

An Administrative Order
Office of the Mayor
City of Atlanta

Administrative Order No. 2021- 13

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

DIRECTING THE CHIEF EQUITY OFFICER TO CONSULT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND DEVELOP A PLAN OF ACTION TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT ON CITY OF ATLANTA RESIDENTS OF THE VOTING RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY SENATE BILL 202.

WHEREAS, during the 2020 General Election and General Election Runoff for Federal Offices, the residents of the State of Georgia and the City of Atlanta exercised their right to vote in overwhelming numbers, leading to historical results; and

WHEREAS, in the wake of the 2020 elections, various unsubstantiated allegations of fraud were made, and the election results were unsuccessfully challenged in the courts; and

WHEREAS, nonetheless, members of the Georgia General Assembly in the 2021 session introduced several bills claiming to address a lack of security and fairness in the election by imposing new restrictions and barriers to voting access; and

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2021, Governor Brian Kemp signed into law Senate Bill 202, termed the "Election Integrity Act of 2021," which makes sweeping changes to voting laws in the state; and

WHEREAS, these changes include empowering state officials to take over local election boards, limiting the use of ballot drop boxes, and imposing new voter identification requirements and limitations for the use absentee ballots; and

WHEREAS, these voting restrictions will disproportionately impact residents in cities and counties with high density populations, including the City of Atlanta, and will impose barriers to their ability to vote; and

WHEREAS, during his lifetime the great Congressman John Lewis reminded us through his words and actions that "the right to vote is precious, almost sacred"; and

WHEREAS, it is my desire to take appropriate action within my power as Mayor to ensure that City of Atlanta residents shall have every opportunity to exercise their right to vote; and

WHEREAS, accordingly, I am hereby directing the Chief Equity Officer to consult with the Department of Law and develop a plan of action to mitigate the impact on City of Atlanta residents of the voting restrictions imposed by Senate Bill 202.

NOW, THEREFORE, BY THE POWER VESTED IN ME AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, pursuant to Section 3-104 of the City of Atlanta Charter and Section 2-182(4) of the City of Atlanta Code of Ordinances, it is hereby ordered that:

SECTION 1: The Chief Equity Officer shall consult with the Department of Law and develop a plan of action to mitigate the impact on City of Atlanta residents of the voting restrictions imposed by Senate Bill 202.

SECTION 2: These actions shall include but not be limited to:

- a) Coordinating with ATL311 and the Mayor's Office of Constituent Services to provide training to staff members on voter registration and general information on early, absentee, and in-person voting, in order that they may communicate this information to City residents.
- b) Coordinating with ATL311 and the Mayor's Office of Constituent Services to disseminate information to City residents on how to obtain the forms of identification required for absentee voting.
- c) Coordinating with the Operational Departments to include QR Codes or links to websites providing information regarding voter registration and absentee voting in water bills and other mailings.
- d) Working with corporate and community partners to develop and implement Public Service Announcements and other communications to provide clarity on new voting related deadlines and timelines.

SO ORDERED, this 6th day of April, 2021.



Keisha Lance Bottoms, Mayor

ATTESTED:



Municipal Clerk

REC
April 6/2021 Foris Webb, III
Municipal Clerk