



# Jon Husted

## Ohio Secretary of State

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### Issued Pursuant to Court Order

#### **DIRECTIVE 2016-08**

March 11, 2016

To: All County Boards of Elections  
Directors, Deputy Directors, and Board Members

Re: Seventeen-Year-Old Voters in the March 15, 2016 Presidential Primary Election (and Special Congressional Primary Election for the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District)

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

This Directive is being issued in accordance with the Judgment issued today by the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas in *Schwerdtfeger v. Husted*, Case No. 16 CV 002346. A copy of that Judgment is attached to this Directive.

Pursuant to the court's Judgment, a 17-year-old voter who will be 18 years old on or before the November 8, 2016 General Election may vote for Presidential convention delegates and have those "choices for Presidential convention delegates [ ] counted in the same fashion as voters age 18 and older."<sup>1</sup> Boards of elections must "discontinue giving oral and written instructions to otherwise qualified 17-year old voters that their choice of Presidential convention delegates will not be counted"<sup>2</sup> and instead use the revised instructions attached to this Directive.

Boards of elections are instructed to "make a reasonable effort to attempt to determine and record choices for Presidential convention delegates previously made by 17-year old 'early' voters if such ballots remain identifiable and accessible, so that to the extent reasonably possible their choices are included in the final vote totals for the March 15, 2016 primary election."<sup>3</sup>

Voters who are 17 years old as of the primary election are not permitted to vote on any of the following:

- State Party Central Committee,
- County Party Central Committee, and
- Questions and Issues.

This Directive replaces the relevant portions of the Election Official Manual to the contrary.

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<sup>1</sup> Judgment, Bullet Point 2

<sup>2</sup> Judgment, Bullet Point 3

<sup>3</sup> Judgment, Bullet Point 4

County boards of elections that are part of Ohio's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District are reminded that a 17-year-old voter who will be 18 years old on or before June 7, 2016 may vote in the Special Congressional Primary Election for nominees to Representative to Congress for the 8<sup>th</sup> District, unexpired term ending January 3, 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Husted". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jon Husted