

Senate Resolution 563

By: Senators Robertson of the 29th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Brass of the 6th, Bearden of the 30th and Watson of the 11th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Georgia Secretary of State to immediately and fully comply with the request of
2 the United States Department of Justice to securely produce Georgia's voter registration list,
3 in compliance with Georgia's obligations under the National Voter Registration Act, the Help
4 America Vote Act, and the Civil Rights Act of 1960; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, Congress enacted the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) and the Help
6 America Vote Act (HAVA) in an effort to ensure that all 50 states and other jurisdictions
7 have effective and secure voter registration and voter list maintenance programs, both of
8 which are critical to ensuring fair and secure elections for local, state, and federal offices; and

9 WHEREAS, NVRA requires states, including Georgia, to "conduct a general program that
10 makes a reasonable effort to remove the names of ineligible voters from the official lists of
11 eligible voters" by reason of death or change in residence; and

12 WHEREAS, subject to limited exceptions, NVRA also requires states, including Georgia,
13 to maintain "all records concerning the implementation of programs and activities conducted
14 for the purpose of ensuring the accuracy and currency of official lists of eligible voters"; and

15 WHEREAS, HAVA requires states, including Georgia, to maintain and administer "a single,
16 uniform, official, centralized, interactive computerized statewide voter registration list" that
17 contains "the name and registration information of every legally registered voter in the State
18 and assigns a unique identifier to each legally registered voter in the State"; and

19 WHEREAS, HAVA prohibits states, including Georgia, from processing voter registration
20 applications without obtaining and verifying identifying information from applicants for
21 registration, including, when available, a driver's license number, the last four digits of the
22 applicant's social security number, or, in the absence of such information, a unique identifier;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Justice is charged with the enforcement of
25 these laws; and

26 WHEREAS, on March 25, 2025, the President of the United States issued an executive order
27 entitled, "Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections"; and

28 WHEREAS, the executive order, among other actions, directed the Attorney General of the
29 United States to ensure states' compliance with NVRA and HAVA and to "take appropriate
30 action with respect to States that fail to comply with the list maintenance requirements of"
31 NVRA and HAVA; and

32 WHEREAS, the Attorney General of the United States has since stated that "[a]ccurate voter
33 rolls are the cornerstone of fair and free elections, and too many states have fallen into a
34 pattern of noncompliance with basic voter roll maintenance"; and

35 WHEREAS, this past summer, the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice
36 requested that numerous states, including Georgia, securely provide the Department with a
37 full voter registration list in order to ensure that the state is meeting its responsibilities under
38 NVRA and HAVA; and

39 WHEREAS, Georgia's Secretary of State has refused to comply with multiple requests for
40 this information in full; and

41 WHEREAS, as a result of the Secretary's refusals, the Department of Justice recently filed
42 suit against the Secretary in federal court under NVRA, HAVA, and the Civil Rights Act of
43 1960 seeking to compel secure production of Georgia's full voter registration list; and

44 WHEREAS, the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee have voluntarily agreed to
45 provide their full registration lists to the Department of Justice, while the Georgia Secretary
46 of State has joined chief elections officers in jurisdictions such as Colorado, Delaware,
47 Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Washington, and the
48 District of Columbia in refusing to comply with the Department's request; and

49 WHEREAS, these actions by the Secretary and his like-minded counterparts in other
50 jurisdictions are obstructing the efforts of the Attorney General of the United States to carry
51 out the directives of the President's March, 2025, executive order relating to election
52 integrity; and

53 WHEREAS, the Secretary's refusal to comply with the Department of Justice's request is the
54 latest example of a pattern of behavior by the Secretary and his office to refuse oversight of
55 his administration of Georgia's elections, which includes his refusal on numerous occasions
56 to personally appear before the Senate Ethics Committee and the Senate Appropriations

57 Committee and his and his office's willful and persistent obstruction of the Georgia State
58 Election Board in its efforts to ensure that Georgia's elections are secure and that Georgia's
59 election integrity laws are properly administered and enforced.

60 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the Secretary of State is
61 urged to immediately and fully comply with the request of the United States Department of
62 Justice to securely produce Georgia's voter registration list, in compliance with Georgia's
63 obligations under the National Voter Registration Act, the Help America Vote Act, and the
64 Civil Rights Act of 1960.

65 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
66 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the Secretary of
67 State, the members of the State Election Board, the President of the United States, the
68 Attorney General of the United States, and the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights.