

April 5, 2021
Washington, DC

Conservatives applaud the Georgia legislature and Georgia Governor Brian Kemp for taking bold steps to protect the integrity of its elections, and the rights of all voters to participate.

The law implements reasonable and common-sense protocols like requiring ID for mail-in ballots, halting the acceptance of absentee ballots within 11 days of an election, and prohibiting third-parties from providing gifts to voters waiting in line at a polling place.

However, Georgia's law has unfairly come under attack with spurious claims that it is intended to suppress votes, or make it more difficult for Georgia residents to participate in voting. Such misinformation has come from sources as high up as President Joe Biden.

Biden claimed the Georgia law both "ends voting hours early so working people can't cast their vote after their shift is over." This claim is so wildly untrue and without evidence that even the Washington Post was forced to give it four Pinocchios.

The law expands early voting access while adding mandatory Saturday voting as well as an option to vote on Sundays. Moreover, a number of election officials cite the expanded voting hours, which will allow more people to get to the polls, and additional latitude for the state to require more polling places or voting machines if voters face overcrowding or lines. Georgia voters will also still be able to request mail-in ballots for convenience.

Reasonable measures to protect the integrity of each vote – and to ensure expanded avenues for participation in elections – are definitionally not suppression. We reject those categorizations, like we reject efforts by Major League Baseball, the PGA Tour, Hollywood, and Delta Airlines to bully the state legislature to undo their reforms.

In America, the people rule; not woke corporate power, and not special interests. Voting in America, and confidence that the process is transparent, accessible, and fair, is foundational to representative self-government. We support efforts, like the one in Georgia, to stand up for those principles.

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