

# NEWS RELEASE

## For Immediate Release

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## Nebraska Online Voter Registration Wins 2016 StateScoop 50 Award for Innovation of the Year

**LINCOLN, Neb.** – May 5, 2016 – The Nebraska Online Voter Registration application was recognized by the 2016 StateScoop 50 Awards as Innovation of the Year. The awards, presented on May 4 in Baltimore, honor the best and the brightest IT leaders and programs that make state and local government more efficient and effective.

The Nebraska Online Voter Registration application, NEReg2Vote, is a bi-lingual, cross-agency application for online voter registration. Launched by the Nebraska Secretary of State Elections Division on September 22, 2015 to coincide with National Voter Registration Day, the interactive system securely collects sensitive information from the user, then validates this information with the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles.

The application offers a simple interface for eligible users to enter or update their voter information. In addition, the navigation demonstrations and voter FAQ's are available to assist first time and returning voters. Adoption surpassed 31,000 registrants in time for the primary election, and continued growth is expected nearing the general election in November.

<http://www.nebraska.gov/demo/sos-voter-reg/one.html>

“The benefits of our NEReg2Vote online registration project were many, including: mobile device access; greater accuracy and completeness of applications; elimination of paper forms and mailing costs; helpful optional information from registrants to improve cross-checking and verification; ending digital entry of data by county election officials for online registrations; compliance with state law of required signatures on applications by use of driver's license signatures of applicants; and more immediate access by election officials to the new electronic

registrations compared to mailed applications,” said Secretary of State John Gale. “The hard work by all involved with their knowledge and guidance enabled a smooth and successful launch.”

Nebraska Interactive General Manager Brent Hoffman added, “We are very proud of the work we did to provide English and Spanish speaking constituents the ability to maintain their voting status. It was a pleasure to work with the DMV and SOS on this project.”

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