

A RESOLUTION HONORING OUR MILITARY AND PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO WERE KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

WHEREAS, our nation and the state of Georgia have been faithfully served and protected by our military, law enforcement personnel, firefighters, and EMTs;

AND WHEREAS, a number of those individuals made the supreme sacrifice in giving their lives to protect our cherished freedoms and liberty;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Georgia Republican Party extends its deepest gratitude for the selfless service and extreme devotion of these brave military and public service men and women;

FURTHERMORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we offer our prayers and support for the grieving families of these courageous men and women, and express to them our deep appreciation for the outstanding and faithful service of their loved one to our state and nation.

Approved this day, August 5, 2017, by the Georgia Republican Party

IN HONOR OF OUR REPUBLICAN FAMILY WHO HAVE GONE ON AHEAD OF US

Whereas, we who are hear at today’s convention, enjoy Republican majorities at both the National and State level, and

Whereas, such majority would not exist without hard work, sweat and toil, and

Whereas, today as we gather in convention, we look around and see empty seats that last year were filled by some of those very brothers and sisters that helped make this day possible, and

Whereas, we, the Republican Party of Georgia, know that we are standing on the shoulders of Giants, Acknowledge the following Giants who have gone on and are not with us today in body, but always in spirit.

Therefore, let us the 2017 Georgia Republican State Committee on this day of August 5, take a moment to honor those who have passed from this mortal plane, but remain forever in our heart!

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION LIST SUBMITTED BY COUNTIES			
County	First Name	Last Name	Position/Titles Held
Colquitt	Lynn	Acuff	Former Colquitt GOP Chairman, Former Congressional District
Columbi	Robert "Bob"	Beckham	Former Richmond GOP Chairman, Former Member of Columbia County GOP Executive
Gilmer	John "Sarge"	Bramlett Sr.	Highly Regarded GOP Volunteer and Activist
Cobb	Herb	Bricker	Dedicated Cobb GOP Volunteer
Forsyth	Jim	Brophy	Highly Regarded GOP Volunteer and Activist
Chatham	Betty	Butler	Highly Regarded GOP Loyalist and Activist; Member of Savannah Area GOP Women
Jeff	Dennis	Cain	Former Jeff Davis GOP Chairman
Haralson	Joe	Corley	Former Haralson GOP 1st Vice-Chair, 11th & 14th Dist Treasurer
Chatham	Burke	Day	Former State Representative
Wilkes	O.A.	Denard	Highly Regarded GOP Contributor and Loyalist
Chatham	Yvonne	Effinger	Former President of the Savannah Area GOP
Douglas	Jack	Gamel	Former Douglas GOP Chairman
Rabun	Walter	Gordan	Former Rabun GOP Chairman
Gilmer	Cmdr. Howard	Gunther	Highly Regarded GOP Volunteer and Activist
Chatham	Phyllis	Hardeman	Former Chatham County GOP Committee

Cobb	Person	Henderson	Former Cobb GOP Secretary and Dedicated Volunteer
Laurens	Dr. OB	Johnson	Highly Regarded GOP Activist
Cobb	Joe	Kirby	Former Editor of Marietta Daily Journal, loyal friend to the Cobb GOP
Fannin	Howard	Lawson	Former Assistant Secretary and Sergeant at Arms
Bibb	Donald	Lavfield	Former Bibb GOP Chair, Reagan Administration Official
Chatham	Steve	Lindell	Highly Regarded GOP Loyalist and Activist
Jasper	Wayne	McDonald	Former Jasper GOP Chairman
Newton	Wendy	McKinley	Former Newton Precinct Chair
Irwin	Virginia	Nelson	Dedicated Irwin GOP Volunteer
Chatham	Guerry	Norton	Highly Regarded GOP Loyalist and Activist
Cobb	CiCi	Orton	Former President of Cobb Regional Republican Women
Cobb	Jim	Peters	Former Cobb Precinct and District Chairman
Ware	Orie	Pinckard	Highly Regarded GOP Volunteer and Activist
Gwinnett	Jon	Richards	Former State GOP Volunteer of the Year
Chatham	Elizabeth	Roberts	Highly Regarded GOP Loyalist and Activist
Grady	Richard	Robinson	Former Grady GOP Chairman
Fulton	Elaine	Shaw	Highly Regarded GOP Activist, Wife of former GAGOP Chairman and National Co-
Cobb	Joe	Thompson	Former Republican Cobb County Commissioner
Pickens	Larry O'Neil	Toney	Former Pickens GOP Chairman
Gilmer	Joe	Waldrop	Highly Regarded GOP Volunteer and Activist
Coffee	Joe	Wright	Late Husband of Former Coffee GOP Chairman Maudine Wright: GOP Loyalist

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING KAREN HANDEL FOR U.S. CONGRESS GA-6TH DISTRICT (Ruled Moot)

Whereas Karen Handel has served the Republican Party honorably as GA Secretary of State, and formerly Fulton County Commission Chairwoman;

And whereas, Karen Handel has proven character and ability to serve well in the US Congress;

And whereas, Karen Handel is the Republican nominee for the GA 6 Congressional seat vacated by HHS Secretary Tom Price;

And whereas, Karen Handel won a significantly larger percentage of votes than any other Republican in the GA 6 race, while running a first class campaign, earning a spot in the runoff election June 20, 2017;

Be it hereby resolved that the Georgia Republican Party salutes, congratulates, and supports Karen Handel in her bid for Congress in GA6,

And furthermore, we pledge our participation in the upcoming runoff, wherever reasonable,

And we hereby request a copy of this resolution to be forwarded to Karen Handel in a timely manner by the Secretary of this Ga Republican Convention.

Adopted this day August 5th, 2017 by the Ga Republican Party.

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE EXPANSION OF NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS BY REPUBLICAN MEMBERS OF THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

WHEREAS, among the purposes of a political party is to help establish and secure majority control within a government while holding those elected to the principles of the party; and

WHEREAS, grassroots conservatives have worked tirelessly for decades to see that Republican political interests are best installed through the election of public officials at all levels in the State of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, as a result of many years of hard work by the Republican grassroots, Republicans now hold all Georgia Constitutional Offices and the majority of seats in the Georgia House of Representatives and the Georgia Senate; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the State Levels, Republicans hold a majority of the US Congressional offices representing the State of Georgia along with both US Senator Seats; and

WHEREAS, the political structure of counties has helped achieve these successes and is based upon county political parties; and

WHEREAS, scores of statewide Republican candidates and community leaders have gotten and will continue to get their start at the local level through county Republican parties; and

WHEREAS, county Republican parties maintain a support network along with being a resource for Republican candidates and elected officials at all levels of government; and

WHEREAS, county Republican parties should always serve as the "gatekeeper" for local elective offices, vetting candidates through the hosting of candidate events for the Republican electorate, not local organizations or special interest groups; and

WHEREAS, county Republican parties through their experience and position are best suited to determine the electability of Republicans to local elective office; and

WHEREAS, a state law mandating that certain county public officials be elected in non-partisan races removes from local elected officials and the county Republican party the prerogative of determining whether those offices should remain partisan; and

WHEREAS, most, if not all, county Republican parties in counties with a Republican majority electorate prefer that their local elective offices remain partisan; and

WHEREAS, in counties with a Republican majority electorate, the Republican party has attained a level of positive influence and stature due to having helped elect Republicans to most, if not all, of the elective offices; and

WHEREAS, most county Republican parties survive financially by qualifying

Republican candidates for local elective office and keeping half of the qualifying fees;
and

WHEREAS, in other counties, like Athens-Clarke, one of the first counties to have non-partisan elections, no more Republicans have been elected than before, and the county Republican party has lost stature, public identity, and qualifying fees; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 351 and Senate Bill 192 proposed during the 2017 General Assembly session would not only result in the loss of thousands of dollars for county Republican parties, depriving them not only of the ability to provide financial support to local Republican candidates, but exempt them from hosting events for Republican candidates and officeholders, and rendering the county Republican party irrelevant; and

FURTHERMORE WHEREAS, both bills would additionally result in the loss of public identify, influence, and stature for county Republican parties, as fewer county elected officials would hold office as Republicans; and

FURTHERMORE WHEREAS, the possibility of electing more Republicans to office if the office is non- partisan would be offset by the possibility that more Democrats and liberal-minded individuals could be elected in non-partisan elections;

FURTHERMORE WHEREAS, the Georgia Republican Party Executive Committee oppose Senate Bill 318 in 2016 for all of the foregoing reasons;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Georgia Republican Party opposes such action as identified in the House Bill 351 and Senate Bill 192; and

FUTHERMORE, be it resolved that the Georgia Republican Party meeting in committee in August 5 2017, do hereby urge any of their members of the General Assembly to oppose any attempt to remove partisan elections from the grassroots voter; and

RESOLUTION TO PASS AND ENACT THE GEORGIA GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

WHEREAS, the State Constitution gives the legislative branch the power to determine policies and programs and review agency performance; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is responsible for ensuring that the valuable resources of this State are safeguarded through the close examination of State government activities; and

WHEREAS, State Agencies must be held accountable for their service to the public and their responsiveness to the needs of the citizens of this State; and

WHEREAS, State Agencies and the statutory obligations of such agencies should be reviewed and audited periodically from the bottom up to promote efficiency in serving the public and to avoid duplication of service and the waste of taxpayers' money; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas enacted such a provision in 1978 and, by 2011, 58 State agencies had been abolished; 12 agencies had been consolidated; and savings were estimated to be around \$783.7 million; estimating that for every dollar spent on the process, Texas had received over \$27 in return; and

WHEREAS, a similar provision has been enacted at the federal level; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the 2017 Georgia Republican Party State Committee urge the Legislature of the State of Georgia to pass the “Georgia Government Accountability Act”, Legislative Sunset Advisory Committee Bill, SB 210 in the current legislative session to establish a review process of all State spending; and, further be it; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that prospective candidates for the position of Governor of the State of Georgia consider the “Georgia Government Accountability Act”, Legislative Sunset Advisory Committee bill once elected; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution is to be delivered to the currently announced candidates for Governor and any future candidates which announce for Governor, Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle, House Speaker David Ralston and disseminated to the Georgia House of Representatives and Georgia Senate for action.

RESOLUTION OPPOSING CASINO AND HORSE RACING GAMBLING

WHEREAS, Georgia Republican legislators have introduced legislation that would allow for casino gambling in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, the gambling bills now mask the negative connotations of casino gambling by referring to casinos euphemistically as “destination resorts”; and

WHEREAS, the usual arguments for opening the state to casino and horse racing continue to be, "this will create jobs" and "it is for the children" because it will generate revenue for Pre- K and for the HOPE scholarship, and

WHEREAS, these reasons fail to overcome the substantial societal costs of casino and horse racing gambling, which include:

- (1) because gamblers are twice as likely to divorce as non- gamblers,
- (2) an increase in local crime by at least ten percent within five years or less after the establishment of a casino, including an increase in prostitution;
- (3) local job loss because local citizens change their spending habits,
- (4) an increase in bankruptcies, and
- (5) an increase in child neglect and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, all tax payers, including non-gamblers, end up paying higher taxes for these publicly borne social costs; and

WHEREAS, the proposed establishment of the gambling industry in Georgia violates free- market principles by instituting a politically protected industry that will drain customers from legitimate businesses not similarly protected; and

WHEREAS, once the gambling industry is allowed to operate legally in the state, its lobbying power will grow and increase its influence over legislators and local community officials; and

WHEREAS, once the State of Georgia allows Class III gambling, this would open the door for any Indian tribe to “venue shop” for property to open casinos on land that would be taken out of the governance of the State and off the local tax digest; and

WHEREAS, the State should not have a vested interest in predatory activities such as gambling for the sake of filling State coffers at the expense of ruined lives and broken families;

NOWTHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, We, the delegates of Georgia Republican Convention, urge the members of the Georgia Legislature to cease and desist with any efforts to open the State of Georgia to casino and horse racing gambling;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Secretary of Georgia Republican Party Convention is directed to immediately transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Chairman of the Georgia Republican Party and to all elected Republican officials in the Georgia Senate and in the Georgia House; to the Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor of the State of Georgia, the Honorable Casey Cagle, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Georgia; and to the Honorable David Ralston, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

RESOLUTION URGING GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES' TO SUPPORT RFRA LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, The First Amendment to the United States Constitution states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof"; and

WHEREAS, Since the founding of our nation, religious liberty has always been recognized as a preeminent human right; and

WHEREAS, Our courts, legal system, and government bureaucracies are diminishing our free exercise rights as they increasingly show a willingness to subjugate religious liberty to leftist politically correct ideology; and

WHEREAS, The federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA) restored religious rights being eroded by federal laws and policies, ensuring that the federal government cannot substantially burden religious liberty without a compelling state interest and with the least restrictive means; and

WHEREAS, Because the 1993 RFRA applies only to federal laws and policies and cannot protect religious freedom against many forms of State and local government action that infringe upon religious liberty, over 30 states, by either statute or judicial decree, have provided similar federal RFRA protections at the state level;
and

WHEREAS, The Republican National Committee, recognizing the continued threats from the radical left, urged in its 2015 Resolution Affirming Religious Freedom Restoration Acts for the remaining states to "enact laws that mirror the federal RFRA to protect citizens' rights to lead all aspects of their lives according to their deeply held religious beliefs"; and

WHEREAS, The Georgia State COP Convention delegates overwhelmingly passed resolutions in 2015 and 2016 urging their elected officials to pass a state RFRA without any amendments that could weaken the bill, and also urged passage of other religious-liberty protections; and

WHEREAS, The Georgia Senate and Georgia House of Representatives passed House Bill 757, the Free Exercise Protection Act (FEPA) in an effort to restrict our courts, legal system, and government bureaucracies from diminishing our free-exercise rights, only to see it vetoed by the Governor's pen; and

WHEREAS, Protecting religious liberty continues to be a primary concern of grassroots Republicans, and passing a state level RFRA **that mirrors the federal RFRA** is the best place to begin such efforts in Georgia,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED. That we urge that all Republican gubernatorial candidates support a state level RFRA that mirrors the federal RFRA and commit to advancing the cause of religious liberty during their possible tenure as Governor and promote this idea throughout their campaigns and service to the people of Georgia.

A RESOLUTION

Expressing the will of this body to direct the General Assembly and the Governor to create the opportunity for all Georgians to vote on a 2018 ballot question regarding amending the state constitution to make English the official language of government in Georgia

WHEREAS, No single method serves to unify and preserve any nation or state more than a common and official language; and

WHEREAS, The United States has no official language; and

WHEREAS, The State of Georgia has no constitutional official language; and

WHEREAS, misguided public officials sometimes conduct naturalization ceremonies in languages other than English; and

WHEREAS, Having English as our official language simply means that for the government to act officially, or legally, it must communicate in English and means the language of record is the English language, and that no one has a right to demand government services in any other language; and

WHEREAS, Currently, the state of Georgia is administering the written driver's license exam in eleven languages; and

WHEREAS, Our grandfathers could not foresee the current struggle to dilute American traditions, values and unity or the attacks on the American culture and common language with multiculturalism; and

WHEREAS, We proudly undertake the task of restoring harmony with the creation of a common and constitutionally official language in Georgia for the purposes of equality, advancement and protections of all Georgians; and

WHEREAS, Protections for non-English speakers in cases of ESOL education, healthcare, law enforcement and court proceedings should be codified into our state constitution; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Georgia Republican convention of the Georgia Republican Party that we legislature to endeavor to pass a legislative Resolution that would allow all voters to answer "YES" or "NO" to a 2018 ballot question asking whether the state constitution shall be amended to make English the official language of government in Georgia;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary of the Georgia Republican Party" is hereby authorized and directed to transfer a copy of this Resolution to the Republican House and Senate Delegations, The Honorable Casey Cagle

Lieutenant Governor of the State of Georgia, The Honorable Nathan Deal
Governor of the State of Georgia and the Chairman of the Georgia Republican
Party.

RESOLUTION FOR PARTISAN ELECTIONS FOR ALL ELECTED OFFICES IN GEORGIA

WHEREAS Since the founding of these United States, political parties have been a foundation of the electoral process; and,

WHEREAS, Such parties have established and forwarded fundamental beliefs and “platforms” as to the role of governments in the lives of the country’s citizens; and,

WHEREAS, Because these party positions and platforms are well known and available to all; and,

WHEREAS These “platforms” reflect the principals and positions of each party and thus represent the beliefs of those who work for each party and run for office on a party’s ticket; and,

WHEREAS, Third-party and non-partisan options are available alternatives for anyone who wishes to run for office without party affiliation or aside of the two major; and,

WHEREAS, Because candidates for elected office may choose to run as a candidate on any (or no) Party ticket; and,

WHEREAS, Because candidates for office by party attest to these platforms and positions at qualifying; and,

WHEREAS, Because their candidacy and subsequent service in elected office reflects and represents such party, party officers, staff and volunteers and voters; and,

WHEREAS, Because such representation of these parties and principals by such candidates and elected officials is of fundamental importance to the electoral process as well as attests to the character and beliefs of candidates and elected officials; and,

WHEREAS Because we as Republicans believe that our positions and platforms are most in keeping with the letter and spirit of the Constitution of the United States and the State of Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, Because of such we believe these policies and beliefs resolute in the best public policy and government at all levels and therefore the best future for our State, Country, and posterity; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the GAGOP believes that all elected offices in the State of Georgia including Constitutional, State, Local, or other should be partisan and qualification should be by party of under the existing constitutional provisions for non-partisan candidacies if the candidate so chooses; and let it be further

RESOLVED, that the GAGOP urges the Governor and members of the Georgia General Assembly to support general legislation to such affect at the beginning of the 2018 Session of the Georgia General Assembly and therefore let it be finally

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be delivered to the Honorable Governor of Georgia Nathan Deal, the Honorable Lt. Governor of Georgia Casey Cagle, the Honorable Speaker of the House of Georgia David Ralston, and all elected members of the Georgia General Assembly.

RESOLUTION GEORGIA REPUBLICAN PARTY

WHEREAS the National Republican Committee's Platform of Making Government Work for the People states "The Founding Father and Constitution Framer James Wilson declared that in America, "the people are the masters of government," but that in other countries, "the government is master of the people." We pledge to make government work for the people, rather than the other way around, and

WHEREAS the Georgia Republican Party supports the National Republican Committee Platform, and

WHEREAS the Georgia Republican Party supports the platform that Government Works Best When It Is Closest to the People, and

WHEREAS the Georgia Republican Party supports the rights of all citizens to have local control and determination, and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Republican Party supports the Fifteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution Section 1 "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, and

WHEREAS the Georgia Republican Party supports the right of all citizens of the right to vote on referendum of new cities, and

WHEREAS the 3rd and 13th GOP Districts by majority vote supports this Resolution, and

Be it therefore resolved that the Georgia Republican Party supports legislation introduced by the Henry County Republican delegation that gives the citizens of Henry County the right to vote for the incorporation of the proposed City of Eagle's Landing, in Henry County, Georgia.