



Georgia Republican Conservative Coalition

PRESS RELEASE : MARCH 2, 2021

PRESS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 1PM
11111 Abercorn St. Sav, GA 31419 Banquet Hall

We are, today, encouraging support and passage by the GA Senate on legislation HB531 that was passed by the GA House of Representatives on March 1, 2021. The Bill focuses on Election Integrity and restoring the faith and confidence for the citizens of Georgia.

While there are some who are saying, “ Why do we need restoration ?” “There is nothing wrong!” “The 2020 election was certified by Georgia’s Secretary of State, and it was not challenged by Georgia’s Attorney General.”

There are facts that call these determinations into question (without attempting to relitigate the election).

- Changes were made to voting procedures for the 2020 election by the GA Secretary of State without being considered and voted on by the State Legislative Body as prescribed by the Constitution.
- The voting changes were made after pressure was applied by Fair Fight and the GADNC to sue. Instead of fighting against the threatened suit, the Secretary of State and State Attorney General signed a “Consent Agreement” to implement changes and did not seek legislative approval.

All the Bills proposed by Georgia Legislature address the erosion of security in the voting process during the 2020 election which flowed from the signing and implementing of the “Consent Agreement” and any changes influenced by that agreement.

HB 531 contains major security enhancements that will assure that EVERY LEGAL VOTER IN GEORGIA will be treated equally and that THEIR VOTE WILL COUNT !!!

Section 13 requires ballots to be printed on security paper.

Section 14 provides requirements for the public notice of the time and place of voting equipment testing.

Section 15 allows an elector to apply for an absentee ballot beginning 78 days prior to the election until 11 days prior to the election and requires absentee ballot applications to be received by the board of registrars or an absentee ballot clerk no later than 11 days prior to the election. The bill requires the submission of identifying information, including a driver's license or identification card number, when applying for an absentee ballot. If the applicant does not have a driver's license or identification card, a photocopy of an approved form of identification must be submitted with the application.

The envelope that an elector uses to return a completed absentee ballot must include the following: the elector's name and signature; the elector's driver's license or identification card number; a space for the elector to mark if they do not have a driver's license or identification card; the elector's date of birth; and the last four digits of the elector's social security number, if the elector does not include the driver's license or identification card number. These identifying pieces of information should be concealed when the envelope is correctly sealed. Any unauthorized person who knowingly unseals an absentee ballot envelope shall be guilty of a felony.

We strongly urge Georgians to support GA HB 531, GA SB 241, AND ALL OTHER ELECTION INTEGRITY LEGISLATION

For further information please contact:

Carl Smith, 1st Vice Chair Chatham GOP

912-210-3308 tfdsmith@aol.com