



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Vermont State House
115 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05602

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CONTACT: Andrew Gillespie
(802) 636-7047

*****PUBLIC STATEMENT*****

Statement of Lt. Governor Molly Gray on Voter Participation in the August 2022 Primary Election

Montpelier, Vt. — This morning, Lt. Governor Molly Gray released the following statement on voter participation in the August 2022 Primary Election:

“With COVID still posing health and safety risks to Vermonters, I’ve heard confusion from voters who believe that the vote-by-mail procedures applicable to the 2020 General Election apply to the upcoming August Primary.

I want to clarify for Vermonters, that at this time, the legislature has not approved universal vote-by-mail for primary elections in Vermont. State election laws and procedures are the purview of the Vermont legislature.

I want to inform Vermonters wishing to vote from home (absentee or early voting) that at this time you must request a ballot. Vermonters may do so by visiting the website of the Vermont Secretary of State, available here: <https://sos.vermont.gov/elections/>. Questions about voting may be directed to a town clerk or to the Elections Division of the Vermont Secretary of State at sos.elections@vermont.gov or by calling 800-439-VOTE.

I agree with the Vermonters I’ve heard from, that we need to make vote-by-mail possible for primary elections in Vermont. In 2020, because of the tremendous leadership of our Vermont Secretary of State Jim Condos and his staff, we saw record voter turnout in both our primary and general elections.

We need to ensure Vermonters have every tool to safely participate in the August 2022 Primary. The legislature has my full support in taking steps to fully authorize and fund vote-by-mail for the August 2022 Primary.”

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