

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT: Misty Curn, 701-328-5409

## **Secretary Howe Celebrates Help America Vote Day**

**BISMARCK, ND** – The North Dakota Office of the Secretary of State is recognizing Help America Vote Day on January 30, 2024, by encouraging people to volunteer as election poll workers. First recognized by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission in 2022, Help America Vote Day aims to raise awareness about the importance of poll workers and inspire more Americans to play a role in the electoral process.

"Elections would not be possible without poll workers. It is an opportunity for citizens to get involved in the election process and ensure polling locations are open for friends and neighbors in their community," said Secretary of State Michael Howe. "I encourage North Dakotans to sign up as poll workers to help ensure that voters can cast their ballots safely and successfully."

North Dakota needs over 3,000 poll workers to help elections run smoothly. Working as a poll worker is a great way to meet new people, serve the community, and strengthen our democracy. Poll workers need to be at least 16 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a resident of North Dakota. They must be able to attend a training session and will be paid for their efforts.

Poll workers help set up and prepare the polling location, check in voters, issue ballots, and help close down the polls at the end of election day. They also assist voters by demonstrating how to use voting equipment and explain voting procedures. Special experience is not needed, and poll workers will learn everything they need to know during a training session provided by their county auditor.

For more information on becoming a poll worker you can:

- Contact your local county auditor.
- Download a poll worker information brochure at https://bit.ly/BecomeaNDPollWorker.
- Contact the Secretary of State Elections Division at soselect@nd.gov or call 701-328-4146.

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The Office of Secretary of State oversees a variety of functions, including elections, business registrations, licensing for certain occupations, Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) lien filings, and combative sports, as well as serving as the custodian of the Great Seal, and attesting official documents and acts of the Governor.