

JOHN A. GALE
Nebraska Secretary of State

P.O. Box 94608
State Capitol, Suite 2300
Lincoln, NE 68509-4608
Phone: (402) 471-2554
Fax: (402) 471-3237
www.sos.state.ne.us

News Release
March 31, 2006

Contact: Neal Erickson
(402) 471-4127, neal.erickson@sos.ne.gov

Gale urges residents overseas to vote in May 9 election

LINCOLN – Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale urged Nebraska residents living outside the United States to participate in the May 9 primary election by using early-voting/absentee ballots.

“I want to make sure that Nebraskans living outside the country, whether in the military or for other reasons, have the chance to vote,” Gale said. “I want to make a special outreach effort to military personnel, considering the many deployments of Reserve and National Guard units.”

One way for Nebraskans living in foreign countries to apply to vote is to fill out a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), which can be used for registering to vote and/or requesting an absentee ballot.

For those that have applied previously, absentee ballots will be sent out. For those that have applied previously and their address has changed, they should contact their county election office to update their address.

Nebraska law allows a person to receive a blank ballot by fax. However, the law does not allow for a voted ballot to be returned by fax.

A county election office must receive an absentee ballot before the close of polls on May 9 for the ballot to be counted.

Information on foreign voting, including the FPCA form and telephone numbers for county election offices, is available at www.sos.state.ne.us. Questions may be directed to the Secretary of State’s Office at (402) 471-2555 or county election offices.

“If you have relatives, friends or colleagues in foreign countries who are eligible to vote in Nebraska, I urge you to contact them regarding the voting process,” Gale said.

#