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*City of Milwaukee Common Council*

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## President Hines: Statement on the Right to Vote

As an elected official in the City of Milwaukee, I would like to remind citizens about the importance of voting and of taking part in our democratic process. Today – **Tuesday, February 21** – is the spring primary election, with many important city, county and judicial races being contested.

Additionally, I want to remind you that this will be the first election with the new voter I.D. bill. For the first time, voters will be asked to show I.D. to be able to vote. It's important that residents have the appropriate identification to vote which some are:

- A Wisconsin driver's license
- A Wisconsin DOT identification card
- A U.S. Passport
- A military ID card issued by a U.S uniformed service
- IDs issued by accredited technical colleges
- A certificate of naturalization that was issued

**For a more comprehensive list please call 286-3491 or go to the Election Commission website, [www.milwaukee.gov/elections](http://www.milwaukee.gov/elections).**

The right to vote is a sacred right that has been guaranteed to all citizens and I encourage everyone to go vote. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was won despite violence, disorder and even death. Many have paved the way for African Americans and women to vote free.

Voting is a process that gives citizens the power to activate their leaders and choose how elected representatives will govern. Citizens must vote to show appreciation for those who fought so hard to preserve liberty and the right to choose who will govern.

Despite the new voter identification law, I want to encourage residents to get the proper identification and get out and vote. Also, when you get to the polls, be patient. **If residents run into any problems, please call 286-3491.**