

GA Legislative Update 2024

Election bills (and resolutions) so far

Tania Sosa - VoterGA
January 27, 2024 revised



SR 454 / HR 780 Only citizens have the right to vote

SR <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66139>

HR <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66036>

A Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Georgia so as to clarify that only citizens of the United States shall have a right to vote in elections.

~~“Every person who is a citizen~~ Only individuals who are citizens of the United States and ~~a resident~~ residents of Georgia...”

01/23/2024 Senate Read and Referred
01/22/2024 Senate Hopper
Senate Committee: Ethics

01/22/2024. House Second Readers
01/12/2024 House First Readers
01/11/2024 House Hopper
House Committee: Judiciary

SR 221 Study on Run-off Elections

By: Senators Burns of the 23rd, Williams of the 25th, Beach of the 21st, Summers of the 13th, Jones II of the 22nd and 8 others
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/64912>

A RESOLUTION creating the Joint Study Committee on Run-off Elections; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia has seen increased scrutiny for its number of runoffs; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is one of three states with the option of holding general election runoffs; and

WHEREAS, it is important to analyze the cost of runoffs in all state-wide, state legislative, and local races; and

WHEREAS, study is needed to determine the best course of action with regard to runoffs; and

WHEREAS, it is important that such study further emphasizes alternate options for elections to elect the best candidate, maximize voter participation, increase civility in elections, and save taxpayer dollars

- 9 members including: 1 the SOS or his designee, 4 appointed by the Senate President and 4 appointed by the House Speaker
- undertake a study of the conditions, needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

01/08/2024 Senate Recommitted

03/02/2023 Senate Read Second Time

03/01/2023 Senate Committee Favorably Reported

02/28/2023 Senate Read and Referred

02/27/2023 Senate Hopper

Senate Committee: Rules

SB 392 / HB 986 Criminalize deep fake interference

SB <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66300>

HB <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66172>

A BILL to establish the criminal offense of election interference with a deep fake and solicitation of such; to provide for definitions; to provide for exceptions; to provide for punishment; to provide for the State Election Board to publish results of investigations into such offenses; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Protection against the use of deep fake materials in bad faith to significantly influence elections by reducing certain candidates' chances of being elected or by suppressing voter turnout through mass confusion.

01/25/2024 Senate Read and Referred

01/24/2024 Senate Hopper

Senate Committee: Judiciary

01/24/2024. House Second Readers

01/23/2024 House First Readers

01/22/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

SB 367 Eliminate authorization of ballot drop boxes

By: Senators Williams of the 25th, Payne of the 54th, Still of the 48th, Setzler of the 37th, Summers of the 13th and 6 others
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66134>

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to primaries and elections generally, so as to eliminate authorization for the use of ballot drop boxes

Repealing subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-382, relating to additional buildings as additional registrar's office or place of registration for receiving absentee ballots and for advance voting and drop boxes.

01/23/2024 Senate Read and Referred

01/22/2024 Senate Hopper

Senate Committee: Ethics

SB 358 Authorize the State Election Board to investigate the SOS

By: Burns, Max , 23rd Gooch, Steve , 51st Robertson, Randy , 29th Dolezal, Greg , 27th Anavitarte, Jason , 31st Payne, Chuck , 54th
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66094>

Relating to the State Election Board, so as to remove the Secretary of State from the board; to authorize the board to investigate the Secretary of State; to provide for the hiring of investigators; to require the Secretary of State to cooperate with certain investigations.

- Removes the Secretary of State as an ex officio nonvoting member of the board.
- Employ and fix the compensation of personnel, including investigators, as determined necessary
- The Secretary of State shall, upon the request of the State Election Board, provide any and all necessary support, cooperation, and assistance

01/25/2024 Senate Read Second Time

01/24/2024 Senate Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

01/22/2024 Senate Read and Referred

01/12/2024 Senate Hopper

Senate Committee: Ethics

SB 355 Prohibit use of rank choice voting

By: Senators Robertson of the 29th, Burns of the 23rd, Williams of the 25th, Anavitarte of the 31st and Dolezal of the 27th
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66092>

- Defines 'ranked-choice voting' means a voting method that allows electors to rank candidates for an office in order of preference and has ballots cast be tabulated in multiple rounds following the elimination of a candidate until a single candidate attains a majority.
- Ranked-choice voting shall not be used in determining the election or nomination of any candidate to any local, state, or federal elective office

01/26/2024 Senate Passed/Adopted
01/26/2024 Senate Third Read
01/26/2024 Senate Engrossed
01/25/2024 Senate Read Second Time
01/24/2024 Senate Committee Favorably Reported
01/22/2024 Senate Read and Referred
01/12/2024 Senate Hopper
Senate Committee: Ethics

Votes

Date	Vote No.	Yea	Nay	NV	Exc
01/26/2024	Senate Vote #431	29	18	3	6
01/26/2024	Senate Vote #435	31	19	1	5

SB 221 Revise language that must be used on absentee ballot applications distributed by persons or entities

By: Senators Burns of the 23rd, Williams of the 25th, Harbin of the 16th, Anavitarte of the 31st and Gooch of the 51st

<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/64652>

- revise the language that must be used on absentee ballot applications distributed by persons or entities making it clear that a ballot application is not a ballot
- revise provisions relating to advance voting on certain Saturdays preceding or following legal holidays
- revise the latest reporting time for required election night reporting from 10 pm to 11:59 pm
- **mandate risk limiting audits following all state-wide primaries or elections**
- penalize with a misdemeanor the willful neglect or refusal of a county or municipal election superintendent to call an election where required to do so by a local Act of the General Assembly

01/08/2024 Senate Recommitted

03/02/2023 Senate Read Second Time

03/01/2023 Senate Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

02/22/2023 Senate Read and Referred

02/21/2023 Senate Hopper

Senate Committee: Ethics

SB 189 Count the text portions of ballots for vote tabulation and recounts purposes

By: Senators Burns of the 23rd, Dolezal of the 27th, Brass of the 28th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Moore of the 53rd and 13 others
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/64471>

provide that the text portions of ballots produced by ballot marking devices shall be counted for vote tabulation and recounts purposes instead of any machine coding

01/25/2024 Senate Committee Favorably Reported

02/16/2023 Senate Read and Referred

02/15/2023 Senate Hopper

Senate Committee: Ethics

HB 998 Prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers

By: Representatives Horner of the 3rd, Cox of the 28th, Barrett of the 24th, Ridley of the 22nd, Jasperse of the 11th, and 1 other
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66216>

- prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers
- provide for third-party security audits of electronic ballot markers at least 15 days before an election
- eliminate authorization for the use of ballot drop boxes
- provide that out-of-state documents are not acceptable forms of identification for voters
- revise provisions relating to precertification tabulation audits for the selected contest (all ballots! not a RLA)
- revise the time for holding runoffs in general and primary elections

01/25/2024 House Second Readers

01/24/2024 House First Readers

01/23/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

HB 894 Prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers

By: Representatives Horner of the 3rd, Jasperse of the 11th, Ridley of the 6th, Ridley of the 22nd, Powell of the 33rd, and 1 other
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66216>

prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots
printed by electronic ballot markers

01/12/2024 House Second Readers

01/11/2024 House First Readers

01/10/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

HB 948 Prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers

By: Representatives Momtahan of the 17th, Kelley of the 16th, Gullett of the 19th, Scoggins of the 14th, Barton of the 5th, and 1 other
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66090>

prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots
printed by electronic ballot markers

01/23/2024 House Second Readers

01/22/2024 House First Readers

01/12/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

HB 975 Prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots printed by electronic ballot markers

By: Representatives LaHood of the 175th, Anderson of the 10th, Leverett of the 123rd, Blackmon of the 146th, Jones of the 25th, and 1 other
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66160>

prohibit bar codes, QR codes, and other machine codes on ballots
printed by electronic ballot markers

01/24/2024 House Second Readers

01/23/2024 House First Readers

01/22/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

HR 837 House Study Committee on Dominion Election Equipment

Representatives Horner of the 3rd, Cox of the 28th, Barrett of the 24th, Jasperse of the 11th, Dunahoo of the 31st, and others
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66208>

WHEREAS, questions as to the design and security of the electronic ballot marking devices manufactured and provided to the State of Georgia by Dominion Voting Systems have been raised both in the general public and in ongoing litigation before the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

WHEREAS, a thorough study of the Dominion Voting Systems' electronic ballot marking devices is warranted so as to determine what appropriate revisions are needed to the Georgia Election Code to ensure that future elections remain free, fair, and timely while also protecting the rights of all Georgia voters to exercise the franchise to the fullest extent possible.

Members and officers. The committee shall be composed of seven members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker

01/25/2024 House Second Readers

01/24/2024 House First Readers

01/23/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Rules

HB 949 Voting devices shall not utilize any form of wireless network cards or wireless technology

By: Representatives Momtahan of the 17th, Gullett of the 19th, Scoggins of the 14th, Kelley of the 16th, Barton of the 5th, and 1 other
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66091>

provide that voting devices or systems used in primaries, elections, and runoffs in this state shall not utilize any form of wireless network cards or wireless technology

provide for the removal or disabling of such cards or technology before using such systems or devices in voting

01/23/2024 House Second Readers

01/22/2024 House First Readers

01/12/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

HB 974 Secretary of State; establish and maintain a state-wide system for the posting of scanned paper ballots

By: Representatives LaHood of the 175th, Anderson of the 10th, Leverett of the 123rd, Blackmon of the 146th, Jones of the 25th, and 1 other
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66159>

Require the Secretary of State to establish and maintain a state-wide system for the posting of scanned paper ballots; to provide for minimum resolution requirements for such scans

- digital images of the scanned paper ballots created by the voting system.
- no less than 1200 dots per inch.

01/24/2024 House Second Readers

01/23/2024 House First Readers

01/22/2024 House Hopper

Committee: Governmental Affairs

HB 976 Ballots used in optical scan voting systems shall use paper with a visible watermark security feature

By: Representatives LaHood of the 175th, Anderson of the 10th, Leverett of the 123rd, Blackmon of the 146th, Jones of the 25th, and others
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66162>

Ballots used in optical scan voting systems shall use paper with a visible watermark security feature; to provide that ballots used in ballot marking devices shall use paper with a visible watermark security feature

01/25/2024 House Committee Favorably Reported

01/24/2024 House Second Readers

01/23/2024 House First Readers

01/22/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

HB 977 Number of contests subject to risk-limiting audits

By: Representatives LaHood of the 175th, Anderson of the 10th, Leverett of the 123rd, Blackmon of the 146th, Jones of the 25th, and 1 other
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66163>

Expand the number of contests subject to risk-limiting audits to contests at the top of the ballot AND one of each:

- (i) United States Senate or United States House of Representatives;
- (ii) Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State School Superintendent, Commissioner of Insurance, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Labor, Supreme Court Justice, Judge of the Court of Appeals, or Public Service Commissioner;
- (iii) Member of the General Assembly;
- (iv) Judge of the superior court or district attorney;
- (v) County offices; and
- (vi) Municipal offices.

Provide for percentages of risk limits, lowering the risk limit percentages

Provide procedures for selection of contests subject to risk-limiting audits

01/24/2024 House Second Readers

01/23/2024 House First Readers

01/22/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs

HR 869 Partisan trolls interfering with elections

Bruce, Roger 61st, Jackson, Derrick 68th, Williams, Al 168th, Alexander, Kimberly 66th, Cannon, Park 58th, Davis, Viola 87th
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66309>

Urge Secretary of State to keep Donald John Trump off any ballots related to nomination of candidates for election to Office of President

01/25/2024 House First Readers

01/24/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Rules

HR 872 Charlice Byrd is our hero

By: Charlice Byrd, 20th

<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66326>

A RESOLUTION voting impeachment charges against Fani T. Willis, district attorney for the Atlanta Judicial Circuit; and for other purposes.

01/25/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Rules

SR 465 Investigate Fani

By: Senators Dolezal of the 27th, Tillery of the 19th, Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Beach of the 21st and 25 others
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66194>

RESOLUTION to investigate Fani Willis creating the Senate Special Committee on Investigations; to provide for the issuance of compulsory process to secure the attendance of witnesses or the production of documents and materials

01/26/2024 Senate Passed/Adopted As Amended
01/26/2024 Senate Third Read
01/25/2024 Senate Read Second Time
01/24/2024 Senate Committee Favorably Reported
01/23/2024 Senate Read and Referred
01/22/2024 Senate Hopper

Votes					
Date	Vote No.	Yea	Nay	NV	Exc
01/26/2024	Senate Vote #432	30	19	1	6
01/26/2024	Senate Vote #433	30	19	1	6