

Georgia Secretary of State

THE ISSUES

**BEE
NGUYEN**

DEMOCRAT



**BRAD
RAFFENSPERGER**

REPUBLICAN • INCUMBENT

See guides.vote for online guides with links and sources.	beeforgeorgia.com	bradforgeorgia.com
<p>EASE OF VOTING Support expanding or limiting voting opportunities, such as mail voting, early voting, and more voting locations?</p>	<p>Expand. To maintain accurate voter rolls, would communicate with voters by mail, text, and email, rather than using only mail. Would “promote language access” and “develop kiosks to securely submit vote-by-mail applications.” “Georgians deserve a Secretary of State who will fight for their freedom to vote regardless of their party, zip code, or the color of their skin.”</p>	<p>Limit. Supported a law imposing limits on absentee voting, ballot drop boxes, out-of-precinct voting, and distributing food or water at the polls, while adding some early voting opportunities. The new law reduced absentee ballot drop box access in four Metro Atlanta counties by more than 75 percent from 2020 pandemic levels.</p>
<p>GERRYMANDERING/ REDISTRICTING Support nonpartisan redistricting as a way to address charges of partisan gerrymandering?</p>	<p>Believes current redistricting is partisan. “We’re not seeing...equitable representation across the board.” In Georgia, “we have gained a million people over the last 10 years, and all of them are people of color, and we are not seeing that reflected in our maps.”</p>	<p>Likely no. “Georgia’s maps are fair and adhere to traditional principles of redistricting.”</p>
<p>VOTER FRAUD OR VOTER SUPPRESSION Is voter fraud or voter suppression the prime problem in elections?</p>	<p>Suppression. “There’s no evidence of voter fraud.” But “Republicans have done everything in their power to silence the votes of voters who chose an America that works for all of us, not just some of us.”</p>	<p>Neither. “The cries of ‘voter suppression’ from those on the left ring hollow.” But called claims of fraud in the 2020 election “total disinformation, misinformation, and outright lying.”</p>
<p>VOTER ID Support requiring voters to show state-approved ID as an answer to potential voter fraud?</p>	<p>No. Has criticized voter ID laws as “disproportionately” affecting “Black and Brown voters.”</p>	<p>Yes. “There’s no rational argument against requiring state ID, provided for free to those who don’t have a driver’s license, for absentee ballots.” “Voter-ID laws don’t decrease turnout.”</p>
<p>VOTER REGISTRATION Should voter registrations be canceled for not voting?</p>	<p>No. “Removing voters because they died, or moved out-of-state makes sense. But removing ‘inactive’ voters from the rolls is called voter suppression. You should be able to vote whenever the hell you want.”</p>	<p>Yes. “Accurate voter lists are fundamental to election integrity.” In 2021 “instructed county election officials to mail no-contact notices to 185,666 people,” to be “classified as ‘inactive’ if they do not respond within 30 days.” People who remain inactive eventually have their registration canceled.</p>
<p>VOTER REGISTRATION Support requiring registrations to exactly match info in state databases?</p>	<p>No. “One of my proudest accomplishments was repealing the “exact name” match voter suppression policy that froze the registrations of 53,000 voters.”</p>	<p>Unclear. Says the match provision is “actually a federally required process mandated by the Help America Vote Act.” Was a defendant as Secretary of State in a lawsuit asserting restrictive voting practices in Georgia, including “exact match.” Raffensperger said the suit’s claims were “not supported by facts and evidence.” The judge sided with Raffensperger.</p>

ISSUES	NGUYEN (D)	RAFFENSPERGER (R)
<p>VOTER SERVICE Support an increased role for local elections offices?</p>	<p>Likely. “Georgia Republicans are fast tracking an omnibus bill that cripples already overburdened local election boards by restricting funds + by adding more burdensome requirements — many predicated by the Big Lie. This isn’t ‘election integrity’ & should not be treated as such.” Criticizes a 2021 law as having a “dangerous” provision that allows “the state to take over local election boards that are supposed to be bipartisan in nature.”</p>	<p>No. Supported a provision of the 2012 Georgia Election Integrity law that allows the state to temporarily take over local election boards. “We need something that’s designed to help counties whose election boards have repeatedly failed them. But I think everyone needs to understand that local election boards, the state election board, can’t overturn election results whenever they want. They’re going to tabulate the ballots, just like they always have.”</p>
<p>VOTING MACHINES—SECURITY Sees foreign or other hacking and data security as threats to voting in Georgia?</p>	<p>Yes. Would make cybersecurity part of the central function of the Secretary of State’s office. “What I envision is hiring top-notch security experts.” Regarding the 2022 Coffee County elections office breach, said: “I am deeply concerned that bad actors were given access to confidential election data and what that means for Georgia’s election security.”</p>	<p>No. In 2020 ran an audit of voting machines “to confirm no hack or tamper.” “Georgia voters can be confident that their vote is safe and secure.” After the 2022 Coffee County elections office breach, said “To allay the fears being stoked by perennial election deniers and conspiracy theorists, we’re replacing Coffee County’s election machines.”</p>
<p>VOTING MACHINES—VERIFICATION Sees voting systems with paper trails as necessary for verifying results?</p>	<p>Yes. “I would advocate to moving towards a hand-marked paper ballot system with an auditable trail where voters are able to discern who they are voting for.” Voted against Georgia’s touchscreen system.</p>	<p>Partly. In 2019 implemented a statewide system of voting machines that print out paper ballots based on touchscreen input. Has maintained that Georgia elections remain secure. Has had no public response to computer security experts questioning the security of the touchscreen machines.</p>
<p>VOTING RIGHTS FOR FELONS Support ex-felons getting their voting rights restored?</p>	<p>Yes. Cosponsored a bill to restore voting rights to felons who have completed their sentence.</p>	<p>Unclear. In 2018 said would restore felons’ rights after probation and parole, but not for violent crimes like rape or armed robbery. In 2019 a spokesperson said state Supreme Court had agreed that all felons be prohibited from voting.</p>
<p>WRONG PRECINCT Should voters who end up in the wrong precinct be allowed to vote?</p>	<p>Yes. Georgia’s law limiting counting of out-of-precinct ballots is “voter suppression.” The law “will affect tens of thousands of voters who have, over the years, had to vote provisionally because they were at the wrong precinct, because either their precinct changed or their precinct was consolidated.”</p>	<p>Only very late voters. Supported a provision that limits counting of out-of-precinct ballots to votes cast after 5 p.m., election day. Said “out-of-precinct voting is a cumbersome process that takes time. It delays results.”</p>

[guides.vote](#) is a nonpartisan effort to show where candidates stand, with links to credible sources. We do not support or oppose any political party or candidate for office. [Vote411.org](#) offers guides to local races.



[guides.vote](#) | [facebook/guides.vote](#) | [@guidesvote](#) | [instagram/guides.vote](#)