

ACTION NEEDED!

LEGISLATION HAS BEEN ADDED TO HOUSE HOPPER THAT WOULD DRAMATICALLY CHANGE ELECTIONS IN GEORGIA!

HB 200 Added to House Hopper

Thursday, a bipartisan bill was put in the House Hopper by these sponsors:

Joseph Gullet (R) 19th District joseph.gullet@house.ga.gov 404 656-0178

Stacey Evans (D) 57th District stacey.evans@house.ga.gov 404 656-0116

Clay Pirkle (R) 169th District, Chair Appropriations Trans & Infr clay.pirkle@house.ga.gov 404 656-5912

Victor Anderson (R) 10th District victor.anderson@house.ga.gov 404 656-0325

Mary Margaret Oliver (D) 82nd District mary.oliver@house.ga.gov 404 656-0265

HB 200 is proposing **Instant Runoff Voting**, which is another name for Rank Choice Voting. You can read the legislation <u>HERE</u>

There are many problems with Instant Runoff Voting, some are listed below

- Counting can't begin until all ballots are in, delaying results
- Primaries can be eliminated or there can be Jungle Primaries and there will be no runoff elections (all party candidates are on one ballot & voter asked to rank some or all of the candidates)
- The ballot design confuses voters, voters rank candidates
- If there are two candidates in a race, you don't rank them
- The first round is counted, if one candidate doesn't get 50% or more of the
 votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and the count goes to
 the second round, exhausting ballots (ballots that are eliminated if they do
 not list a second choice candidate) then it goes to the next round and
 continues until one candidate gets 50% of the remaining number of ballots
- Ballots are 'exhausted' which means they stop being counted when they run out of candidates ranked.
- Machines that are not trusted to tally correctly are now expected to follow a complex algorithm, which is programmed by a human
- Voters must rank even the candidates they fundamentally disagree with or risk their ballot being eliminated ('exhausted')
- Winner is not by the majority of votes, but by the majority of the votes left (after ballot eliminations in each 'round')
- Hand Recount or any audit would be difficult, if not impossible

If you decide that making a fundamental change to our voting method is not what you want, please contact the sponsors of the bill and your own Representative and Senator and let them know you oppose the bill by leaving them a phone message or sending them an email.

ADDITIONALLY - There is Subcommittee Meeting on Tuesday, February 7th (1PM - 3PM) which lists this bill on the agenda.

If you are opposed to changing our elections from "One Person, One Vote" to "Instant Runoff Voting"-

PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND THE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING!!!!

View Meeting Info Here

PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL ALL ELECTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS BEFORE 10:00 AM ON TUESDAY - TELL THEM NO TO INSTANT RUNOFF VOTING. Contact Info is available HERE.

The problem they are trying to fix is eliminating Georgia's lengthy and expensive Runoff Elections.

Only Georgia and Louisiana have a 50%+1 vote threshold to win an election. No other state in the Union has this threshold. Consider giving them an option of lowering our threshold to win by 40 or 45%.

Instant Runoff Voting will force us to vote for multiple candidates we are opposed to and will create VOTER HAVOC, VOTER SUPPRESSION and educating voters will cost more than Runoff Elections.

Instant Runoff Voting will be voting equipment dependent and impossible (and expensive to try) to audit by hand count that will be trusted to be correct.

Ask our Legislators to join Tennessee and Florida and ban Instant Runoff Voting, which is any method of Ranked Choice Voting in any of our elections!

Here is some information you might be interested in:

NAACP Seeks Oakland Mayor race recount amid criticism of Ranked Choice Voting

https://patch.com/california/rockridge/naacp-seeks-oakland-mayors-race-recount-amid-criticism-ranked-choice-voting

NAACP Slams Ranked Choice Voting - "it's Voter Suppression" https://nypost.com/2021/07/01/naacp-head-slams-ranked-choice-voting-urges-overhaul-of-board/

FairVote's founders came together in 1992 with a fervent belief that our country could do more to create a healthy democracy for all. Their enthusiasm was met with skepticism by many who believed the idea of changing winner-take-all elections was unrealistic.

https://fairvote.org/who-we-are/our-impact/

Ranked Choice Voting - A Disaster in Disguise https://thefga.org/research/ranked-choice-voting-a-disaster-in-disguise/

Stop Ranked Choice Voting - great resource https://www.stoprcv.com/

PLEASE SHARE WITH OTHER GEORGIANS WHO ARE CONCERNED WITH ELECTION INTEGRITY!!