Maryland State Board of Elections



2018 Primary Election: Changes to Democratic Candidates for Governor – Notice Plan

Issued: May 24, 2018

As a result of the recent death of Kevin Kamenetz, Democratic candidate for Governor, the State Administrator has determined that the local boards of elections must notify Democratic voters of the impact of his death. The notice is necessary, as it is not possible at this time to change each county's ballot database and generate, proof and print ballots with the successor ticket of Valerie Ervin and Marisol Johnson.

Accompanying this document is the required notice. As it has been reviewed and approved by the Office of the Attorney General, the content and format of this notice cannot be changed. Each local board shall print or copy this notice on white paper.

To ensure adequate notice is provided, each local board of elections shall:

- 1. Post the notice on the inside of every voting booth deployed for early voting and Election Day.
- 2. Post the notice on the inside of every ExpressVote privacy booth deployed for early voting and Election Day.
- 3. Post the notice inside the voting booth, privacy booth, or other area where provisional voters mark their ballots.
- 4. Post the notice in the same general location as other signs providing information to voters at voting locations.
- 5. Include the notice in absentee ballot packets issued to walk-in voters and packets issued as part of each local board's nursing home and assisted living program.
- 6. Post the notice at each canvassing session of the local board of canvassers.
- 7. At the start of each canvass, refer to the posted notice and state that a vote for Mr. Kamenetz and Ms. Ervin will be counted as a vote for Ms. Ervin and Ms. Johnson.
- 8. Incorporate into upcoming election judges' trainings the notice and train election judges on the verbal instructions for voters using the ExpressVote ballot marking device.
- 9. Distribute to election judges SBE's "last minute instructions" that will include the notice and the requirement to provide this information verbally to voters using the ExpressVote ballot marking device.
- 10. Provide on its homepage a link to SBE's webpage with the notice. (The address of the specific webpage will be provided shortly.)
- 11. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday through Election Day, post on social media accounts language provided by SBE.
- 12. Instruct LBE staff members to read the notice to voters who call asking how to vote for the Ervin/Johnson ticket.

In addition to these efforts, SBE has or will do the following:

- 1. Add to SBE's homepage and the "2018 Elections" webpage the notice.
- 2. Update SBE's online candidate listing to reflect the successor ticket.
- 3. Post on SBE's social media accounts a link to the notice.
- 4. Instruct SBE staff members and SBE's call center staff members to read the notice to voters who call asking how to vote for the Ervin/Johnson ticket.
- 5. Update the list of Democratic gubernatorial candidates on SBE's online voter look-up system. (This list is found under the "My Candidate Information" tab.)
- 6. Incorporate into SBE's online voter look-up system the notice for voters who want to view their sample ballots. (This is found under the "Sample Ballot" tab.)

2018 Primary Election: Changes to Democratic Candidates for Governor – Notice Plan Page 2 of 2

- 7. Require the vendor responsible for mailing absentee ballot packets to include the notice in packets mailed to requesting Democratic voters.
- 8. Incorporate the notice into SBE's online ballot delivery system.
- 9. Include the notice in the absentee ballot packets for Democratic voters who requested electronic delivery of their absentee ballots.
- 10. Notify (via mail or email) Democratic voters whose absentee ballots have already been mailed or transmitted electronically.
- 11. Distribute to the local boards revised written and verbal instructions to incorporate in upcoming election judges' training sessions.
- 12. Distribute to the local boards "last minute instructions" for election judges with instructions to provide voters using the ExpressVote ballot marking device with verbal notice.
- 13. Provide the notice to the Department of Defense's Federal Voting Assistance Program, the Maryland Democratic Party, the National Federation of the Blind (which produces and distributes an audio ballot), and other requesting organizations.

If a local board has suggestions for alternate or additional ways to provide notice, please contact SBE. Since uniformity is of critical importance, a local board must obtain SBE's approval before providing notice in an alternate or additional way.