

# **GA Legislative Update 2024**

**Election bills so far**

**Tania Sosa - VoterGA**  
**February 16, 2024 revision**



# 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:  
United States Senate, 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

Original provision reduced from  
auditing 7 races to auditing 2 by RLA

Provide for percentages of risk limits, lowering the risk limit percentages  
Provide procedures for selection of contests subject to risk-limiting audits

02/13/2024 Senate Read and Referred  
Senate Committee: Ethics  
02/12/2024. House Passed/Adopted By Substitute  
02/12/2024 House Third Readers  
02/01/2024. House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute  
01/24/2024 House Second Readers  
01/23/2024 House First Readers  
01/22/2024 House Hopper  
House Committee: Governmental Affairs

## Votes

Date	Vote No.	Yea	Nay	NV	Exc
02/12/2024	<a href="#">House Vote #461</a>	164	3	9	4



# 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...”

02/08/2024 Senate Read Second Time

02/07/2024 Senate Committee Favorably Reported

01/23/2024 Senate Read and Referred

01/22/2024 Senate Hopper

Senate Committee: [Ethics](#)

[02/16/2024 House Committee Favorably Reported](#)

01/22/2024. House Second Readers

01/12/2024 House First Readers

01/11/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: [Judiciary](#)



# 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

02/16/2024 House Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

01/29/2024. House Withdrawn, Recommitted

01/24/2024. House Second Readers

01/23/2024 House First Readers

01/22/2024 House Hopper

House Committee: Governmental Affairs to  
Technology and Infrastructure Innovation



# HB 1112 Remove Secretary of State from State Election Board; attach SEB to State Accounting Office

By: Representatives Leverett of the 123rd, LaHood of the 175th, Barrett of the 24th, Anderson of the 10th, Horner of the 3rd, and Ridley of the 22nd  
<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66576>

- remove the Secretary of State from the State Election Board
- provide that the board shall be administratively attached to the State Accounting Office
- provide for the hiring and qualifications of investigators; so as to authorize the board to investigate the election division of the Secretary of State's office
- to authorize the board to issue letters of instruction and letters of reprimand; to provide for circumstances when such letters are appropriate

02/16/2024. House Committee Favorably Reported

02/06/2024 House Second Readers

02/01/2024. House First Readers

01/31/2024. 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](#)



# New bills

# **SB 368 Government Transparency and Campaign Finance; Prohibit foreign nationals from contributing to candidates or campaign committees**

**By: Senators Williams of the 25th, Burns of the 23rd, Dolezal of the 27th, Robertson of the 29th, Strickland of the 17th and 5 others**

<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66138>

- to prohibit foreign nationals from contributing to candidates or campaign committees
- to prohibit candidates and campaign committees from accepting contributions from foreign nationals
- to require agents of foreign principals to register with the State Ethics Commissioner
- to require agents of foreign principals to disclose to government agencies and the General Assembly when such agents are advocating on behalf of a foreign principal

02/16/2024 Senate Read Second Time

02/15/2024 Senate Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute

01/23/2024 Senate Read and Referred

01/22/2024 Senate Hopper

Senate Committee: Ethics



# HB 1191 Repeal unlimited funding to leadership committees for affecting the outcome of any election

By: Representatives Park of the 107th, Mughal of the 105th, Clark of the 108th, Au of the 50th, Draper of the 90th, and others

<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66811>

- repeal provisions of law regarding leadership committees (OCGA 21-5-34.2 - Governor, Lt. Governor, GA Assembly majority and minority leaders)
- provide for the termination of current leadership committees
- provide for the disposition of funds held by such committees by December 31, 2024
- provide for certain registration and reports

02/12/2024. House Second Readers

02/09/2024. House First Readers

02/08/2024. House Hopper

House Committee: [Rules](#)

OCGA 21-5-34.2 (d) A leadership committee may accept contributions or make expenditures for the purpose of affecting the outcome of any election or advocating for the election or defeat of any candidate



# HB 1256 Hand marked but **machine scanned** uniform elections like Kari Lake's 2022 stolen election

By: Representatives Park of the 107th, Roberts of the 52nd, Holcomb of the 81st, Clark of the 108th, and Hugley of the 141st

<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/66966>

- Effective May 1, 2024 elections conducted by scanning ballots marked by electronic ballot markers hand by pen or other writing instrument
- Electronic BMD's optional at voters' request as accessibility units
- Certified electronic voting system shall have all software and hardware updates
- "(a) The superintendent of each county or municipality shall order the proper programming, as provided by the Secretary of State, to be placed in each ballot scanner used in any precinct or central tabulating location.
- Any 10 electors may request the examination of a device specifically identify the concerns that are to be addressed and pay to the Secretary of State the reasonable expenses of such examination or reexamination, which shall not exceed \$5,000.00.
- public access to the voting system ballot images not less than two days prior to the county election certification.
- Manual recounts under certain conditions

02/15/2024 House Second Readers

02/13/2024. House First Readers

02/12/2024. House Hopper

House Committee: [Governmental Affairs](#)



# To be discussed next week...

House Governmental Affairs Elections Subcommittee  
February 20, 2:00 pm  
CLOB 415  
SB 189

# 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

02/08/2024 House Second Readers  
02/07/2024. House First Readers  
House Committee: Governmental Affairs

02/06/2024. Senate Passed/Adopted By Substitute  
02/06/2024. Senate Third Read  
02/06/2024. Senate Engrossed  
[01/31/2024 Senate Committee Favorably Reported By Substitute](#)  
[01/29/2024 Senate Recommitted](#)  
[01/26/2024 Senate Read Second Time](#)  
01/25/2024 Senate Committee Favorably Reported  
02/16/2023 Senate Read and Referred  
02/15/2023 Senate Hopper  
Senate Committee: [Ethics](#)

## Votes

Date	Vote No.	Yea	Nay	NV	Exc
02/06/2024	<a href="#">Senate Vote #467</a>	30	23	1	2
02/06/2024	<a href="#">Senate Vote #472</a>	31	22	1	2

