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NEWS RELEASE

February 19, 2019

Information for the March 19 Senate District 30 Special Election

Black Hawk County will hold a special election on March 19, 2019 to fill the Senate District 30 seat vacated by Jeff Danielson.

The polls will be open from 7:00 AM until 9:00 PM on Election Day, March 19th. Voting is limited to those voters who reside in the 24 precincts that make up SD30.

Ballots will be printed and tested after the filing deadline of March 5.

Absentee Ballots will be available Monday, March 11th at the Election Office, Room 210 of the Courthouse at 316 E. 5th St., Waterloo, IA 50703. Ballots may be voted there 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday-Friday and 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Saturday, March 16.

The Election Office has begun taking requests for those voters who wish to have an absentee ballot mailed to them. The request form can be found at www.co.black-hawk.ia.us or you can call the Election Office at 319-833-3007 to have a request form mailed to you. The deadline to request to have an absentee ballot mailed to you is **Friday, March 8th at 5:00 PM**. There will be no ballots mailed for any requests received after 5:00 PM on March 8.

Voters may submit a request for an absentee ballot by email or fax. However, the original signed copy must still be mailed to the Election Office with a postmark of March 8th or earlier and received by the time the polls close on election day. Overseas voters do not have to send their original requests. All electronic requests must include an image of the voter's written signature.

Pre-paid return postage is provided for all ballots returned by mail to the Election Office. A mailed ballot received after March 19 must be postmarked on or before March 18, or it WILL NOT be counted. **Postmarks are not always affixed by the Post Office, so mail your absentee ballot early enough so that it arrives by Election Day.** Even if the ballot is postmarked on time, mailed ballots must also be received in the Election Office by the deadline of noon on Thursday, March 21 or they will not be counted. Due to the telescoped timeline, it is important for voters to mail back their ballots ASAP.

Persons who are admitted to hospitals and Health Care Facilities (HCF) within three days of the election (Saturday, March 16 through Election Day, March 19) may make a request by telephone to the Election Office (319-833-3007) and an absentee ballot will be delivered to them. On Election Day the telephone request must be made at least four hours prior to the 9:00 PM close of the polls. These ballots will be personally delivered to the voter at the hospital or HCF by two election officials

who will assist the voter in voting (if requested) and return the sealed, voted ballot to the Election Office to be counted on Election Day.

Absentee ballots **MAY NOT** be turned in at a polling place except to be surrendered and voided, in which case the voter would vote in person at the polling place. Hand-delivered ballots need to be taken to the Election Office by 9:00 PM on Election Day, March 19.

Voter Pre-Registration Deadline: The last day to pre-register at the Election Office for this election is Friday, March 8 before 5:00 PM. Voter registration forms may be found at www.sos.iowa.gov or www.co.black-hawk.ia.us. Following the deadline and on Election Day, any new voter and any voter who has moved from outside the county will be processed using the requirements of Election Day Registration and must provide proof of residence and identity.

Election Day Registration. A person who is eligible to register to vote may do so on Election Day at the polling place for the precinct in which the person lives. The person must complete a voter registration form, sign an oath, and provide acceptable proof of both identity and residence. The most common example of an acceptable form of identity and residence is an Iowa driver's license that is not expired and shows the person's address on Election Day. Other acceptable forms of identity may be found at www.sos.iowa.gov or www.co.black-hawk.ia.us.

Voting at the Polls: All voters are required to provide an approved form of identification at the polling place before they may receive and cast a ballot. Voters who are not pre-registered or voters changing precincts must also provide proof of residence. Any voter who cannot show ID may have their identity attested to by another registered voter in the precinct who has proper ID. For more information about voter ID, visit <http://sos.iowa.gov/voterid> or call 319-833-3007.

Questions may be directed to the Election Office; our telephone number is 833-3007 or our email address is: election@co.black-hawk.ia.us. Our location is 316 E 5th St, Courthouse – Room 210, Waterloo, 50703.

If you are unsure where you will vote March 19, or whether you are a Senate District 30 resident, the following website look-up options are available:

.....Use the county's website located at www.co.black-hawk.ia.us. On the home page, users may select Real Estate Mapping or Government>Elections>Find Your Voting Location and enter their address.

.....Use the Secretary of State's website located at: www.sos.iowa.gov. Users may select Find my Polling Place to determine their polling place and then select the option to verify where they are registered to vote.