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Sample ballot, information pamphlets to be mailed for state Senate District 40 election in March

Sample ballot and information pamphlets will start going out to voters tomorrow (Jan. 31) for the state Senate District 40 special primary election March 12. In Riverside County, the district includes all or portions of Blythe, Cathedral City, Coachella, East Blythe, Indio, Mecca and Thousand Palms.

About half the pamphlets will be mailed initially, with the remainder sent to voters by sometime early next week. Material in the pamphlets will help voters make informed choices and the Registrar of Voters recommends that voters review the material before casting an official ballot.

If voters do not receive an informational publication in the mail, it will be available on the Internet at www.voteinfo.net beginning tomorrow. Voters also may call the registrar's office at (951) 486-7200 or 1-800-773-8683 to request a mailed copy or inquire about their eligibility to vote in the election.

The location of each voter's polling place is printed on the information pamphlet's back cover, which also includes an application to request a vote-by-mail ballot. A Spanish-language version of the pamphlet also is available at www.voteinfo.net and a copy can be mailed upon request.

Below is a list of important deadlines for the March 12 election:

Feb. 11 – First day of early voting in the Registrar of Voters office and first day the registrar is allowed to mail vote-by-mail ballots to voters.

Feb. 25 – Last day to register to vote in the March 12 election.

March 5 – Last day the registrar may accept mailed requests for vote-by-mail ballots. After March 5, voters must go to the registrar's office to request and pick up a vote-by-mail ballot. Voters who have requested but not received a vote-by-mail ballot by March 5 should contact the registrar's office at (951) 486-7200.

March 6 – Recommended as last day to mail a ballot locally with high likelihood the registrar will receive it in time to be counted in the March 12 election.

March 12 – Election Day

Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day. Vote-by-mail ballots must be in the possession of the Registrar of Voters no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day. By law, ballots that are postmarked but that are not in the Registrar's possession before the deadline CANNOT be counted.