

PREPARING FOR THE COMING GENERAL ELECTION



Georgians will have a lengthy ballot to consider this year for the November general elections, featuring races for the U.S. Senate, all U.S. congressional seats, all statewide offices, and all state House and state Senate races.

Below are key dates to know:

Absentee Ballot: Monday, August 22nd, is the earliest date that a voter can request a vote-by-mail ballot for the November 8th General Election. The easiest way to request a ballot is online at securemyabsenteeballot.sos.ga.gov, where you can complete and submit your application.

Due to the new voting laws (SB202), the earliest date a registrar will mail a regular (non-overseas) absentee ballot is October 10. Once you receive your ballot, complete it immediately and deliver it to your county elections office by 7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8.

You can also put your completed ballot in a drop box at certain polling locations. Due to the new voting laws, ballot drop boxes are located inside designated early polling locations, accessible only when the location is open for normal business hours. Check your early polling location at <https://tinyurl.com/GAEarlyVoteLocations>.

Remember, because of recent changes in Georgia law, a voter must include his or her driver's license number or state ID number, or the last four digits of their Social Security number, on the outer return envelope.

Early, In-person Voting: Early, in-person voting begins Monday, October 17, and continues until Friday, November 4. Voters may vote at any early voting precinct in the county in which they are registered to vote. Click <https://tinyurl.com/GAEarlyVoteLocations> for precinct information.

Voting on Election Day: Polls are open on Election Day, November 8 from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. Remember to bring your driver's license or state ID as proof of identification is required. If you are denied the ability to vote on Election Day due to any reason, you have the right to ask the poll worker to give you a provisional ballot. You will have three days from Election Day to "cure" or fix the issue that prevented you from casting an official ballot.

GAE STATE AND LEGISLATIVE ENDORSEMENTS

Early, in-person voting in the important November 8 general election begins Monday, October 17.

Georgians will cast their ballots in a race for the U.S. Senate. The incumbent, The Rev. Sen. Raphael Warnock, is seeking his first full-term, and has been endorsed by GAE. Warnock was first elected two years ago to fill the unexpired term of the late former U.S. Sen. Johnny Isakson, who resigned because of health issues.

Besides the U.S. Senate, there are races for all 14 of Georgia's U.S. congressional seats (see box for Congressional endorsements.)

All statewide, Constitutional offices are also up for election this year as are all 180 House and 56 Senate seats in the Georgia General Assembly.

Lisa Morgan, GAE member and president, described the process by which GAE makes candidate endorsements.

"The process began very early in the year, reviewing the records of prospective candidates, even before they were officially candidates. If they served in elective office, we dug deep to see whether they supported GAE or NEA positions on issues related to public education," she explained.

"Qualifying for candidates ended Friday, March 11, and we immediately sent our GAE Questionnaire to every candidate running, asking for their positions on a variety of issues important to GAE members."

"Our local associations met," Morgan continued, "reviewed the candidate questionnaires, and interviewed candidates for legislative office, with an eye toward primary election endorsements. Meanwhile, the GAE Fund for Public Education, our political action committee, met and interviewed candidates for statewide office."

According to Morgan, the FPE met for more than 30 hours over two weekends, interviewing candidates, reviewing local association input, and candidate questionnaires and voting records, and discussed each statewide primary race and many of the contested legislative primary races.

Since, Morgan said, the FPE again has met, interviewed other candidates who did not or could not participate in the earlier interviews, and has recommended

candidates in statewide and legislative races for the November 8 general election.

On Sunday, June 12, at a news conference at GAE headquarters, in front of a large crowd of GAE members, friends, and the press, GAE announced that it had endorsed Stacey Abrams in the race for Governor.

At that time, Morgan told the crowd: "Stacey is far-and-away the best choice to lead our state forward and to build the premier public-education system in the country. The 1.8 million public-school students in Georgia and their parents as well as educators from classroom teachers to bus drivers can count on her," Morgan said.

"Class sizes are ballooning in our schools, and staff and teacher shortages are putting more stress on already over-worked and under-appreciated educators. We're suffering the effect of \$11 billion in cuts over public education in the last 20 years. Educators are under-paid. Adjusted for inflation, educators in Georgia are making less today than they did in 1999," Morgan told her members.

At that event, Abrams announced her plan to raise starting teacher salaries to \$70,000 a year. Accepting GAE's endorsement, Abrams told the crowd: "We are losing the fight for our children's future. We need a governor who does not see education as an election year gimmick, but sees our responsibility as a guarantee for the strongest future for our people."

Morgan was critical of the incumbent governor's record on education. "Our incumbent governor is more focused on legislation that censors American history, using gender definitions as a bludgeoning weapon, and expanding tax incentives and vouchers to lure and reward Georgians who send their kids to private schools," Morgan stated. "And the fact is, even with his recent pay bump for teachers, educators are making less today than they did in 1999."

Since then, the FPE and the GAE Board of Directors have made endorsements in five other state races on the November ballot, including Richard Woods for State School Superintendent. Morgan said Woods is a far better choice to lead public education than his opponent. "He's better qualified, he's actually been a school teacher and a school administrator," Morgan noted. "His opponent, regrettably, has a long history of advocating for taxpayer funding of private schools that we cannot overlook."

Morgan also stated that the race for Attorney General is particularly important to educators as the office handles disciplinary cases brought before the Professional Standards Commission. The incumbent Attorney General recently changed rules that unfairly hurt educators and impair a fair hearing by limiting the availability of evidence to educators. "Jen Jordan has been an outstanding, long-time and vocal defender of public education in the Senate," Morgan said, noting that Jordan frequently credits educators in Dodge County, Georgia, where she grew up, with her success.

"Nguyen, Bailey, and Boddie are all what we at GAE refer to as "friends of education," individuals who have long fought alongside GAE in fighting for the best possible public school education we can provide to our students, their families, and our communities."

2022 GENERAL ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

STATEWIDE

Governor

Stacey Abrams



Attorney General

Jen Jordan



Lieutenant Governor

Charles Bailey



School Superintendent

Richard Woods



Secretary Of State

Bee Nguyen



Labor Commissioner

William Boddie



FEDERAL

U.S. Senate

U.S. Sen. Raphael Warnock



2022 GENERAL ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS



FEDERAL

U.S. House

District 2. U.S. Rep Sanford Bishop



District 4. U.S. Rep. Hank Johnson



District 5. U.S. Rep. Nikema Williams



District 7. U.S. Rep. Lucy McBath



District 13. U.S. Rep. David Scott



State Senate

- District 2 – Derek Mallow
- District 5 – Sheikh Rahman
- District 6 – Jason Esteves
- District 8 – Russ Goodman
- District 9 – Nikki Merritt
- District 10 – Emanuel Jones
- District 12 – Freddie Powell Sims
- District 14 – Josh McLaurin
- District 15 – Ed Harbison
- District 17 – Brian Strickland
- District 19 – Blake Tillery
- District 22 – Harold Jones
- District 26 – David Lucas
- District 33 – Doc Rhett
- District 34 – Valencia Seay
- District 36 – Nan Orrock
- District 38 – Horacena Tate
- District 39 – Sonya Halpern
- District 40 – Sally Harrell
- District 41 – Kim Jackson
- District 42 – Elena Parent
- District 44 – Gail Davenport
- District 43 – Tonya Anderson
- District 52 – Chuck Hufstetler

State House

- District 5 – Matt Barton
- District 14 – Mitchell Scoggins
- District 15 – Matt Gambill
- District 18 – Tyler Paul Smith
- District 32 – Chris Erwin
- District 35 – Lisa Campbell
- District 37 – Mary Frances Williams
- District 38 – David Wilkerson
- District 40 – Doug Stoner
- District 41 – Michael Smith
- District 42 – Teri Anulewicz
- District 48 – Mary Robichaux
- District 50 – Michelle Au
- District 52 – Shea Roberts
- District 53 – Kelly Coffman
- District 54 – Betsy Holland
- District 57 – Stacey Evans
- District 58 – Park Cannon
- District 61 – Roger Bruce
- District 65 – Mandisha Thomas
- District 66 – Kimberly Alexander
- District 69 – Debra Bazemore
- District 76 – Sandra Scott
- District 77 – Rhonda Burnough
- District 78 – Demetrius Douglas
- District 79 – Yasmin Neal
- District 81 – Scott Holcomb
- District 82 – Mary Margaret Oliver
- District 85 – Kara Drenner
- District 86 – Imani Barnes
- District 87 – Viola Davis
- District 88 – Billy Mitchell
- District 89 – Becky Evans
- District 90 – Saira Draper
- District 92 – Rhonda Taylor
- District 93 – Doreen Carter
- District 94 – Karen Bennett
- District 95 – Dar'shun Kendrick
- District 96 – Pedro Marin
- District 98 – Marvin Lim
- District 99 – Om Duggal
- District 101 – Greg Kennard
- District 106 – Shelly Hutchinson
- District 107 – Sam Park
- District 108 – Jasmine Clark
- District 109 – Dewey McClain
- District 113 – Sharon Henderson
- District 115 – Regina Lewis-Ward
- District 116 – El-Madhi Holly
- District 117 – Demetrius Rucker
- District 122 – Spencer Frye
- District 123 – Rob Leverett
- District 126 – Gloria Frazier
- District 129 – William "Wayne" Howard
- District 132 – Brian Prince
- District 137 – Debbie Buckner
- District 141 – Carolyn Hugley
- District 142 – Miriam Paris
- District 143 – James Beverly
- District 146 – Shaw Blackmon
- District 149 – Danny Mathis
- District 151 – Joyce Barlow
- District 152 – Bill Yearata
- District 154 – Gerald Greene
- District 162 – Carl Wayne Gilliard
- District 163 – Anne Allen Westbrook
- District 165 – Edna Jackson
- District 168 – Al Williams
- District 174 – John Corbett
- District 177 – Dexter Sharper