
NEWS RELEASE

**Louisiana
Department of State**



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SECRETARY SCHEDLER SAYS NUNGESSER GOT IT WRONG

Secretary of State Tom Schedler released the following comments in response Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser's statements concerning voting in Louisiana which were published in an article in the Monroe News Star today.

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/story/news/local/2016/07/11/nungesser-people-our-best-asset/86947354/>

"I was shocked to read the News Star's article entitled, "Nungesser: People are Louisiana's best asset" which included an irresponsible comment from the Lt. Governor throwing the state's nationally recognized election process into question. I hesitate to even repeat the nonsensical statement which was, at a minimum uninformed, and quite possibly an insult to not only my office but also our hard-working clerks of court and registrars of voters who are our trusted partners for every election," said Secretary Schedler.

"Lt. Governor Nungesser implied that voters can show up by the bus load at any early voting site, even if they are not registered, sign a sheet of paper, and have their vote count. But in reality, **NOTHING COULD BE FURTHER FROM THE TRUTH** and in practice, his claim is impossible to execute.

By law, early voters must show up at their Registrar of Voters Office or an approved early voting site, show their I.D., be found in the voter registration data base, have a personalized precinct voting card handed to them and then cast their ballot. If they are not a registered voter, the process for voting on a machine does not move forward. **EVER**. Louisiana does allow for provisional voting in federal elections which allows voters to cast a conditional paper ballot if questions arise as to their eligibility. But make no mistake, by law, these votes **ARE NOT COUNTED** until the voter is proven to be eligible. Not before.

After having been elected twice as Secretary of State, I think the Lt. Governor, who is only six months into his term, should know to defer to me when it comes to the complex arena of election law. Especially since Louisiana is ranked among the top states in the nation for the integrity of our election process and procedures."

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