



# OKLAHOMA STATE ELECTION BOARD

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **State Election Board Secretary Declares Election Emergency Authorizes Local Entities to Reschedule April 7 Elections**

(Oklahoma City) – Oklahoma State Election Board Secretary Paul Ziriaux declared an election emergency today for local elections being held in 74 counties on April 7, 2020.

The election emergency declaration will require County Election Boards to accept resolutions adopted by the governing bodies of school districts, municipalities, technology districts and counties to move their April 7 elections to another date. Regular and statutory elections could be rescheduled on June 30, the next available election date and the date of the State Primary Election. Special elections could be rescheduled for any election date allowed by law.

“We are in uncharted waters here, so I am hopeful we have found a sensible solution that is consistent with the spirit of the law and avoids bureaucratic overreach by state election officials,” Ziriaux said. “As Oklahoma’s chief election official, I strongly urge school districts, municipalities, technology districts and counties with April 7 elections to take immediate action to reschedule and help efforts to flatten the COVID-19 curve.”

County Election Board Secretaries will reach out to the local governments holding elections in their counties to inform them of the election emergency and the option of rescheduling their April 7 elections.

A list of the elections scheduled on April 7 is available on the State Election Board website at <https://www.ok.gov/elections/support/electionlist.htm>. The State Election Board will update the list as local governments reschedule their elections.

Ziriaux said voters who have questions about whether or not an election will be rescheduled are encouraged to contact the local government that scheduled the election.