

## House Resolution 1621

By: Representatives Bennett of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Hugley of the 136<sup>th</sup>, Hutchinson of the 107<sup>th</sup>, McLeod of the 105<sup>th</sup>, Carter of the 92<sup>nd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Supporting the policy recommendations set forth by the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus  
2 regarding election reform; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes that the electoral process is sacrosanct in  
4 preserving democracy, which is core to the proper function of the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, it is the duty of elected officials to ensure that all Georgians have the safest and  
6 most efficient means to exercise their civic duty; and

7 WHEREAS, the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus (GLBC) has long voiced its concerns  
8 about the ineffective execution of statewide elections via absentee voting, early voting, and  
9 primary day voting; and

10 WHEREAS, although the COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented strain on  
11 available resources, providing Georgians with the means to vote safely and with minimal  
12 inconvenience must remain a top priority; and

13 WHEREAS, the GLBC has received reports of precincts without voting machines, voters  
14 being asked to vote provisionally, and wait times of three to five hours; and

15 WHEREAS, in the interest of reinforcing confidence in the electoral process in Georgia and  
16 ensuring access to voting for all Georgians, the GLBC recommends the following:

17 • There should be greater state enforcement of federal and state election laws to ensure  
18 compliance in all 159 counties; and

19 • Prepaid postage should be provided for absentee voting ballots; and

- 20 • The Secretary of State's handling of the June 9, 2020, election should be investigated with  
21 recommendations for improvements implemented prior to the general election; and
- 22 • The June 9, 2020, elections should be investigated statewide with a report back to the  
23 General Assembly; and
- 24 • Absentee ballot applications should be mailed to inactive voters to ensure all eligible voters  
25 are given a chance to vote safely; and
- 26 • The age for voting prioritization should be lowered from 75 to 65 years of age; and
- 27 • The CARES Act should be used to fund hazard pay for all poll workers.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
29 the members of this body support the policy recommendations set forth by the Georgia  
30 Legislative Black Caucus regarding election reform.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
32 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
33 public and the press.