



**LIFT  
EVERY  
✓ VOTE  
AND  
RISE**



# Lift Every Vote And Rise

## OUR PURPOSE

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Lift Every Vote And Rise is non-partisan advocacy organization dedicated to increasing voting behavior with a concentration on historically underserved voters of color and underrepresented voters.

Our initiative works to strengthen public participation in our democracy while ensuring that political news and information is accessible to citizens. Through a powerful culmination of coalition building, grassroots organizing, research and public education, we spotlight local, state and national issues that affect voters.

## WHAT WE DO

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- Publish Voter Guides & Voter Digests
- Curate Voter Experiences
- Host Community Engagement Events
- Host Voter Education Workshops
- Host Voter Registration Drives
- Cultivate Strategic Partnerships
- Coordinate Volunteer/Canvassing Initiatives
- Campaign Consulting

## CONTACT US

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[www.lifteveryvoteandrise.com](http://www.lifteveryvoteandrise.com)

## OUR WORK

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### THE VOTERS GUIDE

Lift Every Vote And Rise publishes a digital and printed non-partisan Voters Guide designed to help voters understand what—and who—is on the ballot so they can make informed decisions when voting.

### Why A Voters Guide?

Voters Guides work because they meet voters where they are—busy, skeptical, and often overwhelmed by politics. Voters Guides often reduce voter fatigue and apathy.

Comprehensive Voters Guides shift the focus from conflict to clarity, helping voters feel informed rather than frustrated. By closing information gaps, Voters Guides help ensure more voices—especially those historically underrepresented—are able to take part in the process.

### THE VOTERS DIGEST

Lift Every Vote publishes a bi-monthly Voters Digest that delivers community news while building relationships via political storytelling and insight. The Voters Digest assists individuals in understanding what is happening in politics on the national & municipal level and why it matters.

# UNDER THE GOLD DOME



## **We're All Stakeholders... See What's Going On In The People's House.**

The Georgia 2026 Legislative Session will convene on Monday January 12, 2026 at 10:00am. The general public is not allowed on the House or Senate floor while in session. You can watch House and Senate sessions online ([www.legis.ga.gov](http://www.legis.ga.gov)) or from the fourth-floor gallery.

The Georgia Legislative Session is a 40-day non consecutive period where bills are written and passed. Bills that are passed by both chambers before or on the 40<sup>th</sup> day are forwarded to the Governor- who can approve or veto the bill. The two most important days during the session are Crossover Day (Deadline for bills to be passed out of either Legislative Chamber) and Sine Die (the last day of the session).

**Find Your Legislator:** Use the secretary of state's website to identify your House and Senate districts and who represents you: [mvp.sos.ga.gov](http://mvp.sos.ga.gov).

**Contact Your Legislator:** You can find your legislators' phone numbers and office locations on the General Assembly's website: [legis.ga.gov](http://legis.ga.gov).

### **How To Track Bills:**

**Online:** Visit [www.legis.ga.gov](http://www.legis.ga.gov) and search for legislation. You can enter a bill number (*if you know it*) or search by key word. This allows you to view the bill in its entirety, track it through committees and see roll call votes. Listings of committee meetings can also be found on the websites of both the House and Senate.

**In Person:** Locate paper copies of bills in the House clerk's office (Room 309) and the secretary of the Senate's office (Room 353). Each has a desk where you can request a bill. Committee hearing notices are posted daily on a bulletin board outside each office, and meeting calendars appear on monitors in the Legislative Office Building.

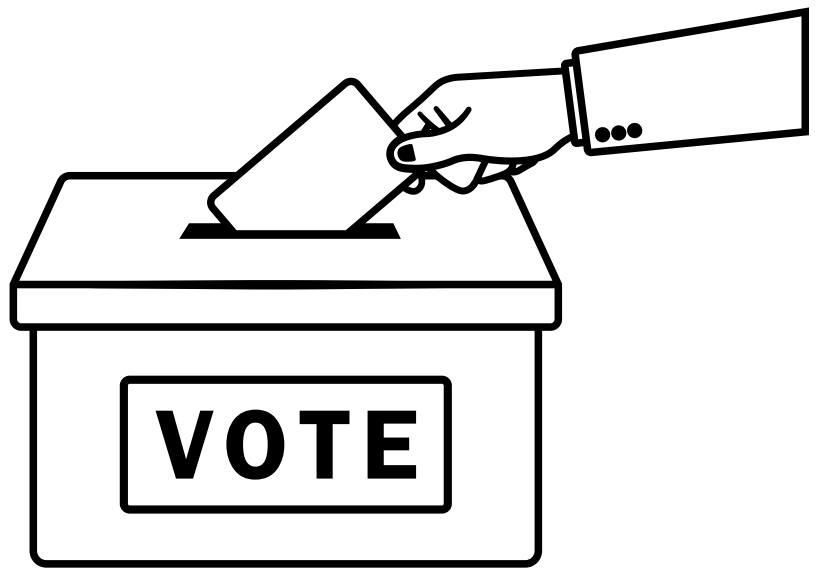


# 2026 Georgia Election

Georgia is central to the 2026 midterm landscape because it features one of the nation's most competitive U.S. Senate races. Democratic Sen. Jon Ossoff is seeking re-election, and national Republicans have identified his seat as a top pickup opportunity. With control of the U.S. Senate potentially hinging on just a few races, the outcome in Georgia could play a decisive role in determining which party holds the majority.

## What's On The Ballot?

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- U.S. Senate Representatives
- U.S. House of Representatives
- State Senate
- State House of Representatives
- Secretary of State
- Attorney General
- Labor Commissioner
- Insurance Commissioner
- State Superintendent of Schools
- Public Service Commission
- County Commissioners



## Key Dates

Qualifying period for all candidates for the 2026 General Election cycle: March 2-March 6, 2026

- Special Election: March 17, 2026
- Special Election Runoff: April 14, 2026
- Primary Election: May 19, 2026
- Primary Runoff: June 16, 2026
- General Election: November 3, 2026
- General Runoff Election: December 1, 2026



## Why Mid-Terms Matter

Voting in Georgia in 2026 is important because the state's races are competitive, influential on national politics and can decide leadership on key issues affecting people's lives—locally and across the country.

Midterms give voters a chance to respond to the performance of those in power, rewarding results or signaling the need for change. Midterm results can shift national momentum, shape future legislation, and set the stage for the next presidential election.

# POLITICS IN AND AROUND ATLANTA...



**Around Town:** With the 2025 Municipal Elections behind us, we welcome new Mayors, City Council and PSC Commissioners. Stockbridge elected 22 year old Jayden Williams, the youngest Mayor in the city's history. Jaha Howard championed over veteran politician Roger Bruce in the runoff special election to represent the 35<sup>th</sup> Senate District. City of South Fulton made history by electing the first female Mayor to lead the city. Currently seven of the fifteen cities in Fulton County are being led by female mayors-including five of color.

**East Point:** Newly elected Mayor Keisha Chapman is accused of illegally removing campaign signage during the run-off election. In addition, she used her influence to weaponize the East Point Police Department to intimidate and harass individuals who shared factual information regarding her Republican political affiliation. Chapman summoned the police on December 5, 2025 at the St. Stephen's Missionary Baptist Church polling location to prevent individuals from legally campaigning. This egregious behavior constitutes election interference and threatens the fairness, credibility, and legitimacy of democratic elections.

**College Park:** College Park resident Michael Corbin voluntarily surrendered to law enforcement on December 30, 2025 and admitted responsibility for destroying and removing signage on City Hall property and other locations in the city. The signage were holiday greetings from College Park Councilmember Dr. Jamelle McKenzie. Corbin is the husband of a former Ward 1 candidate who was unsuccessful in the 2023 election and lost to Dr. McKenzie.

**City of South Fulton:** Several former South Fulton Police Department officers have sued the City of South Fulton and Chief Keith Meadows, alleging retaliation and wrongful termination after reporting misconduct, abuse of authority by Meadows, withholding wages and unfair practices, attempts to influence internal investigations and polygraph outcomes and alleged protection of a relative in a criminal situation. Chief Meadows was placed on temporary paid administrative leave while the investigation proceeds and is currently receiving a retirement package.

# NEW GEORGIA LAWS TAKING EFFECT IN 2026

## **HB 567:** Teledentistry coverage

Authorizes regulated teledentistry in Georgia

Requires dental plans to cover qualifying teledentistry services

Local government, zoning and environmental regulation

## **HB 351:** Solid waste permitting revisions

Revises solid waste permitting rules and public notice requirements

Removes outdated terminology and the definition of “special solid waste”

## **HB 155:** Annexation and zoning dispute reforms

Revises annexation arbitration timelines and zoning appeal procedures

Requires countywide referendums for certain annexations

## **HB 513:** Gas station video surveillance ordinances

Allows continuation of certain local gas station surveillance ordinances

Vehicles and license plates

## **HB 551:** Temporary operating permits and vehicle registration

Expands issuance of temporary operating permits, including third-party vendors

Updates dealer plate rules and restricts tax-avoidance registrations

## **HB 208:** New organization and veteran license plates

Authorizes new specialty plates, including additional plates for disabled veterans

## **SB 291:** America First license plate

Creates a specialty license plate featuring the American flag and “America First” wording

Directs proceeds to the state general fund

Professional licensing and tax credits

## **HB 148:** Public Accountancy Act of 2025

Expands alternative education and experience pathways to CPA licensure

Updates rules for accounting firms and practice mobility

## **HB 475:** Tax credits and certification fees

## **SB 69:** Georgia Courts Access and Consumer Protection Act

Requires litigation financiers to register with the Department of Banking and Finance

Prohibits litigation financing tied to certain foreign governments or adversaries

Adds consumer protections, disclosure rules and criminal penalties

Allows digital discovery of certain litigation financing agreements

# NEW GEORGIA LAWS TAKING EFFECT IN 2026

## **HB 179:** Court transcripts and digital records

Allows some court proceedings to be digitally recorded and transcribed later if needed

## **HB 55:** Alapaha Judicial Circuit judgeship

Adds a third superior court judge to the Alapaha Judicial Circuit

## **SB 199:** Ethics and campaign finance reforms

Bars State Ethics Commission investigations of candidates within 60 days of an election

Moves local officials' campaign filings to the State Ethics Commission

Standardizes campaign reporting dates and expands PAC disclosure rules

## **SB 112:** HVAC warranty protections

Automatically transfers HVAC manufacturer warranties to new homeowners

Prohibits requiring warranty registration as a condition of coverage

## **SB 201:** Home repair contracts after disasters

Strengthens consumer protections for post-disaster home repair contracts

Prohibits certain insurance policies from allowing assignment of proceeds to contractors within one year of a disaster

## **SB 35:** Property insurance nonrenewal notices

Increases required notice for nonrenewal of certain residential property insurance policies from 30 to 60 days

## **SB 191:** Issue date notice requirements

Defines "issue date" for agency decisions to clarify appeal and finality timelines

## **HB 197:** Prior authorization reforms

Requires insurers and review agents to improve communication with treating providers

Encourages reduced prior authorization requirements for high-performing providers

## **HB 584:** Behavioral health program oversight changes

Transfers licensing and oversight of drug treatment and certain mental health programs to the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

Allows emergency relocation of residents and placement of facility monitors

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