

WHAT JUST HAPPENED IN GEORGIA?

NO LABELS

GEORGIA VOTING LAW (S.B.202) LEGISLATURE VOTING RECORD

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| HOUSE | Passed 100-75 (no Democratic votes) |
| SENATE | Passed 34-20 (no Democratic votes) |

| CATEGORY | PREVIOUS GA LAW | NEW GA LAW | CONTEXT |
|---|--|---|---|
| EARLY VOTING | Early voting begins on the fourth Monday before Election Day. Requires one Saturday of early voting for each primary and general election. | Minimum of 19 early voting days including two Saturdays. Two optional Sunday voting days at county's discretion. Total of 19-21 early voting days. Poll sites must be open for 8 hours. | Early voting is available in 43 states and ranges from 4-45 days. Some Democratic-controlled states offer fewer early voting days than Georgia's 19, including New York and New Jersey, which offer 9. |
| EARLY VOTING DROP BOXES | No guaranteed minimum number of drop boxes. | One drop box per early voting site OR one drop box for every 10,000 voters in the county, whichever number is smaller; located inside a county-operated election office or early voting site. | 40 states don't allow drop boxes. Of the 10 that do, all set requirements for location, number, and drop box security. |
| REQUESTING ABSENTEE BALLOTS | Can request a ballot six months before Election Day. | Reduced to 78 days before Election Day. | Most states do not limit how far in advance absentee/mail-in ballot can be requested. |
| MAILING ABSENTEE | Counties can mail ballots 49 days before Election Day. | Reduced to 29 days before Election Day. | 36 states mail ballots to voters 30+ days before election day. 14 states (including GA) mail absentee ballots fewer than 30 days before the election. |
| MAILING BALLOTS AND APPLICATIONS | During COVID, GA SoS mailed ballot applications to every registered GA voter before primary election. | Mail ballot applications available only upon request. | Only five states automatically mail ballots to all voters. In all other states, the voter must request a mail-in ballot, with exceptions made in 2020 due to COVID-19. |
| VOTER ID REQUIREMENTS | Signature match to confirm voter identity. | Voter must provide valid form of identification such as Social Security number or driver's license number. (Copy of ID not necessary; GA provides free state IDs to residents.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 30 states match the signature on the ballot with signature on file for the voter. 6 states require a ballot signature but don't verify them. 9 states require voter's signature and that of a witness. 2 states require copy of voter's ID to be submitted. 3 states require driver's license or ID number to be submitted with ballot. |
| INCORRECTLY CAST BALLOTS | Voters can cast provisional ballots if they appear at incorrect voting site. | Voters must cast ballots at correct voting sites. | 25 states do not count ballots cast in the wrong precinct. |
| SELECTION OF CHIEF ELECTION OFFICIAL | Chair of the state election board is selected by GA secretary of state and is a non-partisan position. | General Assembly will choose chair of election board. | Only three other states allow their legislatures to choose the chief election official. |
| POWERS OF THE ELECTION BOARD CHAIR | Non-partisan state board of elections can launch investigations into county election boards and has the power to suspend county election superintendents. | State election board may only suspend 4 county election superintendents at a time. | No data available. |
| FOOD AND DRINK AROUND POLLING SITES | Ban on campaigning near polls and distribution of campaign literature. | No distribution of food and water within 150 feet of a polling site or 25 feet of a voter. | All 50 states limit campaigning near polling places. Under federal law, it is illegal to provide gifts or monetary compensation in exchange for voting; however, it is legal to provide food or drink at election sites as long as the voter is not conditioned to cast their ballot for a specific candidate. |
| ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR POLLING SITES | Superintendents may only make precinct changes if it had people voting for more than an hour after polls officially closed, without considering the length of the lines before polls closed. | If wait times are longer than one hour, the state must form a new poll site OR increase resources at existing sites to handle the voter turnout during that election. | No data available. |