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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Gordon calls for improved implementation and training at Denver vote centers
before November elections**

DENVER, CO – August, 9 2006 – “If yesterday’s primary was a test for November’s election, Denver’s new vote centers got a B-,” said Senate Majority Leader Ken Gordon (D-Denver). “The right to vote depends on well-tested machines, well-trained poll workers, and more aggressive efforts to educate voters about the switch to vote centers.”

Based on election returns and news media reports, it appears that Denver voters were not well-informed about the new vote centers. Approximately 12,960 people voted in person yesterday at one of 47 vote centers around Denver. In 2002, the most recent mid-term primary election, 20,391 voted in person at their polling place.

While most voters who did turn out experienced no problems, the *Denver Post* reported that some voters were given the wrong ballot style; others were delayed while machine glitches were fixed, and some poll workers reported feeling ill-equipped to deal with the new voting machines (“New machines puzzle voters, officials,” *Denver Post*, Aug. 9, 2006).

“I commend everyone who was involved in switching to Denver’s new voting centers, but I hope some valuable lessons will be learned before November’s election. Perhaps ten times the number of people will vote in November, and we had better be prepared,” warned Sen. Gordon.

Senate Majority Leader Ken Gordon is the Democratic nominee for Secretary of State.

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2006 Primary
12,960 in person

2004 General
113,668 in person

2004 Primary
48,560 in person

2002 General
89,462 in person

2002 Primary
20,391 in person