



## GEORGIA CONSERVATION VOTERS

### Election Results E-Newsletter

November 6, 2008

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### Election Results - GCV Endorsed Candidates

Thanks to your help, Tuesday's election results were a significant victory for Georgia's environment. In contests across the state, 17 of 20 candidates endorsed by GCV won with one race headed to a runoff.

These victories prove that conservation issues are on the minds of Georgia voters. Georgians are increasingly concerned about the quality of life for their families and future generations and are looking to support candidates, both Democrats and Republicans, who share their conservation values.

GCV endorsed four candidates in the State Senate, 15 candidates in the State House of Representatives, and one candidate for Public Service Commission. In all, seven were Republicans and 13 were Democrats.

Among Georgia Conservation Voters' notable victories from Tuesday:

- James "Bubber" Epps (D) defeated anti-conservation incumbent Allen Freeman in House District 140. Freeman, who has served 2 terms in the house, was an advocate for large scale and environmentally damaging development of Jekyll Island.
- Rep. Katie Dempsey (R) was re-elected in House District 13. Rep. Dempsey was first elected in 2006 in one of the closest races in Georgia. As a freshman legislator, Rep. Dempsey showed courage by opposing water-related legislation that lacked enough protection against the transfer of water out of Northwest Georgia rivers.

Here are the results for each GCV-endorsed candidate:

**Jim Powell (D): Public Service Commission  
District 4 - RUNOFF ELECTION**

Public Service Commission District 4 covers the Northern portion of Georgia, but voters statewide voted in this race and will have a chance to vote in this runoff election. With decades of experience at the U.S. Department of Energy, Mr. Powell is ready to take action to reduce energy prices through energy efficiency and promoting a more diverse mix of sources of energy.



**Charles Jenkins (D): House District 8 - LOSS**

Charles Jenkins has represented House District 8 since 2003. This district includes parts of Union, Town, White, and Rabun counties. He is retired from the aerospace field and formerly served in the U.S. Air Force. Representative Jenkins has been a strong advocate for the protection of clean, plentiful water and scenic views in Northeast Georgia.



**Barbara Massey Reece (D): House District 11 - WIN**

Barbara Massey Reece has represented House District 11 since 1999. This district includes Chattooga County and part of Floyd County. Prior to serving in the Legislature, she was a home economist, teacher, and partner in a catering business. Representative Reece has worked in favor of bringing economic development to areas with an abundant water supply, like Northwest Georgia, rather than transferring water from Northwest Georgia into other river basins.



**Katie Dempsey (R): House District 13 - WIN**

Katie Dempsey has served one term representing House District 13, including the city of Rome and surrounding areas. She is a former Rome City Commissioner and also ran two small businesses. As a freshman legislator, Representative Dempsey showed courage by opposing water-related legislation that lacked enough protection against the transfer of water out of Northwest Georgia rivers.



**Rick Crawford (D): House District 16 - WIN**

Rick Crawford has served one term as the representative for House District 16, which includes part of both Floyd and Polk counties. Representative Crawford is a self-employed attorney in Cedartown. He scored a 94 percent on Georgia Conservation Voters' 2007-08 Legislative Scorecard.



**Jeannette Jamieson (D): House District 28 - LOSS**

Jeannette Jamieson has represented House District 28 since 1985. This district includes Banks, Stephens, and part of Franklin County. She is a former Stephens County Commissioner and serves as the president of the Georgia Resources Conservation and Development Council. A veteran of the General Assembly, Representative Jamieson is well-versed in the soil and water conservation needs of her constituents.



**Rich Golick (R) : House District 34 - WIN**

Rich Golick has represented House District 34 since 1999. House District 34 includes the city of Smyrna and surrounding areas. He is an attorney who works as Southeast Regional Counsel for Allstate Insurance Company. Representative Golick has consistently worked for common sense solutions to protect green space and provide cleaner energy more efficiently.



**Terry Johnson (D): House District 37 - WIN**

Since 2005, Terry Johnson has served as the representative for House District 37. This district includes part of central Cobb County. Representative Johnson is a real estate broker. He has consistently supported the conservation community's priorities.



**Sheila Jones (D): House District 44 - WIN**

Sheila Jones has represented House District 44 for two terms, since 2005. District 44 includes part of both Cobb and Fulton Counties. She works for Lockheed Martin. Representative Jones has championed stronger rewards for Georgians who conserve water.



**Mike Jacobs (R): House District 80 - WIN**

Mike Jacobs has represented part of DeKalb County in House District 80 since 2005. Representative Jacobs is an attorney at Hall, Booth, Smith & Slover, P.C. He has one of the highest GCV scores of any Republican House member.



**Jill Chambers (R): House District 81 - WIN**

Jill Chambers has represented House District 81, part of DeKalb County, since 2003. In addition to serving as a representative, she and her husband own a small business. Representative Chambers continuously advocates for transparency and accountability in government while also tackling transit challenges facing the state.



**Stephanie Stuckey Benfield (D): House District 85 - WIN**

Since 1999, Stephanie Stuckey Benfield has represented House District 85. This district includes part of DeKalb County. She works as an attorney with Stuckey and Manheimer and was a public defender prior to serving as a legislator. As a member of the House Natural Resources & Environment Committee, Representative Benfield has been an articulate advocate for the protection of Jekyll Island, recycling and waste reduction, and water efficiency and conservation.



**Pedro "Pete" Marin (D): House District 96 - WIN**

Pedro "Pete" Marin has represented part of west Gwinnett County in House District 96 since 2003. He is also a business consultant and the president of Niram Enterprises. Representative Marin has consistently supported efforts for better transit options, clean water and clean air.



**Sistie Hudson (D): House District 124 - WIN**

Sistie Hudson has served as the representative for House District 124 since 1997. This district includes Glascock, Hancock, and McDuffie counties and part of Putnam, Taliaferro, and Warren Counties. Representative Hudson is also an economic development consultant and served in a number of elected positions prior to becoming a legislator. She has a history of providing leadership in the fight against unwanted landfills and protecting private property rights.



**James "Bubber" Epps, Jr. (D): House District 140 - WIN**

Bubber Epps is seeking election to House District 140. This district includes Wilkinson and Twiggs counties as well as part of Bibb and Jones counties. Mr. Epps is a former Twiggs County Commissioner, teacher, and small business owner.



**Mark Hatfield (R): House District 177 - WIN**

Mark Hatfield has represented House District 177 since 2005. This district includes Charlton and Ware Counties. In addition to serving as a representative, he is an attorney for Hatfield & Hatfield, P.C. Representative Hatfield has worked tirelessly to speak up for private property rights of residents threatened by landfills and has championed the water rights of those living downstream.



**Doug Stoner (D): Senate District 6 - WIN**

Doug Stoner has represented Senate District 6, southeast Cobb County, since 2004. He previously served one term in Georgia's State House and is also a business owner. Senator Stoner has worked across the aisle to help solve the state's transportation challenges, advocated for clean, renewable energy and spoken out for water conservation.



**Seth Harp (R): Senate District 29 - WIN**

Seth Harp has represented Senate District 29 since 2000, representing Harris and Meriwether Counties and part of Muscogee and Troup counties. He is also an attorney with the law firm of Harp & Associates, P.C. Senator Harp has been dedicated to protecting water rights of West Georgians and ensuring safe and scenic highways.



**David Adelman (D): Senate District 42 - WIN**

David Adelman has served Senate District 42 since 2002. This district includes part of DeKalb County. He is also a partner in the Sutherland law firm. Senator Adelman has championed moving Georgia towards a clean energy future.



**Bill Cowsert (R): Senate District 46 - WIN**

Bill Cowsert has been the senator for District 46 since 2006. This district includes Oconee County as well as parts of Clarke and Walton Counties. He is an attorney with Cowsert & Avery. In his freshman term, Senator Cowsert displayed a thoughtfulness on water and clean energy policies.



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## Election Results - Amendments

The election results for the constitutional amendments were also a victory for Georgia's environment. Both constitutional amendments endorsed by GCV passed, while Amendment 3, which was opposed by GCV, was defeated.

The defeat of Amendment 3 was notable, as it would have allowed the creation of "Private Cities", where private developers would have the power to levy taxes to pay for the cost of a development. The developers would not be required to ensure that there is adequate water supply for the developments or that the sites are sustainable.

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Sincerely,

Chris Osborne,  
Executive Director

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### About Us:

Georgia Conservation Voters works to preserve and enhance the quality of life for all Georgians by making conservation issues a top priority with Georgia's elected officials, political candidates and voters. GCV understands that the most important decisions made on the environment are made by elected officials, so one of the most important things we can do to protect the environment is to elect pro-conservation candidates.

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