

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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SPEAKER ISSUES ELECTION PROCLAMATION

House Speaker Jim Tucker today issued a proclamation calling for a special election to fill the prospective vacancy in House District 101

The primary election will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2011, and the general election, if needed, Saturday, February 19, 2011.

Qualifying will begin Wednesday, December 15, and end at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 17.

Tucker said, "It is important to call this election at the earliest possible time to ensure maximum minority representation during the deliberations on redistricting. In all likelihood, a special session dedicated to this issue will be called before the convening of the regular session in April. With the election process completed in February, there will be ample time for the new representative to be involved in the entire redistricting process."

The vacancy is due to the recent election of state Rep. Cedric Richmond to the U.S. Congress. Richmond informed the Speaker he will resign his House seat January 1, 2011.