



August 3, 2024

Georgia State Election Board  
2 MLK Jr. Drive  
Suite 802 Floyd West Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Election Board Members,

We, the members of GeorgiansForTruth.org, are writing to express our strong support for the petition submitted by the Coalition for Good Governance, which requests the Georgia State Election Board to mandate the use of hand-marked Emergency Paper Ballots for the upcoming November 2024 General Election. This measure, along with other critical safeguards, is essential to ensure the integrity, accuracy, and public confidence in our electoral process. Even this week, CISA and the FBI have issued another warning about the vulnerability of our electronic voting system due to cyberattack. Previously CISA, Department of Homeland Security, Halderman, and 29 other cybersecurity experts have issued warnings about the security and vulnerability of Georgia's electronic voting system.

Supporting Reasons for Hand-Marked Emergency Paper Ballots and Additional Measures

**1. Use of Emergency Paper Poll Books:**

According to GA Rules & Regs 183-1-12-19, the use of Emergency Paper Poll Books is crucial in ensuring that voter check-in processes are not disrupted by technical failures. Paper poll books provide a reliable backup that can be quickly implemented in case of electronic system malfunctions, ensuring a smooth and uninterrupted voting process.

**2. Compliance with Statutory Requirements for Emergency Paper Ballots:**

The current state law (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-300) mandates the use of human-readable text on ballots and per (O.C.G.A § 21-2-379.23) should govern in recounts and audits, not the QR codes generated by BMDs. The Curling v. Raffensperger case further reinforces this requirement, highlighting the necessity of manual recounts to detect discrepancies that machine counts might miss. By using hand-marked ballots, we align with these legal standards and ensure compliance with existing laws.

The use of Emergency Paper Ballots is allowed by O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-281, 21-2-290, and 21-2-334. These statutes highlight the necessity of having a manual backup to electronic voting systems. Hand-marked paper ballots are essential for capturing voter intent accurately and providing a verifiable paper trail. Further, expert testimony in the Curling vs. Raffensperger case by Dr.

# PAPER BALLOTS PLEASE

**GEORGIANS FOR TRUTH.ORG**

Phillip Stark confirms that voter intent is erased by the Ballot Marking Device making the Risk Limiting Audit a fallacy of reliability in the accuracy of the election.

### **3. Provision of One BMD per Precinct for Accessibility:**

To ensure accessibility for voters with disabilities, each precinct should be equipped with one Ballot Marking Device (BMD). This BMD should be used for accessibility purposes and for tabulating votes on the day of the election. This approach balances the need for technological assistance with the reliability of hand-marked ballots for the majority of voters.

### **4. Full Hand Count Before Certification:**

As per O.C.G.A. §§ 21-2-334, 21-2-437, and 21-2-493, a full hand count of all ballots must be conducted before the certification of election results. This measure is critical to detect and correct any discrepancies that may arise from machine tabulations, ensuring that the final certified results are accurate and reflective of voter intent.

### **5. Duty to Certify to Prevent Fraud, Deceit, and Abuse:**

The Georgia Election Code (O.C.G.A. § 21-2-70-15) mandates the duty to certify election results in a manner that prevents fraud, deceit, and abuse, and ensures a “true and perfect” return. By implementing these measures, we can uphold the integrity of the election process and maintain public trust.

In conclusion, we urge the Georgia State Election Board to adopt the proposed rule requiring the use of hand-marked Emergency Paper Ballots for the November 2024 General Election, along with the additional measures outlined above. These steps are essential to uphold the principles of accuracy, transparency, and public trust in our electoral system. We stand with the Coalition for Good Governance in advocating for these critical changes and are confident that they will significantly enhance the integrity of Georgia's elections.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your favorable consideration of this petition.

Sincerely,  
Sam Carnline

Field Searcy

Cc:  
Governor Brian Kemp  
Lt. Governor Burt Jones  
Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger

Attorney General Chris Carr  
Speaker of the House Jon Burns  
Senate Pro Tempore John F. Kennedy