

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Kenneth Dominguez [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 7:59 AM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Fwd: Public comments against proposed State Election Board amendments

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Correction to public statement below sent Aug 5, 2024:

Please note typographical error:
Should read "North Korea" not South Korea" at bottom of 8th paragraph.

Cordially,

Kenneth Dominguez

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kenneth Dominguez [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Aug 5, 2024 at 11:08 AM
Subject: Public comments against proposed State Election Board amendments
To: <SEBPublicComments@sos.ga.gov>

I, **Kenneth L. Dominguez, MD, MPH, CAPT USPHS RET, resident of DeKalb County, Georgia**, and registered voter, vehemently oppose the two proposed state election board rules and rule amendments related to:

1) requiring more stringent requirements for proving identity of persons dropping off ballots at drop boxes other than the US mail or official drop boxes such as early voting locations and the elections office which are authorized to accept absentee ballots and requiring video surveillance of drop boxes in early voting locations and

2) adding the phrase "Certify the results of a primary, election, or runoff" to the definitions section of the current rules and "means to attest, after reasonable inquiry that the tabulation and canvassing of the election are complete and accurate and that the results are a true and accurate accounting of all votes cast in that election."

Overall, these amendments aim to fix a voting system in Georgia that is not broken, attempts to decrease the efficiency of the advance voting with the aim of disenfranchising voters, and gives county elections superintendents the power to overturn the will of the majority of voters.

Folks who are more likely to use advance voting options are the elderly, disabled persons, and persons in front-line jobs who can't take time off from their job to vote. Advance voting is vital to ensure all voters can vote. Why should early voters have different rules for dropping off ballots at advance voting locations compared to those who drop off ballots at the USPS or at other official drop boxes? If someone is dropping off ballots for an elderly person at an advance voting location and for whatever reason doesn't have an Identification on them, this invalidates the elderly person's vote who depends on another person to deliver their ballot. It is probable that persons living in indigent communities and who are asked to deliver someone else's ballot are less likely to have an updated identification due to the cost of updating their identification. Even if the voter meets all the requirements, adding unnecessary ID requirements to the person delivering the ballot, disenfranchises registered valid voters and undercuts the American system of voting and pushes the election in favor of candidates supported by more affluent voters, particularly in a close election.

The requirement to have a camera at such early voting places at drop boxes adds a significant cost burden to this option of voting and makes advance voting less sustainable in the long run. Such an added cost is designed to further decrease the number of viable advance voting locations and to disenfranchise voters in socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. This can in turn throw an election, particularly a close election.

The proposed rule to give the county elections superintendent discretionary power to delay certification of election results due to their own judgement, despite having many existing valid and time-tested checks and balances, attempts to invalidate election results. It gives the county elections superintendent the opportunity to circumvent the voice of the majority of voters. It also allows county elections superintendents to delay certification in favor of costly recounts and the like. The costs of such recounts are borne by the community of voters and unnecessarily undermines the financial solvency of the voting system. While many bizarre accusations were made of illegal voting in the last presidential election (2020), no valid evidence was found to support such accusations. We need to ensure that the persons involved in such illegal activities of defrauding the voting system are held accountable to the extent allowable by the American justice system, not change existing valid voting rules!.

Both proposed changes fly in the face of a truly democratic society and a tried-and-true system that has many checks and balances in place. Remember the old mantra, if you can't win fairly, then cheat, lie, and do whatever necessary to win an election? This is the basic principle ascribed to by a few disgruntled voters who voted for a failed candidate and then tried to steal an election and are trying to steal all future elections. We as American citizens, are proud that our country's laws protect the sacred right to vote, and balk at sham elections held in countries such as Russia, Venezuela, South Korea, and

Nicaragua, where authoritarian rulers routinely steal the vote and illegally jail or dispose of political opponents.

Let's continue to enjoy our free elections and steadfastly and soundly reject the efforts of those few un-American individuals who feel entitled and who think their will supersedes the will of the majority of voters.

A vote **against** these amendments is a vote for democracy and the sanctity of our right to vote.

A vote **for** these amendments is a vote for totalitarian and authoritarian beliefs and for the beliefs that the will of a few to supersede the will of the majority.

Any **real American** will vote **against** these proposed rules and amendments. Such amendments have no place in a free and democratic society that values the sacred right to vote.

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Joan Webb [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 6, 2024 4:04 AM
To: SEB Public Comments
Cc: jfervier.seb@gmail.com; saraghazal.seb@gmail.com; jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com; rjeffares.seb@gmail.com; jking.seb@gmail.com
Subject: Proposed Rule - Tabulation Reconciliation (Garland_Favorito_1)

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State Election Board:

I support reconciliation of ballots cast in advanced-in-person voting; it prevents mismatch error where ballots accepted at scanner are not tabulated.

Joan Webb
[REDACTED]

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Elizabeth Tanis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 12:47 PM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Proposed changes to election procedures

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

The proposed changes the SEB is considering create serious and wholly unnecessary impediments both to voting and to timely certification of election results. Given the distrust that people of all political stripes now have in whether elections will be fair, it is of the utmost importance that the SEB take no measures to curb access to voting and timely certification of election results. Election workers are already going to be under enormous stress given the events following the 2020 elections and given former President Trump's continued attack on our SOS and governor and his refusal to commit to accepting the 2024 election results. The proposed changes by the SEB merely increase the heat surrounding the upcoming election—precisely the opposite of what a responsible SEB would do. Georgians' confidence in the SEB is already shaken by news of its recent secret meeting about the proposed changes, a secrecy that raises legitimate questions about whether the proposed changes are being made wholly to advance a political agenda rather than to protect Georgia's voters. Add to the equation that, if the proposed changes are adopted, the SEB and its members will be embroiled in litigation that will cost Georgia taxpayers millions of dollars. Please live up to your solemn obligations as SEB members and vote against the proposed changes.

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Delma Harris [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 12:14 PM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Troubling GSE Changes

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

<SEBPublicComments@sos.ga.gov>

Mon, Aug 5 at 8:40 AM

To the Elections Board,

I am writing to express my urgent concerns regarding recent actions and proposed changes by the Georgia State Election Board. Specifically, there are several troubling aspects that warrant immediate attention and external oversight:

1. The board recently held an unlawfully noticed meeting where they advanced changes to Georgia's election certification process.
2. These changes come with less than 100 days remaining until the election, potentially creating confusion and undermining public confidence in the election results.
3. There are efforts to implement new rules that could be used to sow doubt in the results and delay the certification of the 2024 election.
4. The board members, who were recently appointed and praised by former President Trump, appear to be working to alter the state's election rules in ways that could compromise the integrity and transparency of our democratic process.

Given these significant concerns, I strongly urge the involvement of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, Voting Section, to investigate these actions and ensure that all procedures comply with the highest standards of fairness and accuracy. The confidence of the electorate in our democratic process is paramount, and external oversight is necessary to maintain public trust.

Sent from my iPhone

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Denise Peterson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 11:54 AM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Public Comment re: Proposed Rulemaking

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning Ms. Hardin,

I am writing to register my concerns and opposition to the proposed rule changes for absentee ballots in rule 183-1-14-.02. (Advance Voting)

As a poll manager, the absentee ballot process is already overly burdensome. After working a full day of typically 14 hours, to add additional unnecessary documentation and transportation processes to securing the absentee ballots is problematic.

The current rules confirm significant security protocols in place.

In light of the typical turnout for the presidential election cycle (significantly higher than other cycles), to add more steps that are BRAND NEW, that must be integrated into existing training for returning and new staff, and are additional burdens on the already limited staffing at the local election board offices seems to be an recipe for trouble.

Therefore, I respectfully ask that this change be denied; if not denied outright, I request that it be tabled for further review until after this November 5th election cycle is completed.

Thank you,

Denise Peterson
DeKalb County

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Karen Parker [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 11:55 AM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Opposition to proposed rules

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Georgia Elections Board:

1. I oppose the additional form required when a person makes an in-person delivery of an absentee ballot on behalf of someone else. The Elections Board has a duty to encourage electors to exercise their right to vote, but this proposed rule causes confusion and may discourage people from voting, or may encourage them to use the currently unreliable USPS and risk having their ballot arrive too late to be counted. The additional form you are proposing does not apply to mail-in absentee ballots nor to ballots placed in official drop boxes. It should not, therefore, be required when absentee ballots are delivered to AIP locations that don't have official drop boxes.

I was a poll manager in Gwinnett County during Advance In Person voting for the general primary in May and for the runoff in June of this year. I have firsthand experience accepting absentee ballots from voters or their representatives, as my polling location did not have an official absentee ballot drop box. When those who delivered ballots on behalf of another voter were questioned as to their relationship to the voter, I witnessed their disappointment and dismay at having to "jump through hoops" to ensure that their family member/friend/neighbor's vote would be counted. If the Board does succeed in passing this rule, what counts as an "approved relation" to the voter needs to be well defined. A person should be allowed to deliver a ballot for a friend or neighbor, and that ballot should not be rejected because it wasn't delivered by a family member or caregiver. Not all electors have a family member or caregiver to rely on.

2. I oppose the added language that would allow county officials to refuse to certify votes based on subjective suspicions of fraud and abuse. If fraud or abuse is suspected, it should be handled by the courts AFTER the counts have been certified.

As a poll official who takes her oath very seriously, I'm troubled by your attempts to make it more difficult for Georgians to cast their votes. Moreover, the additional, unnecessary burdens you're placing on poll workers will only increase the chance of errors being made.

Sincerely yours,
Karen B. Parker

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Kathleen Gaffney [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 11:17 AM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Revision to Subject 183-1-14-.02 Advance Voting

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing to state my objection to the above referenced proposed rule making on Advance Voting procedures.

The current rule already has a rigorous process in place to ensure that votes have been verified and counted or to be reviewed in a timely manner. The additional steps are an unnecessary burden particularly when our US Mail system is unreliable. I nearly had a life insurance policy lapse because the mail system did not deliver the notice to my correct address. We cannot trust mail delivery as an effective and trusted delivery system.

In addition, the requirement for video surveillance will impose an unnecessary and significant cost to taxpayers to install video equipment. Currently policy for boxes to be emptied each night and secured is sufficient protection.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Gaffney
[REDACTED]

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Kenneth Dominguez [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 11:09 AM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Public comments against proposed State Election Board amendments

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I, **Kenneth L. Dominguez, MD, MPH, CAPT USPHS RET, resident of DeKalb County, Georgia**, and registered voter, vehemently oppose the two proposed state election board rules and rule amendments related to:

1) requiring more stringent requirements for proving identity of persons dropping off ballots at drop boxes other than the US mail or official drop boxes such as early voting locations and the elections office which are authorized to accept absentee ballots and requiring video surveillance of drop boxes in early voting locations and

2) adding the phrase “Certify the results of a primary, election, or runoff” to the definitions section of the current rules and “means to attest, after reasonable inquiry that the tabulation and canvassing of the election are complete and accurate and that the results are a true and accurate accounting of all votes cast in that election.”

Overall, these amendments aim to fix a voting system in Georgia that is not broken, attempts to decrease the efficiency of the advance voting with the aim of disenfranchising voters, and gives county elections superintendents the power to overturn the will of the majority of voters.

Folks who are more likely to use advance voting options are the elderly, disabled persons, and persons in front-line jobs who can't take time off from their job to vote. Advance voting is vital to ensure all voters can vote. Why should early voters have different rules for dropping off ballots at advance voting locations compared to those who drop off ballots at the USPS or at other official drop boxes? If someone is dropping off ballots for an elderly person at an advance voting location and for whatever reason doesn't have an identification on them, this invalidates the elderly person's vote who depends on another person to deliver their ballot. It is probable that persons living in indigent communities and who are asked to deliver someone else's ballot are less likely to have an updated identification due to the cost of updating their identification. Even if the voter meets all the requirements, adding unnecessary ID requirements to the person delivering the ballot, disenfranchises registered valid voters and undercuts the American system of voting and pushes the election in favor of candidates supported by more affluent voters, particularly in a close election.

The requirement to have a camera at such early voting places at drop boxes adds a significant cost burden to this option of voting and makes advance voting less sustainable in the long run. Such an added cost is designed to further decrease the number of viable advance voting locations and to disenfranchise voters in socioeconomically disadvantaged communities. This can in turn throw an election, particularly a close election.

The proposed rule to give the county elections superintendent discretionary power to delay certification of election results due to their own judgement, despite having many existing valid and time-tested checks and balances, attempts to invalidate election results. It gives the county elections superintendent the opportunity to circumvent the voice of the majority of voters. It also allows county elections superintendents to delay certification in favor of costly recounts and the like. The costs of such recounts are borne by the community of voters and unnecessarily undermines the financial solvency of the voting system. While many bizarre accusations were made of illegal voting in the last presidential election (2020), no valid evidence was found to support such accusations. We need to ensure that the persons involved in such illegal activities of defrauding the voting system are held accountable to the extent allowable by the American justice system, not change existing valid voting rules!.

Both proposed changes fly in the face of a truly democratic society and a tried-and-true system that has many checks and balances in place. Remember the old mantra, if you can't win fairly, then cheat, lie, and do whatever necessary to win an election? This is the basic principle ascribed to by a few disgruntled voters who voted for a failed candidate and then tried to steal an election and are trying to steal all future elections. We as American citizens, are proud that our country's laws protect the sacred right to vote, and balk at sham elections held in countries such as Russia, Venezuela, South Korea, and Nicaragua, where authoritarian rulers routinely steal the vote and illegally jail or dispose of political opponents.

Let's continue to enjoy our free elections and steadfastly and soundly reject the efforts of those few un-American individuals who feel entitled and who think their will supersedes the will of the majority of voters.

A vote **against** these amendments is a vote for democracy and the sanctity of our right to vote.

A vote **for** these amendments is a vote for totalitarian and authoritarian beliefs and for the beliefs that the will of a few to supersede the will of the majority.

Any **real American** will vote **against** these proposed rules and amendments. Such amendments have no place in a free and democratic society that values the sacred right to vote.

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Latabia Woodward [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 5, 2024 8:40 AM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: For Public Comment: Urgent Concerns Regarding Election Rule Changes

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

To the Elections Board,

I am writing to express my urgent concerns regarding recent actions and proposed changes by the Georgia State Election Board. Specifically, there are several troubling aspects that warrant immediate attention and external oversight:

1. The board recently held an unlawfully noticed meeting where they advanced changes to Georgia's election certification process.
2. These changes come with less than 100 days remaining until the election, potentially creating confusion and undermining public confidence in the election results.
3. There are efforts to implement new rules that could be used to sow doubt in the results and delay the certification of the 2024 election.
4. The board members, who were recently appointed and praised by former President Trump, appear to be working to alter the state's election rules in ways that could compromise the integrity and transparency of our democratic process.

Given these significant concerns, I strongly urge the involvement of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division, Voting Section, to investigate these actions and ensure that all procedures comply with the highest standards of fairness and accuracy.

The confidence of the electorate in our democratic process is paramount, and external oversight is necessary to maintain public trust.

Warmest Regards,

Latabia Woodward

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: SL Sansom [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 4, 2024 10:06 PM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: I oppose the onerous new requirements on absentee ballot voting

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

I am a Georgia resident and voter writing in opposition to Revisions to Subject 183-1-14-.02 Advance Voting, in particular, provision 18, regarding the proposal requiring information on the identity of the person who delivers a voter's absentee ballot to locations other than U.S; mail or official drop boxes.

This is an onerous and inconsistent requirement that only impedes voting, and it is unconscionable government overreach into the lives of Georgia voters and taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Sansom
Atlanta, GA.

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Victoria Cruz [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, August 4, 2024 5:12 PM
To: John Fervier; Janice Johnston; Janelle King; Rick Jeffares; Sara Ghazal
Cc: SEB Public Comments
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT 08-06-2024 SEB Meeting

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chairman Fervier, Dr. Johnston and SEB Members:

I write to strongly oppose the Petition for Amendment of State Election Board Rules authored and presented by [United to Protect Democracy](#), a 501(c)(4) formed in 2016, which advertises itself as a "social welfare organization" but is described by nonpartisan [Influence Watch](#) as a "left-of-center litigation and advocacy organization created to oppose the policies of President Donald Trump".

Despite SOS Raffensperger's claims, GA's voter rolls are bloated and broken and must be fixed. The reasons for this are many and include:

1. The [NVRA](#), and more recently [Biden's EO 14019](#) both of which greatly expand voter registrations while at the same time complicating states' abilities to control and secure the registration process.
2. Automatic Voter Registration (AVR), adopted in GA in 2016 (non-legislatively) requiring citizens to "opt out" rather than "opt in" for voter registration at the Department of Diver Services (DDS).
3. High mobility of Americans: Upwards of 40 million registered voters move each year (and another several million die annually), making accurate and timely updating of states' voter rolls critical. Yet many states are not taking this responsibility seriously.
4. [ERIC](#) membership contributes to dirty voter rolls because it was created to be a partisan Get Out the Vote entity, paid for with state tax dollars, with much less emphasis on list maintenance activities. These are left to the states with variable efforts at execution.
5. A massive network of dubiously-funded NGOs engaged in voter registration, some of which are given direct electronic access to voter rolls, for example the [Voter Participation Center](#), which sends out millions of unsolicited voter registration applications targeted to certain demographic groups known to vote for Democrats.
6. Voters not being informed that they must directly contact their states to be removed from the voter rolls when they move, and that filing a NCOA is not enough. Note that with AVR, many voters will not even be aware they are registered to vote.
7. The SOS and County Boards of Elections relying on DDS for the accuracy or registration data, including citizenship verification. and doing only the bare minimum of independent verification and list maintenance activity.
8. Manipulation of insecure electronic voter registration databases by foreign and/or domestic bad actors in most states, including GA, FL and NY.
9. Rapid expansion of [Overseas Civilian/Non-military voter registrations](#) which are handled through the Federal Government and have no requirement for US residency and no verification mechanism for US citizenship other than a checked box.

Why are bloated and inaccurate voter rolls dangerous? Because every ineligible or fraudulent voter registration that is voted, usually by mail-in ballot, can cancel the vote of a valid registrant. Multiple registrations for one person allow for multiple potential votes in the same election in different jurisdictions, a felony. Non-citizen voting similarly disenfranchises citizen votes and is a felony that will result in deportation and an inability of that person to ever gain US citizenship.

GA Senate bills SB202 and SB189 provide a robust framework for GA citizens to advance election integrity, transparency and trust with provisions that allow them to assist local elections officials with much-needed voter list maintenance. The GA State Election Board must promulgate rules which explain and fortify OCGA 21-2-229 and 21-2-230, statutes which give citizens the right to challenge invalid entries on GA voter rolls, but it **should not adopt this Rule Change Petition**. Because the rolls are massive and data-driven, citizens must be allowed to use **systematic** methods of inquiry that United to Protect Democracy would like to prohibit. Both the NVRA and the federal Help America Vote Act require states to take reasonable steps to maintain accurate voting rolls. There is ample evidence that GA is failing at that, and citizens should not be hampered in their ability to challenge invalid registrations to achieve integrity in the voter rolls and their elections.

In furtherance of election integrity, I strongly urge the Board to appeal to the State Legislature to:

1. End GA's membership in ERIC and explore other methods of list maintenance.
2. End Automatic Voter Registration
3. End No-excuse absentee voting
4. Protect county BOEs and citizens from Leftist lawfare and threats when attempting to clean voter rolls
5. Impose harsher penalties than SEB sanction for counties that habitually refuse to hear legal Challenges
6. Pass a resolution to secure an Only Citizens Vote amendment to the GA constitution.
7. Make GA voter registration lists available free of charge.

Thank you.

Victoria E. Cruz, M.D.



[**THE GREAT EXIT: Why States are Leaving Politically Driven ERIC and Why More States Should Follow.**](#)



THE GREAT EXIT: Why States are Leaving Politically Driven ERIC and Why More States Should Follow.

Accurate voter rolls are vital for election integrity. ERIC's aim to maintain these lists falls short, and states are seeking alternatives.

thefga.org

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: Chris Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, August 3, 2024 8:46 PM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Voter Comment on Revisions to Subject 183-1-14-.02 Advance Voting

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Comments as a Voter to the Revisions to Subject 183-1-14-.02 Advance Voting

My father (deceased a few years ago) was a Korean War veteran who considered voting to be his civic duty and never missed an election. As he got older and his health declined, I made sure he could vote. He lived an hour away from me and I was raising a family, so there were obstacles. I am concerned that the additional requirements for absentee ballot voting will impact voters like my father. We must ensure that older voters and those with disabilities have fair and easy access to absentee voting. Not all seniors have family members who can help with applications and drop-offs and they need to rely on community members. Another challenge to absentee ballots is the unreliability of the postal service in Georgia. The proposed new roles add an excessive burden to absentee voters like my father and exceed the requirements under Georgia laws.

Thank you for considering my input.

Christina Martin
[REDACTED]

Hardin, Alexandra (SEB)

From: david Ross [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2024 3:24 PM
To: SEB Public Comments
Subject: Proposed amendments to rule involving advance voting (183-1-14-.02)

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Greetings.

I am writing in opposition to the proposed amendments to Rule 183-1-14- .02 regarding advance voting.

I have voted in every Georgia election since 1978, and have served for several elections as a credentialed poll watcher.

1. The proposed paragraph 18 pertains to voters who deliver their absentee ballots to "any absentee ballot drop location" (as opposed to voters who mail their absentee ballots by U.S. mail or who deliver their absentee ballots to an authorized drop box). Paragraph 18 mandates a written form and identification that is not authorized by current Georgia law, and, because it pertains only to a certain segment of voters who vote by absentee ballot, adds an undue and unnecessary burden on those voters. It also would cause confusion among voters as to the requirements for delivering absentee ballots. Basically, this proposed amendment discriminates against a category of absentee ballot voters for no legitimate purpose.

Furthermore, as a practical matter, this proposed amendment is very likely to create a situation in a major election where there are long lines at these "absentee ballot locations" because now the voter has to fill out a form and show identification.

Finally, this proposed amendment creates a new category of provisional ballots not authorized by Georgia law.

2. The proposed paragraph 19 requires security measures pertaining to drop boxes that are completely unnecessary given the security measures currently mandated by Georgia law. Currently, a drop box has to be inside an early voting location, along with the other voting equipment. These locations are obviously locked at night. At the end of the voting day, all ballots from the drop boxes are removed. When voting resumes the next voting day, the drop box is opened to ensure there are no ballots in the drop box before voting begins.

This proposed amendment would mandate all 159 counties, at considerable cost and effort, to set up video surveillance of drop boxes while they are locked at night with the other voting equipment. This accomplished nothing, but creates an expensive and wasteful requirement for all counties.

Current Georgia law sets out in great detail the security measures required for drop boxes. If the Georgia legislature had thought that overnight video surveillance was warranted, it would have passed a law requiring such. It did not.

I respectfully request that these proposed amendments be rejected.

David Ross

[REDACTED]

August 5, 2024

Chairman John Fervier
Georgia State Election Board
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
8th Floor West Tower Suite 802
Atlanta, GA 30334

Re: Petition to Amend SEB Rule 183-1-14-.02

Dear Chairman Fervier and Georgia State Election Board Members:

On behalf of the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law and United to Protect Democracy, we write to provide comment on the Petition to Amend Rule 183-1-14-.02, submitted by Fayette County Board of Elections Member Sharlene Alexander.¹ The State Election Board has listed this petition as procedure matter at its August 6, 2024 meeting.²

We urge the Board to reject the proposed amendments requiring new hand counting procedures for advance voting under Rule 183-1-14-.02. The suggested language will unnecessarily undermine existing security protocols and overburden county election superintendents and staff who would be required to create and implement new training materials on an accelerated timeline.

The proposed amendments would task several election workers with additional steps to complete before closing polls on each day of advance voting, such as independently hand-counting cast ballot amounts to cross-check with numbers found in “precinct poll pads” (that may or may not be used as a voter check in device at all advance voting locations³), ballot marking devices (which print ballots that voters may choose to spoil before casting⁴), and the interim count of

¹ The Brennan Center is a nonpartisan law and policy institute that works to reform, revitalize – and when necessary – defend our country’s systems of democracy and justice. This comment does not reflect views, if any, of the NYU School of Law.

United to Protect Democracy is a 501(c)(4) organization focusing on advocacy efforts to confront threats to our democracy.

² Georgia State Election Board, “Agenda August 6, 2024,” accessed August 2, 2024, https://sos.ga.gov/sites/default/files/2024-07/Agenda_8_6_24.pdf.

³ Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 183-1-14-.02(5).

⁴ E.g., Ga. Sec’y of State Office, Poll Worker Manual 65-67 (May 2021), <https://georgiapollworkers.sos.ga.gov/Shared%20Documents/Georgia%20Poll%20Worker%20Manual%202021.pdf>.

ballots from the ballot scanners.⁵ Workers would be directed to correct perceived inconsistencies between these varying records before placing voted ballots in sealable containers. According to the petition, these amendments are necessary to “enhance[] election integrity,” provide “more accurate results,” and create “a more uniform procedure” through all voting periods.⁶

But these changes would have the exact opposite effect on ballot counting procedures in Georgia, which already have several safeguards in place to ensure voted ballots are included in election results. Current regulations mandate a strict and elaborate chain of custody process before, during, and after the advance voting period.⁷ As relevant for the present petition, existing rules require registrars and two sworn witnesses to, when they remove completed ballots during the advance voting period, place them in a sealable container, and log/inventory such container for secured storage until the time of tabulation.⁸ Trained poll watchers may also be present at an advance voting site to observe this process.⁹ Together, these procedures ensure the election system is secure throughout an election cycle.

The proposed amendments would muddle this process and greatly increase the risk of ballots being misplaced or damaged, by requiring additional election workers (three poll workers) to individually handle voted paper ballots—counting into stacks of 50—for an extended and unbounded period before placing the ballots in a sealable container. Voted paper ballots would remain outside of their designated containers for as long as it takes the poll workers to count the ballots—potentially from multiple scanners—and arrive at uniform numbers. This is a tedious task at the end of a long voting day, ripe for human error, such as neglecting to place a single stack of 50 ballots in a secure container. Poll managers would also need to document and explain perceived “inconsistencies” with multiple machine totals that may not represent a significant concern—for instance when voters change their mind after printing a ballot and spoil it before casting, or if a voter checks in but exits the voting site without casting a ballot, escaping the notice of poll workers. Concurrently, the new process paves the way for heightened misinformation and accusations of fraud by inserting human error into a process which, at bottom, is intended to provide a reliable paper trail for use in risk-limiting audits that help serve as one of many checks against potential programming errors or other technical failures in ballot scanners.¹⁰ With these concerns in mind, it’s unsurprising that the Secretary of State’s office asked counties in 2022 not to implement such a process.¹¹

⁵ Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 183-1-14-.02(8).

⁶ Petition to Amend Rule 183-1-14-.02, presented by Fayette County Board of Elections Member Sharlene Alexander.

⁷ Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 183-1-14-.02(7)–(17).

⁸ Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 183-1-14-.02(8).

⁹ Ga. Code Ann. § 21-2-408.

¹⁰ U.S. Election Assistance Commission, “Best Practices: Chain of Custody,” July 13, 2021, https://www.eac.gov/sites/default/files/bestpractices/Chain_of_Custody_Best_Practices.pdf.

¹¹ Petition to Amend Rule 183-1-14-.02, presented by Fayette County Board of Elections Member Sharlene Alexander (Exhibit A).

In addition to these glaring security concerns, the suggested changes carry significant burdens on county election superintendents. Georgia law requires superintendents to provide training for all poll workers ahead of an election cycle.¹² Superintendents will be required to quickly amend their training materials should the proposed changes be implemented ahead of advance voting in October. In order to do so, counties will need to divert already limited resources away from other responsibilities on an accelerated timeline, including poll worker recruitment efforts that are already underway.¹³

Election officials in Georgia already take a series of administrative steps to ensure a secure and accurate vote count at the end of all voting periods. Now is the time to ensure they have the resources to follow these steps precisely and consistently – not to unnecessarily encumber counties with ill-conceived procedures just two months away from the advance voting period. For these reasons, the Board should reject the proposed amendments to Rule 183-1-14-.02.

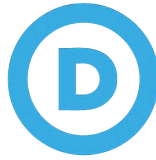
Sincerely,

BRENNAN CENTER FOR JUSTICE
AT NYU SCHOOL OF LAW
Marina Pino
Gowri Ramachandran
120 Broadway, Suite 1750
New York, NY 10271

United to Protect Democracy
Peter Simmons
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
#163
Washington, DC 20006

¹² Ga. Code Ann. §§ 21-2-70(8), 21-2-99(a)–(b).

¹³ See, e.g., “Cobb County hoping for hundreds of new poll workers ahead of presidential election,” WSBTV.com, August 1, 2024, <https://www.wsbradio.com/news/local/cobb-county-hoping-hundreds-new-poll-workers-ahead-presidential-election/BFGPNW6AAZA7JKBNZUHZSAUL7A/>; Matt Vasilogambros, “Wanted: Poll workers. Must love democracy.,” *Stateline*, July 29, 2024, <https://stateline.org/2024/07/29/wanted-poll-workers-must-love-democracy/>.



GEORGIA DEMOCRATS

August 5, 2024

State Election Board
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
8th Floor West Tower Suite 802
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Via Email only to SEBPublicComments@sos.ga.gov

Re: Comment Regarding Notice of Rulemaking to Amend Subject 183-1-14-.02 (“Advance voting” – surveillance for absentee ballot drop boxes and requiring the submission of a form that accompanies ballots that are dropped)

Chairman Fervier and State Election Board Members,

The Democratic Party of Georgia respectfully submits the following comment regarding the proposed revision to State Election Board Rule 183-1-14-.02 (Advance voting), requiring surveillance for absentee ballot drop boxes and the submission of a form accompanying ballots returned to drop boxes. *See* Exhibit A, State Election Board Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, July 3, 2024 (the “Proposed Rule”).

The Board should reject the Proposed Rule for two reasons. First, the Democratic Party of Georgia opposes this proposed rule’s requirement of the submission of an additional form containing the “absentee ballot elector’s name, signature and photo ID of the person delivering the absentee ballot, and approved relation to the elector’s name on the absentee ballot” as being wholly unnecessary. The true intent of this provision is to dissuade voters from submitting completed absentee ballots by creating additional burdensome process and delay when returning completed absentee ballots at drop boxes. This proposed procedure is also redundant as absentee ballot outer envelopes already require this same information. The only impact of this proposal is to simply add additional paperwork for election workers to track and reconcile. When conducting elections, the goal should be to ensure vote accuracy while not creating overly burdensome requirements on voters and elections officials.

This form also establishes a heightened bar for casting an absentee ballot and mandates that any absentee ballot not included on the absentee ballot form or on the chain of custody form shall be placed in provisional ballot status requiring the voter to “cure” their ballot. Placing the

burden on voters who may have otherwise submitted a complete and countable ballot is patently unfair and is clearly only intended to suppress the vote of Georgia's citizens.

Adding this new procedure for our already strained election workers to undertake immediately before one of the most consequential general elections of this country's history is not only wholly inappropriate, but it disrespects the elections officers, poll workers and poll managers who will bear the responsibility of implementing these new rules.

Second, the Democratic Party of Georgia opposes the provision requiring video surveillance and recording of drop boxes. Not only will the State Election Board's passage of such a rule create excessive costs on counties to comply with this new and burdensome requirement, but this provision is completely unnecessary. By law, drop box locations must "be under constant surveillance by an election official or his or her designee, law enforcement official, or licensed security guard." O.C.G.A. § 21-2-382(c)(1). Moreover, drop boxes are generally located inside advance voting locations or at county elections offices, and the voting equipment must be locked and secured after the close of voting for the day. Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. r. 183-1-14-.02(9). Adding required video surveillance only creates unnecessary costs for the purchase of video surveillance equipment, training on document retention standards, and management of video footage all while the effect of the proposed rule - ensuring that the state's drop boxes are properly secured - is already enshrined into the Georgia Code.

Accordingly, for the reasons stated, we respectfully urge the Georgia State Elections Board to reject the proposed amendment to Rule 83-1-14-.02.

Sincerely,

/s/ Tolulope Kevin Olasanoye

Kevin Olasanoye
Executive Director
Democratic Party of Georgia

CC:

Sachin Varghese, General Counsel, Democratic Party of Georgia ()
Matthew M. Weiss, Deputy General Counsel, Democratic Party of Georgia ()
Cecilia Ugarte Baldwin, Director of Voter Protection, Democratic Party of Georgia
()



P.O. Box 570738, Atlanta, GA 30357
770.303.8111|info@acluga.org

August 2, 2024

Dear Members of the State Election Board,

The ACLU of Georgia's Voter Access Project works to ensure voting is easy and accessible for all Georgians. We are writing to urge you to reject the petition to amend rule 183-1-12-.02 addressing the definition of certifying election results and the petition to amend rule 183-1-14-.02 addressing advance voting.

The proposed amendment to Rule 183-1-12-.02 is unreasonable and has the potential for great harm to our democratic process. The newly proposed definition is far too vague and overbroad. The definition proposed in this petition includes "after reasonable inquiry," without a definition of that phrase. It is unclear and open-ended what type of inquiry could be done and what time frame, if any, that inquiry has to happen within. As the code stands, Board members play an active role in our certification process by certifying that the results presented to them by the Election Supervisor represent a complete and accurate count of the ballots. The statute states that they "shall" certify the results, which the Supreme Court of Georgia has stated is a "mandatory" duty, rather than a discretionary one. *Hall County Bd. of Tax Assessors v. Westrec Properties, Inc.*, 303 Ga. 69, 75 (2018). The Georgia Court of Appeals relatedly found that the predecessor certification statute with similar language was ministerial. *Bacon v. Black*, 162 Ga. 222 (1926). And the Georgia Supreme Court found that that statute included no discretion for canvassers. *Thompson v. Talmadge*, 201 Ga. 867, 876 (1947). There needs to be a legitimate, numerical reason for a board not to certify an election. Any suspicion of fraud should be referred to the county's district attorney. O.C.G.A. § 21-2-493(i).

When an election is not certified based on speculation, this sows fear and distrust in our democratic process. This in turn also creates more harassment towards our election officials. Furthermore, allowing county board members this level of discretion beyond the limits of their statutory authority could lead to concerning inconsistencies in how election results are certified across different jurisdictions. What one board considers "reasonable inquiry" might differ from another, potentially impacting the uniformity and reliability of elections being certified across Georgia.

As the State Election Board, you have the critical role of overseeing the county level boards, ensuring their duties remain consistent with state statutes. Having an unclear definition of the certification process that does not require them to fulfill actions by a certain date runs the risk of allowing county board members to use their position to make their own politically motivated decisions.

The Petition to Adopt new Rule 183-1-14-.02 on the increased requirements for DropBoxes and absentee ballots creates requirements above and beyond what is required by statute to vote using these programs. The rule would create in effect a third check of ID when a voter chooses to submit their absentee ballot by drop box. This rule change could easily disenfranchise absentee voters because of administrative error and create unnecessary burdens on voters who need to cure their ballots by proving their identity for the third time in order to vote.

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4(a)(2), I request that the Board include this comment in the rulemaking record and, if the Board ultimately adopts the Proposed Rule, we request that it issue a concise statement of the principal reasons for and against its adoption and incorporate therein its reason for overruling the consideration urged against its adoption as required by statute.

We ask that you continue to put the rights of Georgia voters first.

Sincerely,

Rachel Lastinger
Associate Director, Voter Access Project, ACLU of Georgia



Georgia State Election Board
C/O Alexandra Hardin
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive,
S.E. 8th Floor West Tower Suite 802
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

12 July 2024

RE: Proposed revisions to 183-1-14-.02 Advance Voting

Chairman Fervier & SEB Board Members,

The subject proposed revision has been reviewed with the following questions and concerns.

A. Paragraph (18)

Q. What is the definition of “Any absentee ballot drop location”, other than the United States Postal Service or authorized and defined drop box under Georgia Law?

Q. How would an elector know the “absentee ballot form” and photo ID are required for those authorized to hand deliver their mail-in absentee ballot?

I hope the answer is NOT “just add a notice to the outbound mail-in absentee packet. It’s just a piece of paper.”? It’s always just a piece of paper until it’s a burden.

Q. What types of photo ID would be acceptable? Would the rules of O.C.G.A. § 21-2-417(c) apply to the person hand delivering the mail-in absentee ballot?

Q. What mechanism would an elector use to cure this “new” category of provisional ballot? Especially “any ballot that is missing the chain of custody form” or the person hand delivering the mail-in absentee ballot that does not possess any ID.

Q. What “Provisional/challenged code” would election officials use to identify this “new” category of provisional ballots?

Q. Will there be proposed legislation to codify this “new” category of provisional ballots?

Q. Would the person hand-delivering the mail-in absentee ballot, if they did not provide ID, also fill out the forms for an absentee provisional ballot?

Q. Is there a future revision to the mail-in absentee ballot outer oath envelope to include this requirement?

Q. Is there also a revision to Rule 183-1-14-.03. Provisional Absentee Ballots?

Q. Does this rule apply to those voters confined to a hospital? Will the election official be required to fill out the “absentee ballot form”?

Q. When is the hand delivered mail-in absentee ballot considered received?

Example: A voter has an authorized person hand deliver their ballot on election night @6:59pm? It appears the mail-in absentee ballot is not considered received, until after the requirements of this rule and the other statutory requirements are satisfied?

If this is correct, an otherwise certifiable mail-in absentee ballot could be rejected or received late simply because the elector chose to have their ballot hand delivered to “Any absentee ballot drop location”.

Q. Is there a future SEB revision based on O.C.G.A. § 21-2-381(a)(1)(B) “satisfactory proof of relationship” concerning an absentee application?

B. Paragraph (19)

Q. Does this rule allow a ballot drop box, that is under video surveillance, to be open outside of advance voting hours?

Q. If so, does this new rule conflict with O.C.G.A. § 21-2-382 (c)(1)?

I will be unable to physically attend the public hearing on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 9:00 A.M. I will be available online. The link provided in the notification of this revision comes back as “Sorry, We Can't Find That Page”?

I am submitting these questions in advance to provide the SEB time to research and formulate answers.

Very Respectfully,

Kyle C. Rapp, Chair
Camden County, Board of Elections and Registration



John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

Proposed Rule 183-1-14-.02 Advance Voting--Ballot Box

1 message

Jennifer E. Logan <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Aug 1, 2024 at 6:23 PM

To: "jking.seb@gmail.com" <jking.seb@gmail.com>, "rjeffares.seb@gmail.com" <rjeffares.seb@gmail.com>, "jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com" <jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com>, "saraghazal.seb@gmail.com" <saraghazal.seb@gmail.com>, "jfervier.seb@gmail.com" <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

I have worked in Georgia Elections for nine years, the last six years I have served as the Elections and Registration Director for Jackson County. We have around 62,000 registered voters. I would like to comment on the addition of sections (18) eighteen and (19) nineteen of SEB Rule 183-1-14-.02

Section 18 I would like to comment on is the required form to drop off the ballot to a ballot box. The ABM voter is required to provide identifying information prior to receiving a ballot, then again on the ballot itself. It seems to me that this rule would require the voter to provide additional steps that the in person voters are not required to provide. In person voters produce an ID (identifying information) and sign an application to vote. ABM voters sign an Application and provide identifying information on both ballot and application, then the new rule would require an additional showing of an ID and completion of a form or the ballot won't count without being CURED. This really borders on disenfranchising our ABM voters. Anything you do to make it more difficult for a voter to vote is what the state election board should be against. Most of our ABM voters are elderly and have difficulty completing the forms and ballots correctly—already causing many applications and ballots to be CURED. Adding additional forms and ID requirements to use a box located within our early voting location, that is monitored by a camera and sitting next to a poll official the entire time it is open, seems unnecessary and may cause an additional hardship to the voter and additional paperwork for our poll officials. The ballot box being inside a early voting location and only opening during the hours of early voting makes the box useless to anyone who would need to use the box (such as folks that work or the elderly that can't walk all the way to the box.) I request that the board selects to reject this rule due to the difficulties it would cause to our senior citizens.

Section 19 refers to Absentee Ballot Drop Box video after hours. As per Law these ballot boxes are inside at our advanced voting site—most counties are only allow to have one box. Counties are **required** to complete a Ballot Box Form as part of the opening and closing procedures to make sure it is emptied at closing and it remains empty at opening. When the ballot box is not in use (overnight) it is locked. In the morning—poll officials open the locked box and are required to make sure the box is still empty. It makes no sense to require video footage on a box that is locked, located in a locked room, within a locked building.. then to have to keep the footage for 24 months. When the box is open, we are on camera, and a poll official is required to sit next to the box at all times. Maintaining that footage will be costly to counties and most counties don't want the ballot boxes, but we are required to have them. Having camera footage of a box (locked) sitting in a dark locked room, inside a dark closed building.... I really don't understand the reasoning. If the box is emptied at the close of the polls each night as required by law and checked every morning prior to the opening of polls and poll officials are completing a required form that states that the box was emptied at the close of poll and no ballots are in the box and they are signing a form stating that at the opening of polls that no ballots are in the box--- why the need for the footage and the cost to the counties. I request that the board selects to reject this rule due to the unnecessary additional cost to our county.

I have attached a copy of my county's ballot box transfer form. The picture below is my county's ballot box—as you can clearly see—it is CLOSED and has two locks on the box. It takes an additional two key locks on the door of the box to open the area where the ballots are located and none of the keys (3) are the same. It is located in a locked building, I just can't justify the cost. Again, I respectfully request that you reject the proposed to the rule. Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.



Jennifer Logan

Jackson County Elections & Registration Director

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

-

Upcoming elections:

November 5, 2024 – General Election

December 3, 2024 – General Election Runoff (if needed)

 **Ballot Box Form.pdf**
404K



John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

Feedback on Rule Changes

1 message

Christine Propst <[REDACTED]>
To: "jfervier.seb@gmail.com" <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 4, 2024 at 1:41 PM

Hello Chairman Fervier,

Thank you for your hard work and dedication as Chairman of the State Election Board. I appreciate you standing up for transparency, accuracy, and security of our elections to help restore voter confidence in Georgia. I know it is not an easy job and I hope you know you have many supporters who appreciate you!

I respectfully ask that you please stand fast in **support** of the following rule proposals that strengthen our elections:

Hand Count Ballots at the Precinct [183-1-12-.12\(a\)\(5\) Tabulating Results](#)

I was an Election Day Poll Manager at a very large location in Fulton. My Assistant Managers and I did this. It took us about 20 minutes to count 1500+ ballots. This provides a valuable checkpoint in the process to confirm scanners are reading all ballots and all ballots are removed from the scanners. It is absolutely FALSE that this would slow down tabulation. The first thing we do when we close is tabulate results, close down the scanners, and remove the memory cards. **We send the memory cards via "runners" to the regional check-in centers within 30 minutes of our close.** Counting the paper ballots would have ZERO impact on Election Night Tabulation in Fulton. The same would apply for Advance Voting. The counting of the ballots would happen when ballots are removed from any scanner. AIP Tabulation is happening at the Elections Hub the following week on Election Day.

Reconciliation Rule [183-1-12-.12 Tabulating Results](#)

This rule was vetted and approved via a lengthy discussion on July 9th and it should stand as is. Among other things, it ensures that reconciliation by board of elections members includes comparing unique voters to ballots cast and investigate any discrepancy via GA Code§ 21-2-493(b) (i)

Certify Definition [183-1-12-.02 Definition](#)

I was surprised to find that there is no definition for Certify and this is a very important addition.

Dropbox Security Rule [183-1-14-.02 Advance Voting](#)

This is a great step to improve security and reduce voters' concerns regarding ballot tampering.

Please **oppose** the petition submitted by the lobbyist group "United to Protect Democracy" that further restricts voter challenges.

Please **oppose** the Monitor proposal by Ryan Germany based on the names of the proposed monitors. These are the same people who ignored the issues in 2020.

Thank you,
Christine

Christine H. Propst
Sandy Springs, GA
Fulton County Voter



John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

Proposed Rules

1 message

kareegrier@gmail.com <[REDACTED]>

Sun, Aug 4, 2024 at 2:49 PM

To: jfervier.seb@gmail.com, saraghazal.seb@gmail.com, jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com, rjeffares.seb@gmail.com, jking.seb@gmail.com

Dear board members,

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Georgia. I am very concerned about the integrity of our elections. The lack of transparency, the dependence on vulnerable machines, and the potential for ballot trafficking of mail in ballots does not bode well for trust. Please support the following proposed rules:

Mike Heegan's rule to define certify meaning to do reasonable inquiry in order to assure results are true and accurate.

Sally Grubb's rule to secure absentee drop boxes.

Julie Adam's rule to increase poll watcher access.

Marilyn Mark's rule to require recounts to be fully hand counted.

Sharlene Alexander's rule to reconcile the number of ballots at close by hand counting.

In addition please support requirement to retain memory cards for 24 months, require total ballots cast from tabulator to be reconciled with total ballots cast from ICP scanners for Election Day and AIP, require counties do do monthly list maintenance due to large numbers of people who move yet remain on our rolls, require SOS to post a list of eligible voters prior to election once frozen 30 days before election, require SOS to post a list of voters who voted immediately after election.

Sincerely,

Karee Grier

Powder Springs, GA

Sent from my iPad



John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

**Dear Georgia State Board of Election. Rules overview vote on August 6, 2024.
Thanks for your service. Please see my comments. Sincerely, Steve Houlder**

1 message

Steve Houlder <[REDACTED]>

Mon, Aug 5, 2024 at 10:24 PM

To: Janelle King <jking.seb@gmail.com>, jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com, John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>, Rick Jeffares <rjeffares.seb@gmail.com>, Sara Tindall Ghazal <saraghazal.seb@gmail.com>

Dear Georgia State Election Board,**Please see my comments for your rules overview and votes.**

Support Mike Heekin's Certify the results of a primary, election, or runoff," or words to that effect, means to attest, after reasonable inquiry that the tabulation and canvassing of the election are complete and accurate and that the results are a true and accurate accounting of all votes cast in that election

Support Salleigh Grubbs: Requires chain of custody forms and photo ID of any person delivering absentee ballots to a location other than USPS or an authorized drop box Requires recorded video surveillance of drop boxes after hours when election workers are not on sight and considers them as election documents

Oppose John Fervier: Lists documents that Election Supervisors should make available to Election Board members for certification and requires certification of invalid results with notice to law enforcement

Support Rick Jeffares: Requires counties to provide a breakdown of ballots cast for each absentee and in-person voting method as of each day

Support Julie Adams: Adds specific election process areas in tabulation center where poll watcher monitoring is allowed. It includes provisional ballot adjudication, closing of advanced voting equipment, mail in ballot verification and processing, memory card transfer, regional or satellite check-in centers and election reconciliation

Support Marilyn Marks: Requires recounts under Georgia law to be fully hand counted to ensure that the voting system produced the correct results

Oppose Marilyn Marks: Requires very specific reporting requirements for cybersecurity incidents allowing for an option to use hand marked paper ballots when such incidents occur based at the discretion of the SOS, SEB or County superintendent

Oppose Peter Simmons: Severely limits invalid registration challenges, prohibiting the use of automated tools and requiring a challenger to provide a witness with first[1]hand knowledge that the registration is no longer valid

Support Sharlene Alexander: Requires poll managers to hand count the total number of ballots when emptying an advanced in-person scanner ballot box and removing the ballots

Support David Cross: Provide for two visually distinct types of ballots: Emergency/Provisional and Absentee to improve security and chain of custody.

Support David Cross: Requires absentee ballots to be sent by USPS or other delivery service which offers tracking of such mailed ballots to maintain proper chain of custody.

Support Garland Favorito: Requires memory card content to be retained for 24 months in accordance with federal and state law

Support Garland Favorito: Requires total ballots cast from tabulator tapes to be reconciled with the total ballots cast from ICP scanners for Election Day and advanced-in-person voting

Support Debbie Fisher: Requires counties to perform monthly list maintenance and remove former Georgia voters who moved out of state based on a State-to-State report available from Dept of Driver Services and American Assoc. of Motor Vehicle Administration.

Support Debbie Fisher: Requires counties to perform monthly list maintenance and remove former Georgia voters who moved out of state based on a State-to-State report available from Dept of Driver Services and American Assoc. of Motor Vehicle Administration.

Support Lucia Frazier: Requires voter rolls to be publicly posted and downloadable for free to the public

Support Lucia Frazier: Requires the SOS to post a list of eligible voters prior to an election once the list is frozen 30 days before the election is conducted

Support Lucia Frazier: Requires the SOS to post a list of voters who voted immediately after an election is conducted.

Your consideration is sincerely appreciated.

Steve Houlder





John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

State Election Board Rules' Proposals for the August 6th and 19th SEB Meetings

1 message

Jan Galyen [REDACTED]

Mon, Aug 5, 2024 at 7:54 PM

To: "jfervier.seb@gmail.com" <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>, "saraghazal.seb@gmail.com" <saraghazal.seb@gmail.com>, "jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com" <jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com>, "rjeffares.seb@gmail.com" <rjeffares.seb@gmail.com>, "jking.seb@gmail.com" <jking.seb@gmail.com>

Dear State Election Board Members,

I am writing to you to respectfully ask for your attention to my requests for the below Rules' Proposals that will be before you at tomorrow's, August 6th, SEB meeting.

1. I SUPPORT - Define Certification & Criteria to Confirm Results by Mike Heekin
2. I SUPPORT - Security for Absentee Ballots and Drop Boxes by Salleigh Grubbs
3. I OPPOSE - Certification Document Availability by John Fervier
4. I SUPPORT - Intermediate Absentee Ballot Reporting by Rick Jeffaries
5. I SUPPORT - Tabulation Center Poll Watcher Observation Enhancements by Julie Adams
6. I SUPPORT - Recount Hand Counts by Marilyn Marks
7. I OPPOSE - Cybersecurity Incident Reporting by Marilyn Marks
8. I OPPOSE - Voter Registration Challenge Restrictions by Peter Simmons
9. I SUPPORT - Count Total Ballots When Scanner Box Emptied by Sharlene Alexander
10. I SUPPORT - Distinguish Emergency and Provisional Ballot Paper by David Cross
11. I SUPPORT - Absentee-by-Mail Ballot Tracking by David Cross
12. I SUPPORT - Memory Card Retention by Garland Favorito
13. I SUPPORT - Tabulation Reconciliation by Garland Favorito
14. I SUPPORT - Clean Rolls of Former Voters Who Left Georgia by Debbie Fisher
15. I OPPOSE IF A PATCH IS REQUIRED - Ballot Marking Device Warning Correction by Christina Loop
16. I SUPPORT - Voter Roll Public Posting by Lucia Frazier

These are my requests for your attention to the August 19th SEB meeting:

1. I SUPPORT - Eligible Voters for an Election by Lucia Frazier

2. I SUPPORT - Voters Who Voted in an Election by Lucia Frazier
3. I OPPOSE - Hand Marked Paper Ballot Option by Debbie Dooley

Thank you so very much for your service, time and attention to these critically important election integrity issues!

Respectfully,
Jan C. Galyen
Woodstock, GA



John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

Thank You. Please Vote YES On These Tomorrow/Wednesday Part I, Part 2, Part 3

1 message

msross

Mon, Aug 5, 2024 at 4:52 PM

To: "jfervier.seb@gmail.com" <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>, "jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com" <jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com>, "rjeffares.seb@gmail.com" <rjeffares.seb@gmail.com>, "jking.seb@gmail.com" <jking.seb@gmail.com>

I want to thank you for supporting GA Law and GA Code and looking at past county issues that have been ignored or obstructed since 2020. Glad you were recognized on Saturday as heroes. Tomorrow and August 19 will call for your common sense and "doing the right thing again."

It appears opposition to both common sense and doing the right thing is going to make an appearance tomorrow. We are praying for you and the voters of Georgia.

I.Support These for more Transparent and Verifiable Nov 2024 Election

Define Certification & Criteria to Confirm Results, Mike Heekin (YES)

"Certify the results of a primary, election, or runoff," or words to that effect, means to attest, after reasonable inquiry that the tabulation and canvassing of the election are complete and accurate and that the results are a true and accurate accounting of all votes cast in that election

Security for Absentee Ballots and Drop Boxes, Salleigh Grubbs (YES),

Requires chain of custody forms and photo ID of any person delivering absentee ballots to a location other than USPS or an authorized drop box

Requires recorded video surveillance of drop boxes after hours when election workers are not on sight and considers them as election documents

II. August 6 Petitions for Proposed Rules

Petitioners to Request SEB to Initiate Rule-making Process on these Proposed Rules

Intermediate Absentee Ballot Reporting, Rick Jeffares YES

"Requires counties to provide a breakdown of ballots cast for each absentee and in-person voting method as of each day"

Tabulation Center Poll Watcher Observation Enhancements, Julie Adams, YES

"Adds specific election process areas in tabulation center where poll watcher monitoring is allowed. It includes provisional ballot adjudication, closing of advanced voting equipment, mail in ballot verification and processing, memory card transfer, regional or satellite check-in centers and election reconciliation."

Recount Hand Counts, Marilyn Marks, YES

"Requires recounts under Georgia law to be fully hand counted to ensure that

the voting system produced the correct results.”

Count Total Ballots When Scanner Box Emptied, Sharlene Alexander, YES

“Requires poll managers to hand count the total number of ballots when emptying an advanced in-person scanner ballot box and removing the ballots.”

Distinguish Emergency and Provisional Ballot Paper, David Cross, YES

“Provide for two visually distinct types of ballots: Emergency/Provisional and Absentee to improve security and chain of custody.”

Absentee-by-Mail Ballot Tracking, David Cross, YES

“Requires absentee ballots to be sent by USPS or other delivery service which offers tracking of such mailed ballots to maintain proper chain of custody.”

Memory Card Retention, Garland Favorito, YES

“Requires memory card content to be retained for 24 months in accordance with federal and state law.”

Tabulation Reconciliation, Garland Favorito, YES

“Requires total ballots cast from tabulator tapes to be reconciled with the total ballots cast from ICP scanners for Election Day and advanced-in-person voting.”

Clean Rolls of Former Voters Who Left Georgia, Debbie Fisher, YES

“Requires counties to perform monthly list maintenance and remove former Georgia voters who moved out of state based on a State-to-State report available from Dept of Driver Services and American Assoc. of Motor Vehicle Administration.”

Voter Roll Public Posting, Lucia Frazier, YES

“Requires voter rolls to be publicly posted and downloadable for free to the public.”

III. August 19 Petitions for Proposed Rules

Petitioners to Request SEB to Initiate Rule-making Process on Proposed Rules

Eligible Voters for an Election, Lucia Frazier, YES

“Requires the SOS to post a list of eligible voters prior to an election once the list is frozen 30 days before the election is conducted.”

Voters Who Voted in an Election, Lucia Frazier, YES

“Requires the SOS to post a list of voters who voted immediately after an election is conducted.”

I Do Not Support These

Do not support hired bureaucrats attacking Georgia Citizens and the Georgia Constitution by demanding like oligarchs like them, that employees know best. History has proven in Georgia Elections that this approach fails.

Voter Registration Challenge Restrictions, Peter Simmons, NO

Severely limits invalid registration challenges, prohibiting the use of automated tools and requiring a challenger to provide a witness to testify.

Ballot Marking Device Warning Correction, Christina Loop, NO, if patch required.

“Proposes to correct warning on Ballot Marking Device that displays “Once Ballot is Printed No Changes Can be Made””

Best Always,
Margaret



John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

Decision on rule proposed by Salleigh Grubbs

1 message

Victor Tripp [redacted] Mon, Aug 5, 2024 at 1:09 PM

To: "Dr. Johnston" <JJohnstonMD.seb@gmail.com>, "Mr. John Fervier, Chair" <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>, "Mr. Rick Jeffares" <RJeffares.seb@gmail.com>, "Ms. Janelle King" <JKing.seb@gmail.com>, "Ms. Sarah Ghazal" <saraghazal.seb@gmail.com>

Cc: Awal Khan [redacted], Barbara Poole [redacted], Carmen Tripp [redacted], Carol Cottrell [redacted], Dale Stankee [redacted], Dillard Medlin [redacted], Doug Evans [redacted], Janie Shaw [redacted], Jerome Masters [redacted], Judy Benedict [redacted], Kathy Darnell [redacted], Larry Gentry [redacted], Philip Poole [redacted], Rick Barnes [redacted], Robert Thomas [redacted], Stan Cottrell [redacted], Tina Evans [redacted], Victor Tripp [redacted]

Salleigh Grubbs' rule would require chain of custody form and photo ID for delivery of absentee ballots to anyone other than USPS or Drop Box. Also requires recorded surveillance of Drop Boxes as election records.

These are common-sense ideas that would enhance public trust and not unduly burden the county or the voters. Please vote in FAVOR of this rule.

Thank you for your work.

Vic

[redacted]
[redacted]

BCC Watchman Subscribers



John Fervier <jfervier.seb@gmail.com>

Proposed Rules

1 message

Sun, Aug 4, 2024 at 2:49 PM

[REDACTED]
To: jfervier.seb@gmail.com, saraghazal.seb@gmail.com, jjohnstonmd.seb@gmail.com, rjeffares.seb@gmail.com, jking.seb@gmail.com

Dear board members,

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Georgia. I am very concerned about the integrity of our elections. The lack of transparency, the dependence on vulnerable machines, and the potential for ballot trafficking of mail in ballots does not bode well for trust. Please support the following proposed rules:

Mike Heegan's rule to define certify meaning to do reasonable inquiry in order to assure results are true and accurate.

Sally Grubb's rule to secure absentee drop boxes.

Julie Adam's rule to increase poll watcher access.

Marilyn Mark's rule to require recounts to be fully hand counted.

Sharlene Alexander's rule to reconcile the number of ballots at close by hand counting.

In addition please support requirement to retain memory cards for 24 months, require total ballots cast from tabulator to be reconciled with total ballots cast from ICP scanners for Election Day and AIP, require counties do do monthly list maintenance due to large numbers of people who move yet remain on our rolls, require SOS to post a list of eligible voters prior to election once frozen 30 days before election, require SOS to post a list of voters who voted immediately after election.

Sincerely,

Karee Grier

Powder Springs, GA

Sent from my iPad