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Gale urges citizens to vote in November election

LINCOLN – Secretary of State John Gale urged Nebraskans to ignore projections of low voter turnout and produce a good turnout for the Nov. 2 general election.

“I am not going to issue a statewide turnout projection for the November election,” Gale said. “My hope is that our citizens respond favorably with at least a majority of registered voters voting.”

He said that he worried that low turnout projections can result in a self-fulfilling prophecy.

He acknowledged that the November election has not generated many races at the top of the ticket to energize the electorate. But he said there are still plenty of reasons for citizens to vote.

Citizens will be voting on a variety of local races. “Quite often the local races impact citizens on a more personal level than some of the races on the top of the ticket,” Gale said.

In addition, citizens statewide will be voting on two constitutional amendments.

“I need your help to get out the vote,” Gale said. “Please encourage your family members, friends and work colleagues to vote. Make your mark!”

A total of 1,142,247 Nebraskans are registered to vote in the November election. Figures show the following breakdown by party: Republican Party, 549,105; Democratic Party, 380,321; nonpartisan, 212,501; and Libertarian Party, 320.

Statewide turnout in the 2006 general election, the last one without a presidential race, was 53.6 percent of registered voters.

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