

November 29, 2023

Georgia State Election Board
ATTN: Mr. Matthew Mashburn, Chairman
2 Martin Luther King, Junior Drive, SE
Suite 1104, West Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334-9000

RE: Petition for Adoption of Rules

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Attached is the SEB Rule and proposed amendment to the rules found in Rule Amendment for 183-1-14-.02. Attached is the rule, along with the proposed amendment to add Paragraphs 18 and 19. The proposed amendment provides for documentation for delivery (casting) of all absentee ballots – except via USPS and UOCAVA cast ballots. This amendment also requires video surveillance and recording of all drop boxes and clarification that the recording is an election document to be retained as required by law, which we know can already be accomplished as previously required.

Proposal for Amendment:

Rule 183-1-14-.02. Advance Voting.

(18) Any absentee ballot drop box or any location, other than the United States Postal Service, that receives absentee ballots shall require an absentee ballot form with written documentation, including absentee ballot elector's name, signature and photo ID of the person delivering the absentee ballot, and approved relation to the elector's name on the absentee ballot. An absentee ballot form provided by the Secretary of State shall be completed by the registrar, clerk, deputy, or election official. The form shall serve as a written record of the name of the elector, the name of the person delivering the absentee ballot, the relation to voter, signature of the person depositing the ballot, and type of ID of the person delivering the absentee ballot. The absentee ballot form shall be returned with the absentee ballots and chain of custody forms to the superintendent. Any ballot not included on the recorded

absentee ballot form or any ballot delivered without a signed chain of custody shall be considered a provisional absentee ballot. The superintendent shall notify any elector with a provisional ballot immediately and provide information and instructions of how to cure the provisional absentee ballot.

(19) At the close of polls each day during early voting and after the last voter has cast his or her ballot, the poll officials shall initiate video surveillance and recording of the polling place. Such surveillance shall include visual recording of the drop box if there is one located at that site. Any drop box that is not under constant and direct surveillance shall be locked or removed and prohibited from use. Video surveillance may be live-streamed but must be recorded and will be considered part of the election documents and retained as provided in Code Section 21-2-390.

Justification for Rule: It is incumbent upon you, the State Election Board, to take actions to secure the elections process, and give voters confidence by evidencing your commitment to ballot security. We place our trust IN YOU, to stand for electors in ensuring that legal ballots are counted and illegal ballots are dealt with in accordance with law. While the burden is heavy, there are steps you can take, to give voters confidence and to stop voter suppression by not allowing the dilution of votes by allowing illegally cast ballots.

Justification for the proposed amendment is that surveillance was previously authorized and evidenced many unauthorized drops of absentee ballots in many locations across Georgia. There have been locations authorized for ballot delivery in Cobb County, (for example) however, it was a government owned building (library), and had deputized individuals receiving ballots that were not checking identification and validating the relationship to the voter. This broke chain of custody and did not guarantee that the person dropping the ballot was in fact related to the voter or authorized by the voter to deliver the ballot as by law required.

It is imperative that voters have confidence in the delivery of their absentee ballots, and it is incumbent upon the individuals receiving the ballots that they are legally processing the ballots and providing for the necessary security for receipt and transmittal. By way of further example, there was an instance in the 2022 election that ballots were delivered and dropped into the tax commissioner's payment drop box and were accepted as legally cast ballots although there was no chain of custody.

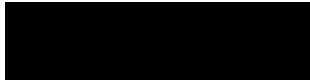
Furthermore, this would impede the ability for bad actors to further erode the integrity of Georgia elections and further eroding the trust in the electoral process in Georgia. Every in-person voter's cast ballot is recorded as received in person. This should be no different for absentee ballots. This amendment provides no undue burden on the election workers, nor the ballot deliverer. Additionally, this meets the same requirement as an in-person voter.

For all the above reasons, it is respectfully requested that the State Election Board support this bipartisan effort to secure our absentee ballots. I look forward to discussing this matter at the board meeting on December 19th, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,



Salleigh Grubbs
Chairwoman
Cobb County Republican Party



Verification

State of Georgia
County of Fulton

The foregoing document was acknowledge before me this 11th day of April, 2024 by **SALLEIGH GRUBBS**, who personally appeared who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity, and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument

Thomas Lee Williams
NOTARY PUBLIC
Bartow County, GEORGIA
My Commission Expires 08/09/2026



Thomas Williams
Notary Signature

Supported by the following, with more signatures to follow:

- Brittany Brown, Chatham County Republican Party
- Marci McCarthy, DeKalb County Republican Party
- Stephanie Endres, Fulton County Republican Party
- Jim Tully, Paulding County Republican Party
- Mendy Moore, Forsyth County Republican Party
- Julie Adams, Tea Party Patriots Action
- Debbie Fisher, Member of Cobb County Board of Elections and Registration
- Roy McClain, Member of Spalding County Board of Elections and Registration