

JOHN A. GALE

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Secretary Gale approves Douglas County precinct changes

LINCOLN – Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale has approved the proposal submitted to him for review and consideration by Douglas County Election Commissioner David Phipps for precinct and polling site changes for the presidential general election in November 2012.

“The proposal of Commissioner Phipps has been carefully reviewed and studied in detail, and it is my opinion”, Gale said, “that Commissioner Phipps and his staff have submitted a commendable and thoughtful proposal. I hereby approve the proposal.”

As secretary of state, Gale serves as chief election officer and by law is required to review and to approve or disapprove any request for precinct changes made by county election officials between primary and general elections. The request to change precincts and polling sites within Douglas County by Phipps was made on July 20, 2012, when the documents requesting the changes for the presidential general election were received by the Secretary of State’s Office.

Gale added, “I want to compliment the community leaders who served on the advisory council formed by Commissioner Phipps. They conscientiously provided advice and insight in the complicated process of creating new precincts and relocating protested polling sites. I also want to thank the leaders of north and south Omaha who organized the forums for Commissioner Phipps to attend to interact with citizens about possible changes. These efforts all led to a needed transparency and public input on the process.”

Gale remarked that a number of factors were taken into consideration during the review of the maps and data furnished by the Douglas County election commissioner.

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