**Libertarian Party of Georgia**

**Executive Committee Meeting – January 8, 2024**

**Present:** Chair Gerred Bell, Vice Chair Zach Varnell, Secretary Zane Placie, Treasurer Alex Moldenhawer, Brian Allen, David Barker, Scott Boykin, Warren Cunningham, Danny Dolan, Jake Green, Amber Howell, Mitchell Johnson, Colin McKinney, Mark Mosley, Halima Monds, Victoria Salvia, Sabrina Sawyer, Jim Sheehan

**Absent:** Seth Benton, Doug Craig, Steven Hilton, Halima Monds, Jeffery Shull

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Committee of the Libertarian Party of Georgia was held virtually over 8x8 on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 7:01 PM.

The agenda was adopted without objection.

Martin Cowen gave an update on the activities of the Libertarian National Committee.

Treasurer Alex Moldenhawer presented the proposed 2024 budget. During debate, Amber Howell moved to postpone the question to the meeting of the Executive Committee scheduled for February 12, 2024, which was adopted.

Brian Allen moved to adopt *A Resolution to Support House Bill 200 and to Oppose House Bill 419*. The motion was adopted.

Amber Howell moved to waive the convention table fee for Better Ballot Georgia. The motion was adopted.

Brian Allen moved adoption of a resolution which, after debate and amendment, read as follows:

To direct the Communications Committee to create updates to the Policy Manual, by the March Executive Committee meeting, regarding social media based upon the recommendations contained in the Final Report of the Special Investigative Committee issued on June 11, 2023, to be proposed during the March meeting of the Executive Committee.

The motion was adopted.

Reports were given by Chair Gerred Bell, Vice Chair Zach Varnell, Executive Director Elizabeth Melton, Secretary Zane Placie, and Treasurer Alex Moldenhawer.

Mark Mosley gave an update on ballot access issues.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 PM.

**A Resolution to Support House Bill 200 and to Oppose House Bill 419**

*Whereas* the platform of the Libertarian Party of Georgia states that we support election systems that are more representative of the electorate at the federal, state, and local levels and that we oppose laws that effectively deny the voters their right to consider all legitimate alternatives; and,

*Whereas* Georgia currently requires a candidate to receive a majority of the vote in order to win an election, with a separate runoff election being held if no candidate receives a majority; and,

*Whereas* instant runoff voting eliminates the costs of holding an additional election, eliminates the inconveniences voters face when trying to fit an additional election into their schedules, and preserves the requirement that a candidate receive a majority of the vote in order to win an election; and,

*Whereas* instant runoff voting enables voters to rank their preferred candidate first without having to worry about the so-called spoiler effect in plurality voting systems; and,

*Whereas* Georgia already provides instant runoff voting ballots for military and overseas voters; and,

*Whereas* House Bill 200 as introduced would provide for the option for municipalities to adopt and use instant runoff voting for their elections; and,

*Whereas* House Bill 200 merely provides municipalities the option of instant runoff voting rather than mandating its use; and,

*Whereas* the likelihood of the passage of House Bill 200 would be improved if municipalities expressed support for the legislation; and,

*Whereas* House Bill 419 as introduced would provide for election by plurality of votes instead of majority in general elections; and,

*Whereas* a candidate receiving less than a majority of votes implies that the majority of votes were actually against them; and,

*Whereas* plurality voting creates an incentive for people for vote strategically rather than vote for their preferred candidate, which reinforces a two-party system and disadvantages alternative candidates;

*Therefore, be it resolved,* that the Libertarian Party of Georgia:

1. supports the passage of House Bill 200; and,
2. calls upon municipal governments to adopt resolutions supporting the passage of House Bill 200; and,
3. opposes the passage of House Bill 419.