



TO: All Chief Elected Officials of Connecticut Municipalities
FROM: Office of the Secretary of the State
Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut
Connecticut Town Clerks Association
Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
Connecticut Council of Small Towns
DATE: January 20, 2016
RE: Online Voter Registration Link

Because 2016 is a Presidential year we can expect that voter participation will be strong and that third party organizations and campaigns will be highly active. Together we are reaching out to you with a small, but meaningful request, regarding the online voter registration system (voterregistration.ct.gov) and a link to the "Voter Lookup Tool" (<http://www.sots.ct.gov/sots/cwp/view.asp?a=3172&q=512796>).

The Secretary of the State and our co-signatories encourage all municipalities to embed or link to the online registration system and to place it in a convenient location for residents to find. Our review of local websites shows that only 67 towns currently include a link to the [online voter registration](#) function on the registrars' webpage, and only 6 included a link on the front page. More and more residents expect to be able to fulfill these types of tasks online, and since elections are administered at the local level, they are likely to first visit the town website for information. Therefore, integrating this function will offer a valuable service to your residents.

As election officials, we know that running a smooth election depends on being well-prepared. To that end, we also want to help voters to be prepared. Being reminded to register in advance, or update their information with a new address, for example, can minimize confusion on Election Day. Promoting online voter registration as a convenient service, especially during time of peak interest, such as this fall, will mitigate the demand of Election Day registration in November. And so, you are encouraged make the online voter registration system visible on your website, and in your communications with your residents. You may also want to highlight this service from Labor Day through Election Day.

We also encourage you to include a link to the Secretary of the State's "[Voter Lookup Tool](#)". This tool allows a voter to look up their own information. They can confirm that their address on file is current as well as their party affiliation. It will be especially helpful in the Presidential and State Primaries because Connecticut only allows enrolled members of the major party to vote in those elections.

For your convenience, the Secretary can provide to you digital graphics that you can use. If you require any technical assistance you may contact Michele Rys at the Office of the Secretary of the State at Michele.Rys@ct.gov or 860.509.6168. Please let us know if the Office of the Secretary of the State can be a resource to you.

Attachments:

- Online voter registration graphic
- Online voter registration banner
- Town listing of links to online voter registration system.