NEWS RELEASE

Louisiana Department of State



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SECRETARY OF STATE SCHEDLER COMMENTS ON CRESCENT CITY CONNECTION TOLL ELECTION

BATON ROUGE, La. – Secretary of State Tom Schedler released the comments below following Judge Morvant's ruling today on the Crescent City Connection Toll Election.

"I've stressed all along that there is a process outlined in law for the counting of all votes and for the contesting of any election. I trust that process, and today it has concluded with the judge deciding to call for a new election on this referendum," said Secretary Schedler. "As a result of today's ruling, our role at the Secretary of State's office is to hold a new election and we are prepared to do just that. It is my hope that the citizens of Orleans, Jefferson and Plaquemines Parishes will again participate, let their voice be heard, and have confidence in the final outcome of the election," Schedler shared. "The testimony in this case demonstrates two important things that I hope the public will take away. First, every vote counts. This is not the closest election by any stretch of the imagination. Many elections are decided by one or two votes. So, I encourage citizens to go vote during every election. And second, everyone involved in the election process--from the clerk, to the registrar, to the commissioner at the polling location--plays a critical role on Election Day and we each have to make sure we execute our role to the best of our ability." Schedler stressed. "Clearly, there were some mistakes at the local level for this election and I plan to reach out in the coming weeks to see if the clerks and registrars in those parishes would like some technical assistance from our office. The bottom line for me today is, I trust the process we have in place to contest an election. If you can make your case, then you get another swing," noted Schedler.