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**JOHN H. MERRILL**  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**Memorandum**

To: County Boards of Registrars

From: Jeff Elrod  
Supervisor of Voter Registration 

Date: November 12, 2020

Subject: Oath on the Voter Registration Form

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Alabama's voter registration form requires registrants to sign the form under penalty of perjury. The oath includes statements that the registrant supports the federal and State constitutions and that the information provided on the application is true, "so help me God."

If a registrant, because of any sincerely held belief, does not wish to include the last clause of the oath, it is permissible for the registrant to strike out the last four words of the oath. Doing so does not spoil the form and the registrant who does so shall be registered to vote if otherwise qualified under Alabama law.

Today, our office promulgated an emergency administrative rule, to be followed by a permanent rule, memorializing this policy. Now that this rule is in effect, any registrant who strikes out the last four words of the oath on the voter registration form should be registered to vote if otherwise qualified to do so.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this guidance.