

PETITION TO THE GEORGIA STATE ELECTION BOARD

Request to Add Matter to Upcoming Agenda regarding waiver of Pre-Certification Meeting Requirement for certain upcoming elections in Cobb County

To: Members of the Georgia State Election Board

From: Cobb County Board of Elections and Registration

Subject: Request for Placement of Petition on Agenda – SD 35 Pre-Certification Meeting(s) exception

I. INTRODUCTION

With the resignation of Senator Esteves, Governor Kemp called for a Special Election to take place on **November 18th** to fill the vacancy in **Senate District 35**, rather than combining it with the **November 4th PSC and Municipal Elections**.

Due to the timing of the elections being two weeks apart and the possibility of run-off elections for both the Municipal Elections on December 2nd and the SD 35 race on December 16th, Cobb County Board of Elections and Registration (“Cobb BOER”) will be required to hold up to 4 Election Day meetings, 4 Pre-Certification meetings, and 4 Election Certification meetings during the months of November and December.

II. BASIS FOR REQUEST

While the Election Night and Election Certification meetings are required by statute, the Pre-Certification meetings are only required by SEB Rule §183-1-12-.12(f). Because the Certification and Pre-Certification meetings for the SD 35 Special Election and the potential Municipal and SD 35 runoffs would occur in close proximity to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, Cobb BOER respectfully requests a temporary waiver of the in-person Pre-Certification Meeting requirement for those elections, allowing certification materials to be transmitted electronically rather than during an in-person meeting as referenced in SEB Rule §183-1-12-.12(f).

III. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

Cobb BOER respectfully requests that the Georgia State Election Board:

1. **Formally place this matter on the agenda** for discussion with a future vote for approval at your next scheduled meeting (or at a special-called meeting, if necessary, prior to the SD 35 election).
2. After discussion and the 15-day publishing period, Cobb BOER **requests that you vote to waive the Pre-Certification Meeting Requirement for the SD 35 Special Election, the Municipal Runoffs (if necessary), and the runoff for the SD 35 Special Election (if necessary)**.