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NEWS

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**Citizens Who Had Voting Problems Urged To Contact
Election Officials**

SPRINGFIELD —Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White, State Elections Board Executive Director Dr. Ronald Michaelson, and Association of Election Commission Officials of Illinois President Lance Gough are urging Illinois citizens who had problems with their voter registration last fall and who want to vote in the upcoming municipal elections to verify that they are registered to vote by contacting their local election officials.

In order to be eligible to vote in the February 27th municipal primary election individuals must be registered by January 29th of this year.

"We want to take every step possible to make sure that individuals who want to vote in this spring's elections have met all the requirements and are able to participate," White said.

"I believe this is an important point to make to the public and I encourage anyone who has a question about the status of their registration to contact their county clerk or local board of elections," Michaelson said.

"We want to avoid any of the confusion that occurred last November 7th . I think that people who did have problems will be well served by contacting their local election officials and checking on their status before the January 29th deadline," Gough noted. In Chicago, voters can verify their registration on the Internet through chicagoelections.com, Gough said.

"There was some confusion about the status of voter

registration applications last fall and some related to the Motor Voter program. I want to assure the public that we are moving to eliminate any problems that may exist in the system," White said, adding that it is a highly successful program that has registered more than 1.5 million citizens the past two years.