BE #VOTEREADY FOR THE GEORGIA RUNOFF ELECTIONS

Nearly five million Georgians cast their vote for president on Nov. 3 – 1,320,154 of them by mail. Following the certification of results on Nov. 20, the state is preparing for two rounds of runoff elections, one on Dec. 1, 2020, and one on Jan. 5, 2021.

DEC. 1 RUNOFFS:
• Check to see if there are local or state runoffs happening in your district. Visit My Voter Page to review the sample ballot in the next election in which you are eligible to vote.

Only voters who registered to vote by Oct. 5, 2020, are eligible to participate in these elections.

JAN. 5 RUNOFFS:
• Republican Senator David Purdue faces Democrat Jon Ossoff
• Republican Senator Kelly Loeffler faces Democrat Raphael Warnock
• Republican Lauren “Bubba” McDonald faces Democrat Daniel Blackman for public service commissioner
• There could be other local runoffs happening in your district. Visit My Voter Page to review the sample ballot.

All Georgia residents who are at least 18 by Jan. 5 and register to vote by Dec. 7 can vote in these runoffs.

WAYS TO VOTE
Absentee: Contact your local election officials to request an absentee ballot, or visit the Secretary of State’s online portal. Return your ballot by mail or at drop-off locations by 7 p.m. on Jan. 5. Contact your county election board to find out more about drop-off locations.

Vote Early in Person: Between Dec. 14 and Dec. 31. Contact your county election board for early voting locations.

Vote in Person on Election Day: Don’t forget to check your polling precinct online first and bring your ID to the polls!

MAKE SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS
There are different processes that regulate early voting, Election Day voting, and voting by mail. Here are the biggest challenges voters can face and tips to help ensure your vote counts:
Voting in Person: Voters whose voter registration is not immediately verified at the polls will have to cast a provisional ballot. Provisional ballots serve as a failsafe and are issued if voters’ registration records are not found in the poll books, if voters do not have an ID to confirm their identities, if they have turned out to vote at the wrong polling location, or if they have already voted. Voters also may have to vote provisionally if they vote during extended hours in their polling location.

All provisional votes are processed after the election, and they are counted if a voter’s eligibility is verified.

In the Nov. 3 election, 2 out of 10 voters who cast a provisional ballot did not have their vote counted either because they were not registered to vote or they submitted an incomplete voter registration application.

Voting by mail: Voters who cast absentee ballots – by mail or at drop-off locations – have three days after the general election to “cure” their ballots if a signature is missing or does not match their registration record.

In the Nov. 3 election, 2,011 absentee ballots (out of 1,322,529) were rejected because their signatures didn’t match. According to the secretary of state, thousands of voters were able to correct signature errors and “cure” their ballots so that their votes counted.

For absentee ballots to be counted, they have to be received by Election Day!

Are you #VoteReady?

• Check your voter registration status at My Voter Page.
• Register to vote online – by Dec. 7 to participate in the Jan. 5 runoffs (if you’re not already registered).
• If you want to vote by mail, request an absentee ballot online, and do so as early as possible!
• Find your polling location at My Voter Page.
• Check the status of your ballot at My Voter Page.
• Report any instances of voter intimidation to your local election official, or call 866-OUR-VOTE.