



# From the Office of Secretary of State

John A. Gale

## **For Release**

June 18, 2015

**Contact:** Laura Strimple  
402-471-8408  
[laura.strimple@nebraska.gov](mailto:laura.strimple@nebraska.gov)

## **Candidates showing early interest in 2016 election**

LINCOLN – The first opportunity to file for candidacy for a state office in the 2016 election is still months away. However the Secretary of State’s office is already receiving calls from citizens expressing interest in running for office. Secretary John Gale says his election division is fielding calls each week from people asking about deadlines, filing fees and other requirements.

“Representative democracy on all levels needs citizens willing to step up and become candidates,” said Gale.

The 2016 election will not include constitutional offices but will include others like U.S. Congress, Nebraska Legislature, State Board of Education, University of Nebraska Board of Regents, public power districts, community colleges and others.

“I’m encouraged that potential candidates are showing an interest, and in particular that the legislative seats are generating quite a bit of interest,” remarked Gale. There will be 12 open seats in 2016 and 13 incumbent seats up for re-election.

The earliest that incumbents and non-incumbents can file is December 1, 2015. Gale advised that anyone thinking about candidacy should check with the Accountability and Disclosure Commission about the forms that need to be filed with that agency and the disclosure and financial accountability rules that should be followed.

Citizens who are interested in running for office can find additional information on the Secretary of State's website: [www.sos.ne.gov](http://www.sos.ne.gov). There is a link on the front page that lists filing information for the various offices available.

For the primary, the filing deadline for anyone currently holding public office is February 16, 2016. It is March 1, 2016 for non-incumbents.

For lower offices that do not have a primary, the filing deadline for those already in public office is July 15, 2016 for the general election. For non-incumbents it is August 1, 2016. Those offices include things like villages, Class II schools and certain public power districts among others.

###