, Richmond City, Amherst County, Appomattox, Buckingham, and Lynchburg.**

The in-person absentee voting deadline is extended until 2 p.m. on Monday to ensure appropriate access for all eligible voters who may be unable to go to the polls on Tuesday and unable to vote absentee in person on Saturday due to the declared state of emergency. The deadline to return a mailed absentee ballot for the special election is January 10, 2017 at 7 p.m.

There is no early voting in Virginia. However, there are 19 acceptable reasons for voting absentee, including military service, illness, being away from home, pregnancy, a long commute that would keep you from getting to the polls, and more. A full list of qualifying reasons to vote absentee can be found at the Department of Elections Citizen Portal at vote.virginia.gov. Also on the website, voters can find office hours and contact information for their local voter registration office, see what is on their ballot, find their polling location, and check their absentee ballot status.

Virginia law requires voters to present an acceptable photo ID when voting in-person. For a full list of acceptable forms of photo identification or to learn how to obtain a free Virginia Voter Photo ID card, please visit vote.virginia.gov. Voters can also contact the Department of Elections' toll free number at 1-800-552-9745 or their local voter registration office at elections.virginia.gov/LocalGR.

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