



# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Shannan Velayas  
(916) 653-6575

### Secretary of State Debra Bowen Points to Convenience of Voting by Mail in June 8 Election, Offers Nonpartisan Public Service Announcements

**SACRAMENTO** – As the June 8 Statewide Direct Primary Election nears, Secretary of State Debra Bowen is inviting media to be civically engaged by getting the word out about the option of voting by mail. Formerly known as absentee voting, vote-by-mail voting is an increasingly popular choice for Californians, but many still do not know they have the option.

“When you vote by mail, you never have to miss an election because you can’t get to your polling place,” said Secretary Bowen, the state’s chief elections officer. “The ballot arrives in your mailbox, and you can vote at any time of day or night in the comfort of your home. Security and privacy safeguards are in place to prevent fraud and ensure your ballot is counted exactly as it was cast.”

The deadline to register to vote for the June 8 primary is May 24. Vote-by-mail voting begins May 10. Vote-by-mail ballots must be received by county elections officials by 8:00 p.m. on June 8. (Postmarks do not count.)

California voters may obtain a vote-by-mail application online at [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/vote-by-mail/pdf/fill-in-vote-by-mail-app-instruct.pdf](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/vote-by-mail/pdf/fill-in-vote-by-mail-app-instruct.pdf) or by calling their own county elections office. Contact information for all 58 county elections offices is at [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_d.htm](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm).

Between now and June 1, broadcast media are invited to air a 30-second nonpartisan public service announcement, which is attached in MP3 and WAV file formats. Newspapers and stations that wish to craft their own pieces may use the Secretary of State’s script as a guide and visit [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_m.htm](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_m.htm) for more information about voting by mail.

**The June 8 statewide election is coming soon.  
Did you know any California voter can vote by mail?  
It’s a convenient way to make your voice heard any time in the month before the election.  
Just contact your county elections office or call (800) 345-VOTE.  
That’s (800) 345-VOTE.  
Sign up by June 1.**

[www.sos.ca.gov/admin/press-releases/psa/california-vbm-psa.mp3](http://www.sos.ca.gov/admin/press-releases/psa/california-vbm-psa.mp3) (354 KB)  
[www.sos.ca.gov/admin/press-releases/psa/california-vbm-psa2.wav](http://www.sos.ca.gov/admin/press-releases/psa/california-vbm-psa2.wav) (4 MB)