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Savings bond program promotes youth election workers

LINCOLN – Nebraska youth ages 14 to 18 who serve as election workers during the Nov. 7 general election are eligible to participate in drawings for five \$50 savings bonds.

The program, sponsored by Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale and the Nebraska Bankers Association, is designed to encourage young people to learn about the election process firsthand.

“Here is a real opportunity for young people to provide community service,” Gale said, “as well as learn how elections are run in a democracy, which is a great civic education for them.”

The program attracted 201 participants during the May primary election, and Gale said he hopes to improve on that number for the November election.

“The program is making a real impact due to the cooperation of county election officials and the Nebraska Bankers Association,” he said.

County election officials are required to have poll workers in place by Oct. 23 for the election. Youths interested in serving as paid workers or volunteers need to contact their county clerk or county election commissioner by that date. Youth organizations seeking community service also are encouraged to apply.

Each youth participant will receive a recognition award from Gale.

The Nebraska Bankers Association will purchase the savings bonds for the winners, who will be chosen in drawings scheduled for Nov. 28. Winners will be selected from each of the five regions across the state corresponding with the Nebraska Association of County

Officials' district organization: Northeast, Southeast, Central, West Central and Panhandle.

A youth must serve a minimum of four hours on Election Day to qualify for the drawings of the saving bonds.

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