

City of New Bedford Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor City of New Bedford Office of the Mayor Contact: Jonathan Carvalho (508) 979-1410 jcarvalho@newbedford-ma.gov

> Date: August 2, 2018 For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

New Bedford Election Commission reminds public of voter registration deadline; absentee ballots now available

New Bedford, Massachusetts- The New Bedford Board of Election Commissioners reminds the public that the last day to register to vote and to change party enrollment for the Massachusetts state primary elections is Wednesday, August 15, 2018. The state primaries will be held on Tuesday, September 4, 2018.

Residents may register to vote in the Election Commission Office, Room 114 in New Bedford City Hall at 133 William Street, open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. To allow the public more time to complete the voter registration process, the Election Commission Office will remain open on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The registration/party enrollment deadline is also the deadline for voters to notify the Board of Elections of any changes in their address and name change.

Voters may cast their votes for Senator in Congress, Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Representative in Congress, Senator in General Court, Representative in General Court for the Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and Thirteenth Bristol District, District Attorney for Bristol County, Treasurer for Bristol County, County Commissioner for Bristol County and Register of Deeds for Bristol County.

Absentee ballots now available

The Board of Election Commissioners also reminds the public that absentee ballots for the State Primary are available. Any voter unable to get to the polls on Election Day may vote by absentee ballot during regular office hours (Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) or may request that an absentee ballot application be mailed to their home address.

Parents or family members can apply for an absentee ballot on behalf of their children attending college/university outside the city or state. These ballots must be returned to the Election Office by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day, September 4. All absentee ballots must be mailed, but can be hand delivered back to the office.

The deadline to cast or apply for an absentee ballot in the office is Friday, August 31, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

As usual, on Election Day, Tuesday, September 4, 2018, polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Any New Bedford resident who is uncertain about their voting status, designated polling location, has changed their address since the last election or would like to request an absentee ballot should contact the Board of Election Commissioners at (508) 979-1420.

###