

## TURBOVOTE SERVICE TO MAKE VOTING FROM HOME SIMPLE AND EASY

For Immediate Release: Amanda Cassel Kraft, Co-founder, Democracy Works

Democracy Works, a non-partisan nonprofit organization, launched TurboVote.org this week. TurboVote is designed to make voting from home simple and easy. The idea behind TurboVote is to make voting and registration as convenient as renting DVDs with Netflix.

TurboVote in 3 easy steps:

1. Voters sign up at TurboVote.org;

They receive their state's completed vote-from-home application in the mail. It comes with a postage-paid and pre-addressed envelope so it is easy to just sign and mail out;
Local election boards receive the application and send voters their ballot.

For any election, special, primary or general, from school board to federal, TurboVote will send timely text message and email reminders to ensure voters can request an absentee ballot on time and never miss the date to mail in a ballot. TurboVote will of course also have helpful reminders for everyone voting in person at their polling location.

Co-founder and executive director Seth Flaxman explains, "I had to change my registration and decided it was easier to build TurboVote than figure out the application process and find a stamp. I started this project because I believe our democracy can work better if we make it convenient for people to participate in the process."

TurboVote got off the ground with a grant from the Sunlight Foundation and will start as a pilot this fall. All voters can freely use Turbovote right now to auto-generate absentee ballot and voter registration forms that they print and send in themselves. TurboVote's full services are available for this November's elections to those who pledge on Kickstarter and to all Boston University (BU) undergraduates, through a partnership with BU's Student Union.

TurboVote's 1-minute video can be found on the fundraising website Kickstarter.com (<u>http://kck.st/9AcoAN</u>). TurboVote just launched a campaign on Kickstarter to raise \$25,000 by November 2 in order to expand the service nationwide.

Democracy Works is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing civic participation. TurboVote is Democracy Works' first project. Seth Flaxman and his two co-founders, Kathryn Peters and Amanda Cassel Kraft, have varied backgrounds in media, political advocacy and information management. All three are currently graduate students in public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School.

For more information, contact Seth Flaxman (914) 588-5489, write to info@turbovote.org or visit http://turbovote.org/faq