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TO: Heads of State Agencies and Human Resources Directors

SUBJECT: Prohibited Political Activity Infographic

In the height of this year's election cycle, it is important to remember that as classified state employees, Article X, Section 9 of the State Constitution governs our participation in political activities. To help communicate these prohibitions, State Civil Service has developed the attached infographic to share with your employees. Prohibited political activity is defined generally as any effort to support or oppose the election of a candidate or political party at the local, state or national level.

Please note this document does not substitute for the detailed guidance regarding political activity. Visit civilservice.louisiana.gov/Publications/GeneralCirculars.aspx for the most recent general circular.

If you still have questions about what political activities you may or may not be involved in as a classified state employee, contact your Human Resources Office, or the Department of State Civil Service, P.O. Box 94111, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9111 or by phone at (225) 342-8274.

Sincerely,

s/Byron P. Decoteau, Jr.
State Civil Service Director


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YOU MAY

serve as a poll commissioner or official watcher on behalf of a governmental entity at the polls



YOU MAY

belong to a group that endorses a candidate as long as the group's sole purpose isn't political and you're not managing its affairs



YOU MAY

attend election night parties, victory parties, or inaugural celebrations provided they are not fundraising events




YOU MAY

sell services you regularly offer at fair market value to candidates or political entities even if it requires attendance at a fundraiser



YOU MAY

publicly support or oppose issues of public debate or election that do not involve candidates or political entities



YOU MAY

attend a free public function where all of the candidates for a public office are invited to speak or present their views



YOU MAY NOT

become a candidate for election to public office or vote at the caucus or convention of a candidate or political entity



YOU MAY NOT

become a member of any political committee or take an active role in the management of a campaign or political entity



YOU MAY NOT

solicit contributions, volunteer time, or attend fundraising events supporting or opposing any candidate or political entity




YOU MAY NOT

prepare or distribute campaign material or solicit votes for or against any candidate or political entity



YOU MAY NOT

publicly support or oppose a candidate or political entity including wearing hats, t-shirts, or other promotional items



YOU MAY NOT

display a sign on your property or place a bumper sticker on your vehicle supporting or opposing any candidate or political entity



A Word About Social Media...

Social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and others have become part of everyday life where we can freely offer opinions and support causes important to us.

However, as a state employee, "Sharing," "Liking," or "Following" a candidate or political entity on social media is strictly prohibited and can result in disciplinary action.



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