

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA TO THE DEKALB COUNTY DELEGATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONVENE A STUDY TO REVIEW AMENDING THE GEORGIA ELECTIONS CODE TO ALLOW COUNTIES TO USE INSTANT RUNOFF VOTING IN LOCAL ELECTIONS, AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County requests that the DeKalb Delegation of the General Assembly support legislation amending the Georgia Elections code to allow Counties to use Instant Runoff or “Rank Choice” Voting in Local Elections; and,

WHEREAS, the current Elections Code of the State of Georgia only allows two electoral systems for County and municipal elections, plurality and, two-round runoff majority system; and,

WHEREAS, amending the Elections Code of the State of Georgia to also allow for Instant Runoff Voting be implemented, if desired, by County Governments, can provide an option for local governments to better control the administrative and logistical costs of conducting elections and, thus, helping reduce the tax burden on residents; and,

WHEREAS; Several States and County Governments across the United States, including Georgia municipalities; City of Atlanta and Johns Creek City Council, have adopted or support the adoption of Rank Choice Voting, and,

WHEREAS, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County believes that further research into and, the adoption of, Instant Runoff Voting will provide an expedited delivery of democracy to citizens who wish to participate in the process of electing Local Representatives while reducing resource strain of providing elections services on local governments and therefore its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA, AS FOLLOW:

1. Commission a study committee to evaluate Rank Choice Voting for all elections held in the state of Georgia including federal, state, county, and municipal jurisdictions, with the committee membership representative fairly from all aforementioned levels of government, political parties, and neutral parties.
2. The Executive Assistant or his designee deliver a copy of this Resolution to each member of the Georgia General Assembly representing a portion of DeKalb County.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County, this _____ day of _____, 2021.

STEPHEN R. BRADSHAW
Presiding Officer
Board of Commissioners
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this _____ day of _____, 2021.

MICHAEL L. THURMOND
Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BARBARA NORWOOD-SANDERS, CCC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and
Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

VIVIANE H. ERNSTES
County Attorney Chief