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CLERK SOLLAMI COVELLO ANNOUNCES VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS NOW AVAILABLE AT MERCER COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

TRENTON- Vote-by-Mail applications are now available for the June 6th Primary Election in New Jersey and may be requested from the Mercer County Clerk's Office. Voters may also walk in and apply for vote-by-mail ballots by visiting the County Clerk's Election Office at 240 West State Street, 7th Floor, Trenton, and obtain a ballot there, until June 5th at 3pm.

Voters who can't go to the polls are encouraged to use this opportunity to vote by mail for the upcoming June 6th Primary election. In New Jersey, any registered voter can vote by mail for any reason. Voters do not have to be sick, working, or out of town to request a ballot.

What voters may not know is that if they are on the "permanent" vote by mail list, it does not automatically allow them to receive a vote by mail ballot for the Primary election. A voter will only receive a vote by mail ballot if he has either filed an application for the upcoming June 6th Primary, or if he filed an application this year for all ballots in the current "calendar year."

Many people believe that if they file to be on the permanent list, it makes them eligible for all elections. The permanent list only makes them eligible to receive ballots for the "General Elections" held every November. Consequently you would need to apply for a vote-by- mail ballot for this year's Primary Election if you do not wish to vote at the polls.

On the ballot this June are races for offices ranging from Governor of NJ, to State legislature, to County and local races as well as for partisan State Committee races.

The voter registration deadline for this election is May 16th, 2017. A <u>registered</u> voter may apply for a ballot by completing and mailing an easy Vote-By-Mail application by May 30^{th.} The deadline for walk-ins is June 5th at 3pm.

To request a Vote-by-Mail application, voters can call 609-989-6494. Vote-by-Mail applications also are available on the web at www.mercercounty.org/countyclerk in both English and Spanish. The State Division of Elections website also offers vote-by-mail ballots in Indian, Korean and Chinese languages. That website is http://www.njelections.org/voting-information-vote-by-mail.html.