From the Office of Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz

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SECRETARY BYSIEWICZ REMINDS VOTERS TO VOTE SEPARATELY FOR GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR IN PRIMARY

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More than 7,000 unaffiliated voters have registered with party for primary

Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz today reminded Democratic voters that when they vote in the August 8th primary, they will vote separately for candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor. She said this is an important distinction to make, because it is different from the way the two offices are chosen in November, when candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor run as a team.

"Unlike in the general election where candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor run as a team, in this primary voters have the opportunity to cast two separate votes; one for Governor and one for Lieutenant Governor," Secretary Bysiewicz said.

"Voters need to know that they may pick and choose the candidates they prefer, and are not required to pick a certain Lieutenant Governor candidate just because that person has been campaigning with a particular candidate for Governor," Secretary Bysiewicz added. "This is the case this year because at the Democratic convention in May, Mary Glassman received the Democratic endorsement for Lieutenant Governor, while Scott Slifka received enough delegates to force a primary for Lieutenant Governor. This happened just after Dannel Malloy received the endorsement for Governor and John DeStefano received enough delegate support to primary. So even though Malloy/Glassman and DeStefano/Slifka have been running together for this primary, people will still have to vote for them separately."

"Therefore, it is possible next week that voters could choose Dannel Malloy and Scott Slifka for the November ticket, and it is also possible that they could choose John DeStefano and Mary Glassman for the ticket," Secretary Bysiewicz said.

"This is a reminder to people that they are not just choosing a Governor candidate and a U.S. Senate candidate, but a Lieutenant Governor candidate as well," Secretary Bysiewicz said.

Secretary Bysiewicz said she was delighted to see that, to date, more than 7,000 unaffiliated voters in Connecticut have chosen to register with a major party in order to

vote in the primary. As of today, 6,715 unaffiliated voters have registered as Democrats, and 419 unaffiliated voters have registered as Republicans.

"This is good news for the electoral process, because it means that at least 7,000 more Connecticut residents will have an opportunity to vote in the primary. Democratic and Republican party rules prohibit unaffiliated voters from voting in party primaries, so the only way to participate is to affiliate," Secretary Bysiewicz said. "That is why we've been encouraging people to register with a party, even if it's only for the August 8th primary."

Unaffiliated voters still have until Monday, August 7th at 12 p.m. to go to their local Town Hall and register with a party for the primary, Secretary Bysiewicz added.

Unaffiliated Voters Switching Parties for the August 8th Primary

Party	May	June	July	TOTAL
Democrat	692	1,028	4,995	6,715
Republican	141	117	161	419

SOURCE: Office of the Secretary of the State