

# Platform of the Georgia Republican Party

We, the Georgia Republican Party, do affirm our belief in God, and hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men and women are created in the image of God and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

Throughout the world, people dare to dream of freedom and opportunity. The Georgia Republican Party unequivocally defends that dream. We strive to preserve the liberties given to us by God, implemented by our Founding Fathers, embodied in the Constitution, and defended by our elected leaders and civil magistrates for ourselves and our posterity.

We recognize that the traditional family is the strength of our nation. It is our solemn duty to protect innocent life and develop responsible citizens. We understand that our economic success depends upon free-market principles. If we fail to maintain our borders, sovereignty, and national identity, we risk losing the freedom to live these ideals.

Therefore, we do hereby endorse the National Platform of the Republican Party and hold and affirm that the principles set forth below should be the basis for public policy.

1. We believe in the Constitution, written not as a weak and bendable document, but as an enduring solemn league and covenant between the sovereign States.
2. We believe that our constitutional system of limited government, separation of powers, federalism, and the rights of the people — must be preserved uncompromised for future generations.
3. We believe that personal freedom and personal morality are indivisible. When personal freedom and personal morality are separated — society is in peril; when they are united, liberty and tranquility reigns.
4. We believe in the right of all Americans to enjoy their God-given liberties and to have equal access to the law and the courts for redress when those rights are violated.
5. We believe in the right to life from conception, beginning at fertilization, to natural death.
6. We believe that the right to self-defense is a God-given right, recognized by the Second Amendment.
7. We believe that the rights of freedom of religion and freedom of association, recognized by the First Amendment, must be vigilantly defended.
8. We believe in the importance of both mothers and fathers, and that the traditional family is the cornerstone of civil society and must be strengthened.
9. We believe in victims' rights to justice and support the use of restitution to victims.
10. We believe political freedom and economic freedom are indivisible. When political freedom and economic freedom are separated — both are in peril; when united, they are invincible.
11. We believe that economic freedom is the cornerstone of individual liberty and the private sector and free-market principles, are the best way to stimulate economic development rather than government subsidies or programs.
12. We believe in balanced budgets and the reduction of public debt.
13. We believe that revenues collected at all levels of government should be used only for well-defined, legitimate government functions and should be carried out efficiently so that tax rates may be kept as low as possible.
14. We believe that immigration policies and laws should be written to promote the interests of the American people as a whole rather than any particular special interest group.
15. We believe that it is the right of every parent to act in their child's best interest regarding health and education decisions. This includes choosing the form and content of their education, whether as a public school, private school, home school, or education by other means. The Federal Government has no right to influence the educational decisions of state or locally elected school officials by attaching conditions to the receipt of federal funding for education.
16. We believe that to be prepared for war is the most effective means of preserving peace, and that it is through example and not force that we can best share with people everywhere the blessings of peace and freedom.
17. We believe that those who have worn the uniform of our armed forces and served with honor deserve the full care and benefits they were promised. These promises constitute a solemn pledge that must be honored.
18. We believe in the self-government of nations and that our government's first concern is the protection of the natural and constitutional rights of the American people and their sovereign right to rule themselves without deference to any foreign power or international body.
19. We believe in the right of Israel to exist as a free and sovereign nation as an example to the West of a proud people who are not ashamed to defend their people, their land, and their heritage. We believe that Jerusalem should remain Israel's undivided capital, accessible to people of all faiths.
20. Finally, we believe that the Republican Party is the best vehicle for translating these ideals into positive and successful principles of government.

# 2024 Georgia GOP Legislative Initiatives

(created from 90 submitted Resolutions)

In harmony with the 2020 Platform of the Georgia Republican Party and in response to the current condition of our State and Nation, we present the following legislative priorities to every elected Republican legislator in the General Assembly and request their best efforts to implement these ideas into active public policy.

## 1. Election Integrity

**Fair Elections Procedures:** We support the right of every eligible voter to cast a ballot. We believe every lawful ballot should be counted, every unlawful ballot rejected, and the counting done in the open. We endorse the recommendations of the Election Confidence Task Force and support:

- A. Exploration of open source voting systems as opposed to the current closed source system which is not transparent and cannot be independently audited.
- B. Use of paper, currency grade; enumerated; and hand-marked ballots.
- C. Full public transparency of elections including all ballots, election processes, electronic files, and identification of workers making updates.
- D. Selective intentional hand count of paper ballots at voting precincts to validate the accuracy of machine tabulation.
- E. Repeal of any law that obstructs counties from opting out of using Dominion machines or limits full transparency and reconciliation of election results.
- F. Right of county election boards to conduct public audits.
- G. Withdrawal from Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC).
- H. Limitation on early voting with the goal of returning to a single Election Day in keeping with both the spirit and letter of the United States Constitution.
- I. A requirement that all voters show photographic identification.
- J. Printing of ballots in English, the official language of the State of Georgia and the common language of the United States of America.
- K. Continued prohibition of internet and other non-secure forms of voting for public office and any ballot measure.
- L. Increased security for mail-in ballots, including the requirement that a lawful excuse be given (end of “no excuse” absentee balloting).
- M. Standing of citizens to file civil lawsuits for election fraud, ballot inspection, or failure of state officials to follow the Georgia Election Code.

**Voter Registration:** We support restoring integrity to the voter registration rolls and reducing voter fraud by:

- A. Reforming motor voter laws to offer driver’s license applicants who are eligible to vote, the opportunity to register (“opt-in”) to vote, as opposed to the current system which automatically registers every applicant whether or not eligible.
- B. Reforming motor voter laws to require state-issued photo identification, proof of residency, and proof of citizenship along with the voter registration application.
- C. Retaining the 30-day registration deadline.
- D. Allowing registered voters to declare their affiliation with a political party or body (“party registration”).

**Nominations:** We support the right of political parties to choose the method of nominating their candidates, such as caucuses, conventions, primaries, or a hybrid of the three. We believe that participation in caucuses, conventions, and primaries should be limited to registered voters who have declared their affiliation with the party holding the caucus, convention, or primary.

## 2. Immigration and Border Security

**State Immigration Law Enforcement:** We urge the General Assembly to take action to secure our economy and communities by:

- A. Protecting American workers by enforcing the existing requirement on employers (“E-Verify”) to screen new hires to prevent the hiring of illegal aliens or anyone not legally authorized to work in the United States.
- B. Denying state funds to any public or private entity, including but not limited to sanctuary cities that are not in compliance with immigration laws.

**Eliminate Illegal Immigration Magnets:** We urge the General Assembly to take steps to eliminate “magnets” to illegal immigration by:

- A. Requiring proof of legal residency for obtaining a Georgia driver's license.
- B. Requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote.
- C. Requiring proof of citizenship to obtain public benefits, except first response and emergency medical care.
- D. Continuing to limit in-state tuition to lawful residents.

**Border Security:** We believe the crisis at the southern border is such that the security of the United States is compromised. We urge the General Assembly to invoke Article 1, Section 10, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution, also known as the “state self-defense clause,” and to actively cooperate with the United States and the sovereign states along the Southern border in securing the border. We call for the Georgia National Guard, Georgia National Air Guard, and Georgia State Defense Force to be equipped with the necessary tools and authority to serve and protect the citizens of Georgia.

## 3. Education

**School Choice:** We believe in the rights of parents to choose the best quality education for their children. We support parental choice to create competition among the schools and methods of education.

**Parental Rights in Education:** Parents are the primary educators and disciplinarians of their children, to which all other entities are inferior. We declare that parents or legal guardians are the final authority in deciding what is best for their children and must receive full disclosure and give written permission before any healthcare services, outside referrals, or sexual content or materials are distributed to their children or dependents. No medical product or service shall be required as a condition of school enrollment or attendance.

**Enforcement of Parental Rights:** Parents need more effective mechanisms to enforce their rights in education. We support the creation of impartial ombudsmen in both general education and special education. We call on the General Assembly to establish laws to allow for appeals beyond the school district when parents file grievances to protect their rights as well as a process to administer penalties to districts and their personnel who violate those rights. Enforcements must include criminal, civil, and other enforcement measures while giving the state and private citizens a right to sue outside of the local grievance process with expedited enforcement. We call for the development of a Parent’s Right to Know and Consent booklet that contains pertinent state and federal law. The federal Pupil Protection Rights Amendment and the Children’s Internet Protection Act shall be codified in Georgia law so that additional state protections for students are included.

**Parental Involvement in Education:** We call upon all Republican families to get more involved in local public school decision-making to reform public schools to a more Republican-oriented curriculum. We shall support all families’ decisions to remove their children from public schools if they so choose. Furthermore, we resolve that every public school should have a local governance board composed of no less than two parents, two community members, and two teachers.

**Sex/Gender Identity in Schools:** The official position of Georgia schools shall be that there are only two sexes, biological males and biological females. We oppose transgender normalizing curriculum and pronoun use. We hold that biological men shall compete only against other biological men and biological women shall compete only against other biological women in athletics in the public school system of Georgia and at the collegiate level.

**Social Emotional Learning (SEL):** We support the right of parents to view SEL curricula and programs and support parents’ rights to opt their children out of such materials, including all collection of personal data on their children.

**Sex Ed:** We endorse opt-in, sex education curriculum that utilizes sexual risk avoidance programs and promotes abstinence to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases and urge rejection of the so-called “comprehensive sex education curriculum” which teaches less effective methods.

**CRT and DEI:** We oppose the racist ideology of Critical Race Theory and call upon the Georgia General Assembly to enact legislation that prohibits public schools from accepting any funding that requires the adoption of these concepts by our state, schools, or classrooms and instructing students, teachers and/or board members in critical theories, including, but not limited to, the 1619 Project, DIE (Diversity, Inclusion, Equity), critical gender, race essentialism, collective guilt, action civics, and state-sanctioned racism.

**Fiscal Accountability for Public Universities:** All public funds should be subject to oversight by elected representatives. Therefore, we call upon the General Assembly to enact legislation to mandate Fiscal Accountability by The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (USG) and to maintain vigilante oversight of the USG.

**College Tuition and Student Loan Reform:** College costs are out of control, and reform is urgently required, including the following:

- A. We call for reasonable limits on public university tuition and student loan borrowing commensurate with fiscal responsibility and current earnings in the student’s field of education.
- B. We oppose mass cancellation of student loan obligations, which unfairly burdens taxpayers who did not attend college, but support tax credits and interest rate reductions to ease the burden on students deeply in debt.
- C. We support requiring universities to share the risk of guaranteeing student loans, and universities with multi-billion dollar endowments should guarantee their student loans.
- D. We oppose in-state tuition and financial aid for illegal aliens.
- E. We oppose Robin Hood schemes that raise tuition for some students to give free tuition to others.
- F. We call for the end of federally subsidized student loans.

**Harmful Content:** We urge that the General Assembly pass legislation that requires Georgia schools and libraries to filter harmful content, such as pornography, for minors. Operators of adult sex entertainment businesses and venues and adult entertainment of any kind, including Drag Queen Story Hour, shall not be part of educational programming in public schools, libraries, or any other taxpayer-funded program for children. We support the passage of laws, similar to those passed in Florida, that prohibits instruction in sexual orientation and gender identity ideology in public schools.

**Historic Monuments/Memorials/Locations:** We urge the General Assembly to continue to protect and preserve all historic monuments and properties in Georgia. We oppose the removal of any monuments, memorials, or the names of streets and governmental institutions that are named after and that honor veterans of any conflict, or our Founding Fathers. We oppose any attempt to deface/destroy the engraving on Stone Mountain.

## 4. Economic Policy

**State Income Tax:** We support the phase-out of our state income tax in Georgia.

**Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC):** We oppose the creation of any type of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) and urge the General Assembly to pass legislation banning the use of a federal or global CBDC as money within Georgia.

**Limitation on Authority of Globalist Organizations:** The United States is a sovereign nation founded on the principles of freedom. We reject any assertion of authority over our nation or its citizens from foreign individuals or entities, such as the World Economic Forum, World Health Organization, and the United Nations. State funds shall be prohibited from being used to enable participation with, or show support of any of the above organizations or similar activities.

**Opposition to the Great Reset:** Georgia should continue to pass legislation needed to protect the citizens of Georgia from corporate violation of their rights in the Great Reset/Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) scheme as follows:

- A. Refuse to do business with corporations that attempt to harm the state with boycotts.
- B. Consider the expansion or use of existing Georgia antitrust law to prohibit collusion between “woke” corporations to “cancel ” other businesses or drive them out of business.

- C. Make it illegal for banks and financial institutions operating in Georgia to make lending decisions based on anything other than financial concerns. (Fair Access to Financial Services rule promulgated by President Trump's Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, which was immediately suspended by the current occupant of the White House.)
- D. Add explicit protections for the natural right of Georgians to keep, exchange, and store their wealth in the mediums of exchange (including private digital currency, gold and silver coin, bullion, cash, and scrip) of choice to the Georgia Bill of Rights. This will help stop global institutions and the Federal Government from forcing Georgians to use the financial services and currency dictated by them.
- E. Prohibit investment of state funds in any instrument that uses ESG scores.

**Gambling:** We oppose any expansion of gambling, including legalized casino gambling. We oppose and call for a veto of any budget that relies on the expansion of legalized gambling as a method of finance.

## 5. Defending Life, Medical Freedom and the Family

**Equal Protection for the Preborn:** We urge lawmakers to enact legislation to abolish abortion by immediately securing the right to life and equal protection of the laws to all preborn children from the moment of fertilization because abortion violates the United States Constitution by denying such persons equal protection of the law.

**Medical Freedom:** We call for an addition to the Georgia Bill of Rights that explicitly states that Georgians have the natural, inalienable right to refuse vaccination or other medical treatment. Therefore, the following are expressly forbidden even in an emergency or in a pandemic:

- A. Any violation of the basic human right to give informed consent in medical matters, including any attempt to mandate, force, or coerce any medical test, procedure, or product - including vaccines or masks - which is a violation of the basic human right of consent.
- B. Any violation of patient privacy - including any attempted use of a citizen's perceived health, infection recovery, or vaccination status - as a condition to maintain or obtain medical care, housing or employment or employee benefits, attend school or childcare, or access state services.
- C. Any violation of parental rights, including any school, public or private, or any health care provider withholding from a parent or legal guardian information that is relevant to the physical or mental health of the minor, to include information related to a minor's perception that his or her gender or sex is inconsistent with his or her biological sex.
- D. Any involuntary isolation or quarantine of anyone not experiencing an active contagious infection.
- E. Any withholding of the risks and benefits of a proposed intervention, including quantifiable adverse effects, which must be equally communicated and accessible to the patient or to a minor patient's parents or guardian.
- F. Any prevention of visitation to the ill when risks are acknowledged and mitigated according to patient and visitor choice.

**Medical Data Transparency:** We demand that the CDC

- A. Make the Vaccine Safety Datalink (VSD) data, including data regarding boosters, publicly available.
- B. Make de-identified Medicare data publicly available.
- C. Make the National Death Index (NDI) data, including dates and types of all vaccinations and boosters given to the deceased in the last 3 years, publicly available.
- D. Promptly report to the American public any safety signals that have been triggered in VAERS.

**COVID-19 Post-Pandemic Study Committee:** We call for a Georgia COVID-19 commission to be established by the General Assembly to address public health questions about school closures, collateral lockdown harms, lack of robust public health data collected, misleading risk communication, downplaying infection-acquired immunity, masks, testing, vaccine efficacy and safety including injury and death, therapeutics, and epidemiological modeling.

**Medical Malpractice Related to Sex Identity:** We call for legislation and action by the Georgia Composite Medical Board to prohibit any medical practitioner or provider from attempting to alter the natural sex of a minor including, but not limited to surgical alterations, cross-sex hormones, and puberty blockers. This legislation shall include criminal penalties for violation.

**Protect Georgia Food from Vaccines:** We call for the State of Georgia through its various agencies to investigate and report to citizens on any forced or undisclosed introduction of vaccines to Georgia residents, and to prohibit any that is specifically designed to introduce vaccines.