FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Toulouse Oliver: Primary Absentee Ballots Sent to Military and Overseas Voters

SANTA FE – Today, Secretary Toulouse Oliver is announcing that all New Mexico county clerks are currently sending ballots for the June Primary Election to registered New Mexico voters who are active military members stationed outside the United States or citizens currently living overseas, in compliance with federal and state law.

"Our men and women in uniform and other New Mexico voters living overseas deserve unfettered access to the ballot – just like every other voter," said Secretary Toulouse Oliver. "It's important to ensure these voters receive a ballot in a timely fashion so that their votes will be counted."

The state's Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act (UMOVA) requires county clerks to send ballots to military and overseas voters no later than forty-five days before Election Day. The deadline to send military and overseas ballots to voters who have already completed the application process for the 2018 Primary Election is Saturday, April 21. The county clerks will continue sending military and overseas ballots until Friday, June 1.

Voters who are qualified to receive an overseas ballot are U.S. citizens who either lived in New Mexico before being stationed at a military base or before moving overseas, or who were born to parents whose last residence was New Mexico. In order to receive a ballot, qualified voters must submit a completed Federal Post Card Application or an Absentee Ballot Application to their county clerk, which are available on the Secretary of State's website.

For more information about military and overseas voters, and all other pertinent 2018 Primary Election information, <u>visit the Secretary of State's website</u>.

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