

PAUL D. PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE



STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

OFFICE OF THE IOWA SECRETARY OF STATE

January 6, 2017

National Association of Secretaries of State
444 North Capitol St. NW, Suite 401
Washington, DC 20001

Dear NASS Awards Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my ***"Helping Veterans and Iowans with Disabilities Vote"*** project for the NASS IDEAS award. This effort was one we immediately undertook when I returned to the Iowa Secretary of State's Office in January 2015. Voter participation is one of my top goals as Iowa's Commissioner of Elections, so helping people who might have difficult voting understand and partake in the process is a vital component of that goal.

My entire Elections Division and Communications Team has been fully vested in this project since its launch and I'm proud of the effort they put in. The experience has been educational, eye-opening, and very rewarding for all of us.

I am sure you will agree with me that helping citizens with disabilities vote is vital for our representative form of government. Their voices are often not heard in the legislative process. I want to change that by helping all of them #BeAVoter.

This project is one that can be implemented in every state. ***"Helping Veterans and Iowans with Disabilities Vote"*** was paid for in part by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Election Assistance to Individuals with Disabilities grant. However, even if no federal funding is available and your own budget might prevent some of these issues from being implemented, there are certainly portions of our program that can be utilized in other states. I hope all our NASS colleagues will find this information useful.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

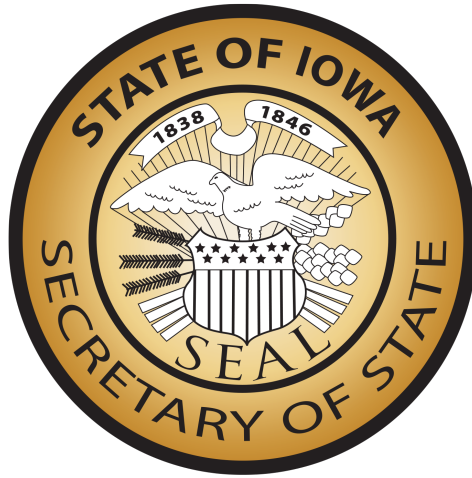
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul D. Pate". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul D. Pate
Iowa Secretary of State

NASS IDEAS Award Application - 2017

State of Iowa



State Office: Iowa Secretary of State Paul D. Pate

Contact: Michael Ross, Deputy Secretary of State; (515)725-2874, michael.ross@sos.iowa.gov

Title of Program: Helping Veterans and Iowans with Disabilities Vote

Project lead: Michael Ross, Deputy Secretary of State, and Kevin Hall, Communications Director

Description of the program: Secretary Pate launched an unprecedented effort to help military veterans and Iowans with disabilities vote. Utilizing videos and social media, revamping the Secretary of State's website, hiring an outreach coordinator, conducting training sessions and workshops, implementing new administrative rules, and numerous other avenues, the Secretary of State's Office reached out to Iowans all over the state. The goal was to make sure Iowans with disabilities, and those that serve them, are aware of the resources available to help them participate in elections.

Subject area of nomination: Elections

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HISTORY

One of the top priorities for Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate is for every eligible Iowan to participate in the state's elections. That effort requires education and encouragement, showing voters with disabilities that the process is simple and can be done without ever leaving their home. An estimated 300,000 Iowans of voting age have some type of disability and studies show that people with disabilities are among the least likely to vote. Secretary Pate made it a goal to help that community participate in Iowa's election process.

January 2015: The Effort Launches

Upon returning to the Secretary of State's Office in January 2015, Secretary Pate implemented many new processes to enhance and promote ballot accessibility for Iowans with disabilities, including:

- Conducting extensive training with every state agency regarding registering voters.
- Implementing administrative rules requiring mandated reporting of voter registration by each state agency.
- Reviewing accessibility aids for non-sighted voters, including an assessment of braille materials for use at the polling place and ensuring they're available at all 1,681 precincts.
- Updating the voter registration form to format it as a fillable form and make voter registration materials screen reader-friendly.
- Training sight-impaired Iowans on using accessible voting equipment, in partnership with the Iowa Council of the United Blind
- Extensive training sessions for Iowans with disabilities in partnership Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Many Iowans with disabilities are also military veterans. Secretary Pate's campaign took a three-pronged approach:

1. Target the general population of Iowans with disabilities.
2. Target those who bravely served our country in the military.
3. Help the 99 county auditors and 10,000 precinct election officials in the state that administer elections remove any potential barriers to the ballot box.

When Secretary Pate's Office [launched online voter registration](#) in January 2016, we worked with the Iowa Department of Transportation to ensure the system complied with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards for webpage function and design. To assure the continued best access for persons with disabilities, an ADA compliance consultant was contracted to review the online registration system and recommend appropriate adjustments as needed.

Making sure Iowa's elections are accessible for voters with disabilities means educating county auditors and precinct election officials about the need for accessibility. These requirements include ensuring the buildings are accessible for people with disabilities, providing accessible voting equipment and ensuring poll workers are knowledgeable about their services they need to provide to voters who might need help casting their ballot.

Steps taken to target all Iowans with disabilities include:

- [Producing nine videos about accessible voting equipment](#) and polling locations, and distributing these to all 99 county auditors, as well as agencies that assist Iowans with disabilities. Four of the videos demonstrate how to set up and operate accessible voting equipment. These were designed for county auditors and precinct election officials. Four more of the videos are designed for voters who need to use the equipment. The final one, "[Election Day in Iowa](#)", is a general instructional video about what to expect on Election Day for both voters and poll workers.
- Producing a 30-second Public Service Announcement that ran on TV and statewide radio encouraging Iowans with disabilities to vote and providing pertinent information.
- Releasing a bipartisan video of state officials detailing the resources available to Iowans with disabilities to help them vote.
- Revamping the Secretary of State's website, sos.iowa.gov/disabilities, to provide a one-stop shop to help Iowans with disabilities vote. On this page, Iowans can register to vote online, download an absentee ballot request form, and learn about curbside voting and other assistance you can receive at your polling site. The webpage also includes several videos that detail how to register to vote, what to expect at your polling site, and how to use voting machines specially designed for people with disabilities.
- Creating and distributing 10,000 brochures statewide, which detail the many resources available for Iowans with disabilities [to help them vote](#). The brochures include information like voting with assistance, curbside voting, and answering frequently asked questions. The brochures were provided to government agencies, entities that work with Iowans who have disabilities, and are available in digital form as well on the Iowa Secretary of State's website.
- Hiring a voter outreach coordinator to travel the state, visiting with organizations that work with Iowans with disabilities, to help promote the voting resources available to them.
- Partnering with the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council to conduct workshops in 21 counties to help Iowans with disabilities vote.

Steps taken to specifically target Iowa's military veterans include:

- Creating and distributing 10,000 brochures statewide, [aimed specifically at military veterans](#), which detail the many resources available for Iowans with disabilities to help

them vote. The brochures include information like voting with assistance, curbside voting, and answering frequently asked questions. The brochures were provided to government agencies, entities that work with lowans who have disabilities, and are available in digital form as well on the Iowa Secretary of State's website.

- Visiting with veterans-affiliated groups like American Legions, VFW's, Veterans Affairs departments, resource fairs, and many more to spread the word about resources available to help veterans, especially those with disabilities, vote.
- Creating a "We've Got Your Back" Facebook Ad and Google Ad campaign aimed specifically at Iowa military veterans to encourage voting and educate them about resources available to help them vote.
- Producing a bipartisan video with Iowa officials that served in the military, aimed specifically at informing veterans about the resources available to them for voting.
- Attending multiple [Joining Community Forces](#) meetings to inform the military community about resources available to help veterans vote.
- Coordinating with the Iowa National Guard to have soldiers deployed in Afghanistan send videos encouraging veterans and all lowans to vote.

Steps taken to specifically target county auditors and poll workers include:

- Purchasing Acer Tablets for all 99 county auditors, equipped with the ADA Checklist Program assist to every Iowa county with their ADA review and ensure that all 1,681 Iowa precincts are accessible.
- As mentioned earlier, [producing nine videos about accessible voting equipment](#) and polling locations, and distributing these to all 99 county auditors, as well as agencies that assist lowans with disabilities. Four of the videos demonstrate how to set up and operate accessible voting equipment. These were designed for county auditors and precinct election officials. Four more of the videos are designed for voters who need to use the equipment. The final one, "[Election Day in Iowa](#)", is a general instructional video about what to expect on Election Day for both voters and poll workers.
- Our voter outreach coordinator visited county auditors' offices in each of the 45 counties she visited to deliver brochures, discuss procedures for aiding Iowa voters with disabilities, and provide other pertinent information.
- Assisting county auditors with training poll workers on ensuring accessible voting locations and equipment.

SIGNIFICANCE

Fewer lowans with disabilities vote compared to general population

An estimated 300,000 lowans have a disability. That equals almost 10% of the state's population. Unfortunately, for many lowans, their disability makes it more difficult to

participate in elections. This population deserves to have its voice heard and as the state's commissioner of elections, Secretary Pate wanted all 300,000 of these voters know there are resources available to make voting a simple process.

[An analysis of the 2012 general election](#) shows that 63.9% of Iowans with disabilities voted that year, while 70.2% of Iowans without disabilities participated. That is a 6.3% disparity. These statistics show an estimated 191,700 eligible Iowans with disabilities did not cast a ballot in 2012. The Secretary of State's Office wanted all of them to participate in 2016.

Disabilities go beyond physical ailments. There are mental disorders and anxieties such as autism, agoraphobia, and PTSD which could deter a person from entering a polling place. These are often undiagnosed. That is why we made a concerted effort to [promote curbside voting](#) for people with disabilities.

Tens of thousands of disabled veterans in Iowa

While targeting all Iowans with disabilities to help them vote, Secretary Pate also wanted to specifically reach out to military veterans that might also be suffering from a disability. Many of them fought to defend our freedoms and our right to vote, so we should do everything possible to help them cast a ballot.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs informed the Secretary of State's Office that there are 37,221 veterans in Iowa receiving disability compensation. This means that the veteran filed a claim for disability compensation and was found to have one or more service-connected disabilities.

Additionally, more than 18,000 Iowa National Guard soldiers and airmen have served on active duty in support of combat and contingency operations since September 11, 2001. Many of them returned to Iowa with a service-related disability.

Statistics from [the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs](#) show that 11-20% of those veterans of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars suffer from Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). That means, between 1,980-3,600 of those Iowa soldiers could be suffering from a disability that might make entering a polling place extremely difficult. PTSD and similar anxiety-related disorders go undiagnosed, so many of these veterans are suffering from a disability, but might not be among those receiving disability compensation.

Secretary Pate wanted to help those who bravely defended our freedoms and our right to vote to be able to cast a ballot themselves and know about all the resources available to them. Military veterans often feel their service and sacrifices are not appreciated. This campaign was one way to show them "we've got your back".

IMPACT/RESULTS

What They're Saying

Steve Crew, chair of Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council: *"I would like to acknowledge the Secretary of State's Office support and willingness to partner with our Council to improve voting access to Iowans with disabilities. In addition, I also want to thank them for their commitment to ensure that the spirit of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) is alive and well in the State of Iowa."*

Rik Shannon, public policy manager, Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council: *"The Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council is pleased to partner with Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate to conduct workshops around the state to assist voters with disabilities to remove any remaining barriers to their full participation in the 2016 election. These workshops provide Iowans with disabilities with an opportunity to ask questions and to learn about the recent changes that make it possible for all voters, regardless of ability, to cast their ballot and have their voice heard."*

Lisa Naslund, co-founder and director for Operation Engage America, a group that helps veterans deal with PTSD and traumatic brain injury: *"A few weeks ago when I learned from Secretary Pate that someone with these type of disabilities and other mental health issues could feel comfortable to vote from their vehicle and never have to get out of their comfort zone, I was thrilled to be able to share this knowledge with other military members living with these issues."*

Mindy Schaefer, president of Iowa State Association of County Auditors and mother of a Iowan with a disability: *"I applaud Secretary Pate's efforts to educate the public in voter accessibility and the various ways that they can cast their ballots. It is important that every voter, regardless of disabilities, has the opportunity to vote in a safe, secure and easily accessible way."*

30-Year Veteran, First Time Voter

Following participation in one of the workshops conducted by Secretary of State and Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council, attendee Frank Delaney [voted for the first time in his life](#). This is significant because Mr. Delaney is in his 60's and spent 30 years serving in the U.S. Army, defending our freedoms and our right to vote. Frank's story is one small example of the impact this program made on Iowans.

Voting with Disabilities Statistics and Feedback

Although all of the hard data regarding Iowans with disabilities voting in the 2016 general election is not fully available yet, we are able to make conclusions from the statistics and information available.

Iowa's election turnout for the 2016 general election was 72.8%, placing Iowa amongst the [top six states in the nation](#) for voter participation.

A post-election survey conducted by Disability Rights Iowa showed significant progress was made in regards to Iowa's accessibility at the polls for voters with disabilities. Less than 10 percent of voters with disabilities gave negative responses regarding accessible space at their polling location. Less than 15 percent responded unfavorably in regards to availability of accessible machines. The Secretary of State's goal is for these numbers to be zero, and the work continues toward that objective.

The National Federation for the Blind conducted a post-Election Day survey showing just under 85 percent of respondents reported they were able to vote privately and independently on an accessible voting machine. This result compared to 51 percent in 2008 and 74 percent in 2014. This shows that nationally we are moving in the right direction and we believe data will show Iowa is on pace or above the national level. We will continue to work to bring this number to 100 percent.

Reaching More than One Million Voters with Sponsored Public Service Announcements

The [sponsored PSA](#) that ran on two Des Moines television stations in October 2016 reached an audience of 1,074,000 Iowans. These were geared specifically to reach older audience segments, which are more likely to consist of people with disabilities.

An audio version of the same PSA ran on statewide radio, reaching more than 242,000 listeners at least once, with 831,000 total impressions.

Reaching Tens of Thousands of Iowans with Disabilities through Social Media Ads

Using Facebook Ads and Google Ads, the Secretary of State's Office targeted Iowans with disabilities and Iowa veterans to provide information on voting resources available to them. One Facebook Ad geared toward veterans with disabilities reached more than 81,000 Iowans, with almost 4,000 link clicks that directed them to sos.iowa.gov/disabilities. Other sponsored Facebook Ads reached in tens of thousands of Iowans, geared specifically to those most likely to have a disability.

Overall, we believe this effort was crucial in helping countless Iowans register to vote and participate in the November 2016 campaign, and in making the process easier for them. It is vital to inform them of the resources available, as well as educate county auditors and precinct workers on their responsibilities in helping Iowans with disabilities vote.

Secretary Pate's ultimate goal is for every eligible Iowan to register to vote and cast a ballot. This continuing effort is a very positive step in that direction, by aiding 300,000 Iowans with disabilities in the voting process. Voting is a fundamental right and privilege for every Iowan.

Helping voters with disabilities through the process is one of the highest callings for our office and it's an initiative we are extremely proud to conduct.

SUPPORTING MATERIALS

NEWS CLIPS

WHO-TV: [Iowa Veterans, Voters with Disabilities Targeted by Get Out the Vote Campaign](#)
KIMT-TV: [Veterans and voting](#)
KGAN-TV: [New report shows growing number of eligible voters with disabilities](#)
Clinton Herald: [Voting options offered](#)
Quad City Times: [Workshop for Iowa voters with disabilities](#)
Newton Daily News: [Secretary of State's Office conducts workshop in Jasper County](#)
Tama News-Herald: [Aid for veterans and Iowans with disabilities to vote launched](#)
Nevada Journal: [Secretary of State's Office conducts workshop in Story County](#)
Tri-County Times: [Secretary of State's Office conducts workshop in Story County](#)
Marshalltown Times-Republican: [Pate launches new voting initiative](#)
Dallas County News: [Voting workshop to help veterans and Iowans with disabilities in Adel](#)
Estherville Daily News: [Resources available for voters with disabilities](#)
Daily Iowegian: [Pate initiative helps military veterans, Iowans with disabilities](#)
Guthrie Center Times: [Pate launches new initiative to help veterans & Iowans with disabilities](#)
Osceola Sentinel-Tribune: [Pate launches new initiative to help veterans, Iowans with disabilities](#)
Schaller Herald: [New initiative to help military veterans and Iowans with disabilities vote](#)
Iowa Public Radio: [Improved Access for Voters with Disabilities](#)
Radio Iowa: [Secretary of State videos focus on helping people with disabilities vote](#)
KOEL Radio: [Iowa's Statewide Initiative to Help Veterans & the Disabled Vote](#)

VIDEO LINKS

They Defended Your Right to Vote: <https://youtu.be/78sSdhBIWQA>
Special message to Iowans with disabilities and their families: <https://youtu.be/Lt1KNUUZ6ig>
Special message to military veterans and their families: <https://youtu.be/bkd4Abu3tqc>
Election Day in Iowa: <https://youtu.be/AKqBcBQvdZw>
Helping Veterans and Iowans with Disabilities Vote: <https://youtu.be/ShN5Zm7Cc4o>
OVI voter instructions: <https://youtu.be/2GNH575QM8M>
OVI precinct worker instructions: <https://youtu.be/BNU5Yydm0ng>
ImageCast voter instructions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jvfl74OuD0>
ImageCast precinct worker instructions: <https://youtu.be/fVRroo0vQcs>
AutoMARK voter instructions: <https://youtu.be/sX1GBVUtme4>
AutoMARK precinct worker instructions: <https://youtu.be/D2ovy-PC7Is>
Express Vote voter instructions: https://youtu.be/f9ZpPz_NqlU
Express Vote precinct worker instructions: <https://youtu.be/h0Us6xUkJw>
National Guard soldier vote encouragement, Collier: <https://youtu.be/dEWtp1ehGww>
National Guard soldier vote encouragement, Craig: https://youtu.be/Tm6_i8ynez0
National Guard soldier vote encouragement, Mullins: <https://youtu.be/t7yMWfkhOrE>
30-Second Public Service Announcement: <https://youtu.be/96TQwdf7lxo>

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT TV SPOT REACH

General Summary (DMA P18+ D.RTG)

Name	Spots	Cost	Grps	Imp(000)	CPP	Reach	Freq
WHO	43	\$5,725.00	103.7	822.5	\$55.21	48.2	2.2
WOI	32	\$2,950.00	31.5	252.3	\$93.65	13.6	2.3
DES MOINES-AMES	75	\$8,675.00	135.2	1074.8	\$64.16	55.2	2.4

Station Summary (DMA P18+ D.RTG)

Station	Spots	Cost	Grps	Imp(000)	CPP	Reach	Freq
WHO	43	\$5,725.00	103.7	822.5	\$55.21	48.2	2.2
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Total (DMA P18+)	75	\$8,675.00	135.2	1074.8	\$64.16	55.2	2.4

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT RADIO SPOT REACH

Coverage	Schedule	Total Local Messages	Total Number of Weeks	Reduced Rate Value	Investment \$4,500
Radio Iowa, 65 stations	30 Spots	1,950	Two	\$5,220	\$2.31 average cost per stations
CAMPAIGN TOTAL LISTENERSHIP IMPACT: NIELSEN RESEARCH SP16 IOWANS 18+					
REACH	Number of unique people who hear your message each airing				242,700
FREQUENCY	Number of times each person hears your message on average				3.4
GROSS IMPRESSIONS	Number of different times your message is heard during campaign				831,00

BROCHURES

Two different brochures were produced. One is entitled “Voting in Iowa, Individuals with Disabilities”, with the subtext: “What You Need to Know”.

Voting in Iowa, Individuals with Disabilities

Paul D. Pate
Iowa Secretary of State
SERVICE • PARTICIPATION • INTEGRITY

VOTING IN IOWA
Individuals with Disabilities

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Secretary of State
Executive Office
201 E. 19th St.
Des Moines, IA 50319
Voter Hotline:
1-888-555-VOTE
1-888-757-8662
www.sos.iowa.gov

I'm proud that Iowa is one of the nation's leaders in voting accessibility.
My office will continue to strive to increase participation while maintaining the integrity of the vote. Hundreds of thousands of brave Americans fought to defend our freedoms and the right to choose our form of government. There is not a higher honor we can give them than fulfilling our civic duty by voting.

Paul D. Pate
Iowa Secretary of State

VOTING WITH ASSISTANCE IN IOWA
Voting at the polls can present a unique set of challenges to people with disabilities. It is the intent of federal law to ensure that voters with disabilities are fully able to exercise their voting rights at the polls.
If you or a family member need special assistance to vote, you have the right to have an accessible voting location, assistance to vote and accessible voting equipment.
Inside, you will find more information on ways you or a family member that needs assistance can vote.

If you have more specific questions or need further assistance in voting, please call your county auditor or the Secretary of State office at 1-888-555-VOTE 1-888-757-8662.

I CAN'T LEAVE MY HOME. I CAN'T GET TO THE POLLS. CAN SOMEONE BRING A BALLOT TO MY CAR?
YES!
If you are unable to enter the building where the polling place is located because of a disability, you must request assistance from a precinct election official, not from your political party, to have a ballot and election supplies outside to the voter. The voter must sign the Affidavit of Voter Requesting Assistance.
It is not required, but would be helpful to contact the county auditor's office, to let them know that you will be voting by mail.

I HAVE A DISABILITY OR GUARDIAN. CAN I VOTE?
YES!
You can still vote, unless you are specifically asked to sign a statement that you are not eligible to vote.

I NEED HELP FILLING OUT MY BALLOT AT THE POLLS. CAN SOMEONE HELP ME?
YES!
1. You may request assistance for marking or casting a ballot. Any voter may decide upon any time that the voter is blind, cannot read or cannot write, or is, because of any physical disability, unable to cast a vote without assistance.
2. Voters may choose any person to assist them, except their employer, employer's agent or an official agent of their union. Voters may also request assistance from a precinct election official. Two precinct officials, one from each political party, may assist. If a person other than the precinct official assists the voter, the person assisting the voter must sign the Affidavit of Voter Requesting Assistance.
3. Each polling place has a voter access terminal. This device is available for any voter. To mark their ballots, voters use features on the machine such as a touch screen, an audio component, and/or a sip and puff system to select their candidates. The device will then mark their ballot according to their selections.

I AM UNABLE TO LEAVE MY CAR AT THE POLLS. CAN SOMEONE BRING A BALLOT TO MY CAR?
YES!
If you are unable to enter the building where the polling place is located because of a disability, you must request assistance from a precinct election official, not from your political party, to have a ballot and election supplies outside to the voter. The voter must sign the Affidavit of Voter Requesting Assistance.
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The other brochure produced by the Iowa Secretary of State's Office is entitled "Voting in Iowa, Veterans with Disabilities", with the subtext: "You Had Our Back and Defended Our Right to Vote! Now it's Our Turn. We Have Your Back When It Comes to Voting."

Voting in Iowa, Veterans with Disabilities

Paul D. Pate
Iowa Secretary of State
SERVICE • PARTICIPATION • INTEGRITY

VOTING IN IOWA
Veterans with Disabilities

YOU HAD OUR BACK AND DEFENDED OUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

NOW IT'S OUR TURN.
We have your back when it comes to voting.

#GOTYOURBACK/VOYE

Secretary of State
Executive Office
First Floor
Luther Building
201 E. CHS St.
Des Moines, IA 50319
Voter Hotline:
1-800-555-VOYE
1-800-767-6663
www.sos.iowa.gov

I respect and appreciate the men and women who have served our country honorably. You have been on the front lines protecting our freedoms and particularly our right to vote. Thank you.

You had our back and defended our right to VOTE!

Now it's our turn. We have your back when it comes to voting. I'm proud that Iowa is one of the nation's leaders in voting accessibility, and my office will continue to strive to increase participation while maintaining the integrity of the vote.

Paul D. Pate
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Iowa Secretary of State

VOTING WITH ASSISTANCE IN IOWA

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If you have more specific questions or need further assistance in voting, please call your county auditor or the Secretary of State office at **1-800-555-VOYE** or **1-800-767-6663**.

Executive Star Registration

Proof of ID:
Driver's License
US Passport
US Military ID
ID Card issued by employer
Student ID issued by high school or college

Proof of Residence:
Four recent utility bills for your current address
Recent lease
Mortgage
Bank Statement
Paycheck
Government Check
Other Government Document

WHERE CAN I REGISTER TO VOTE?

- County auditor's office
- Iowa Department of Motor Vehicles office or insurance offices that issue driver's licenses
- Print out a registration form from our website. Fill it out and mail it to your county auditor. www.sos.iowa.gov/disabilities
- Register online at www.sos.iowa.gov/disabilities
- State agencies that provide services to veterans including, but not limited to Human Services, Housing/Disabilities, WIC and Department of the Blind.

You can register to vote on Election Day. You must prove both who you are and where you live. Make sure to bring current identification with you to expedite the process.

More details: www.sos.iowa.gov/disabilities

I CAN'T LEAVE MY HOME. CAN I STILL VOTE?

YES!

You may request an absentee ballot by printing a request form from our website: www.sos.iowa.gov/disabilities

Fill out the request form, sign it, then mail to your county auditor. An absentee ballot will then be mailed to you. After you have filled out your absentee ballot, mail it back to your county auditor.

To find your auditor visit our website: www.sos.iowa.gov/disabilities

Some counties allow you to vote absentee using electronic devices. Contact your county auditor to find out if a device voting location is available in your area.

To watch a demonstration video of how to use a device, visit our website: www.sos.iowa.gov/disabilities

Early Voting

Approved to vote before an election, you may vote in person at your county auditor's office. This right is held by you, not your permanent residence.

Some counties allow you to vote absentee using electronic devices. Contact your county auditor to find out if a device voting location is available in your area.

Iowa Polls are open from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. on Election Day

I NEED HELP FILLING OUT MY BALLOT AT THE POLLS. CAN SOMEONE HELP ME?

YES!

- You may request assistance for marking or casting a ballot. Any voter may demand upon each that the voter is blind, cannot read the English language, or is, by reason of any physical disability, unable to cast a vote without assistance.
- Voters may choose any person to assist them, except their employer, employer's agent or an officer/agent of their union. Voters may also request assistance from a precinct election official. Two precinct officials, one from each political party, may assist. If a person other than the precinct official assists the voter, the person assisting the voter must sign the Affidavit of Voter Requesting Assistance.
- Each polling place has a voter assist terminal. This device is available for any voter. To mark their ballots, voters use buttons on the machine such as a touch screen, an audio component, and/or a sign and push button to select their candidate. The device will then mark their ballot according to their selections.

I AM UNABLE TO LEAVE MY CAR AT THE POLLS. CAN SOMEONE BRING A BALLOT TO MY CAR?

YES!

If you are unable to enter the building where the polling place is located because of a disability, two precinct election officials, one from each political party, will take a ballot and election supplies outside to the voter. The voter may then mark the ballot in the voter's vehicle. The voter must sign the Affidavit of Voter Requesting Assistance.

It is not required, but would be helpful to contact the county auditor's office to let them know that you will be voting outside.

IF THERE IS A CONGRESSIONAL OR STATEWIDE CAUSE, CAN I STILL VOTE?

YES!

You can vote even when a cause is being held in a court, making that you may not vote.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Help us recognize and honor the sacrifices that our veterans have made through the history of our nation. We will provide you with a special ballot and a special envelope. We will also provide you with a special envelope and a special ballot. We will also provide you with a special envelope and a special ballot. We will also provide you with a special envelope and a special ballot.

Secretary of State
Executive Office
First Floor
Luther Building
201 E. CHS St.
Des Moines, IA 50319
Voter Hotline:
1-800-555-VOYE
1-800-767-6663
www.sos.iowa.gov

PICTURES AND SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS FROM VOTER OUTREACH WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS



lowasospaulpate
Honey Creek Resort, Lake Rathbun

successful_disabled_mom, a38ems, sebastian_luty, tinalniowa, ldaction, jim_roberts and disabilitysupportprogram like this

lowasospaulpate Spreading the word about voting with disabilities at the ID ACTION - Make Your Mark Conference. #MyVoteMatters #BeAVoter #disability #disabled #vote #voter #voting #elections #disabilities

♥ Add a comment... 11w



lowasospaulpate

tinalniowa likes this
lowasospaulpate Continuing our outreach throughout the state, my staff visited with staff and volunteers at Adair County Outreach Center about voting with disabilities. #BeAVoter #IowaSecretaryofState

♥ Add a comment... 13w



Wally and Amy
Support Services of South Central Iowa

lowasospaulpate

successful_disabled_mom, tinalniowa, teetaleinc, disabilitysupportprogram, uphold_global and a38ems like this

lowasospaulpate Continuing outreach to voters with disabilities, my staff were able to visit with Wally and Amy from Support Services of South Central Iowa. #BeAVoter #disability #disabilities #vote #voting #accessibility

♥ Add a comment... 13w



lowasospaulpate

travellingnobes, flipwithskip, successful_disabled_mom, tinalniowa, teetaleinc, naomicorrie, disabilitysupportprogram and uphold_global like this

lowasospaulpate My staff continued outreach to veterans & Iowans with disabilities at the Veterans of Foreign Wars dinner in Council Bluffs. We cannot thank them enough for defending our freedoms & right to vote. #GotYourBack #HonorAVeteran #honoravet #vfw #veteran #Veterans #disability #disabilities

♥ Add a comment... 15w



lowasospaulpate
Treyner Community Center

patriot_apparel, L_am_veteran, usarmyfit, naomicorrie, sillyrepublicans, docspertanproducts and tinalniowa like this

lowasospaulpate SOS staff on-hand to provide voting resources and Honor a Veterans Fair in Treyner today. #HonorAVeteran #honoravet #GotYourBack #vet #veteran #Veterans #vote

♥ Add a comment... 16w



Innovative Industries

Southern Iowa Resources for Families

lowasospaulpate
Southern Iowa Resources

tinalniowa likes this
lowasospaulpate Continuing our outreach across the state to help Iowans with disabilities vote, my staff visited with Innovative Industries and Southern Iowa Resources for Families. Thank you for helping make our elections accessible to all eligible Iowans! #BeAVoter

♥ Add a comment... 14w

FACEBOOK AD CAMPAIGN

Secretary Pate utilized Facebook and Facebook Ads to target Iowans who are more likely to suffer from a disability, encouraging them to vote and visit the 'Disabilities' page on the Secretary of State's website, <https://sos.iowa.gov/disabilities>.

[If you have a disability and need helping voting...](#)

[A special message to military veterans...](#)

[Working hard to help Iowans with disabilities vote...](#)



Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate ✓
Published by Kevin Hall (?) · October 19 · 🌐

If you have a disability and need helping voting, there are resources available to you. Visit sos.iowa.gov/disabilities. Make your voice heard. #BeAVoter



6,120 people reached

4.1K Views

Like Comment Share

Ross Wood, Joe Keever and 29 others

32 shares 3 Comments



Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate ✓
Written by Maggie Meyer (?) · September 29 · 🌐

VETERANS: We've got your back when it comes to voting. Click to LEARN MORE.



Help a Disabled Vet Vote

I'm proud that Iowa is one of the nation's leaders in voting accessibility. My office will continue to strive to increase participation while maintaining the integrity of the vote. Hundreds of thousands of brave Americans fought to defend our freedoms and the...

SOS.IOWA.GOV

81,325 people reached

Like Comment Share

Perla Alarcon-Flory, Ray Niewoehner and 373 others

102 shares 12 Comments



Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate ✓
Published by Kevin Hall (?) · November 3, 2016 · 🌐

A special message to military veterans. You had our back and defended our freedoms. Now, when it comes to voting, we've got your back. #HonorAVet #GotYourBack



8,284 people reached

4.3K Views

Like Comment Share

Kyle W. Obrecht, Thane Garton and 49 others



Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate ✓
Published by Kevin Hall (?) · October 7, 2016 · 🌐

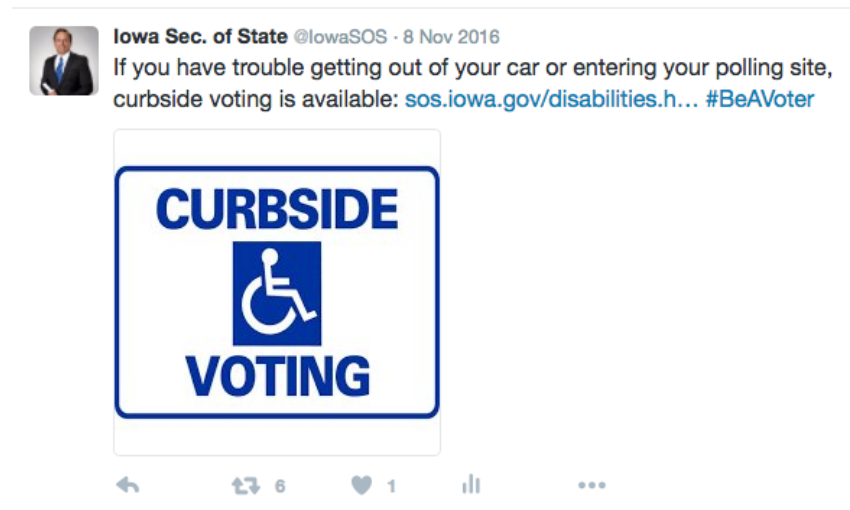
My office works hard to help Iowans with disabilities vote. Last week we had a great talk with some community leaders on disability rights. Big thanks to Operation Engage America, Disability Rights Iowa, Iowans with Disabilities in Action (ID Action) and many other organizations across America who have joined our effort to get all voters to the polls on Election Day!



4,010 people reached

2.2K Views

OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS





Iowa Sec. of State @IowaSOS · 26 Sep 2016

Very proud of this bipartisan video to help Iowans with disabilities
#vote. #BeAVoter youtu.be/Lt1KNUUZ6ig



5 3



Iowans with Disabilities in Action (ID Action)

October 26, 2016 ·

A great resource from [Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate](#). An instructional video for Iowans with disabilities who will need to use the OVI voting machine this upcoming election. All polling places are accessible spaces in Iowa and every polling place will have an accessible voting machine.

Un gran recurso del Secretario de Estado Paul Pate. Un video instruccional para las personas de Iowa con discapacidad que necesitaran ayuda usando la maquina OVI para votar durante las elecciones. Todos los lugares de Iowa son espacios accesibles y tendrán maquinas accesibles para votar.

[See Translation](#)



OVI voter instructions

An instructional video for Iowans with disabilities who need to use the OVI voting machine.

[YOUTUBE.COM](#)

Like

Comment

Share





Iowans with Disabilities in Action (ID Action)

October 25, 2016 · 🌐

We have partnered with Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate to provide military veterans and Iowans with disabilities with more than 20 workshops from now until Election Day. Our goal is to help remove any barriers in the voting process so everyone's voice is heard regardless of political party.

Nos hemos asociado con el Secretario de Estado de Iowa Paul Pate para proporcionar los veteranos de Iowa y las personas con discapacidad con más de 20 talleres a partir de ahora hasta el día de la elección. Nuestro objetivo es ayudar a eliminar todos los obstáculos en el proceso de votación sin importar el partido político.

[See Translation](#)



Iowa Veterans, Voters with Disabilities Targeted by Get Out The Vote Campaign

DES MOINES, Iowa-- The latest numbers show nearly 286,000 Iowans have...

WHOTV.COM | BY WHO TV CHANNEL 13 NEWS

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



Iowans with Disabilities in Action (ID Action) shared Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate's photo.

October 24, 2016 · 🌐



Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate

October 24, 2016 · 🌐

We're partnering with Rik Shannon from Iowans with Disabilities in Action (ID Action) to conduct workshops across the state to help veterans & Iowans with disabilities vote. In Marshalltown, Marshall County Auditor Deanne Raymond & Assistant County Auditor Cindy Reutzel joined us.

30-YEAR ARMY VETERAN VOTING FOR THE FIRST TIME

