



## GEORGIA CONSERVATION VOTERS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### GEORGIA'S CONSERVATION COMMUNITY CLAIMS BI-PARTISAN ELECTION VICTORIES

ATLANTA – Georgia Conservation Voters (GCV), a bi-partisan organization which works to turn Georgia's conservation values into state priorities, heralded yesterday's election results as a significant victory for Georgia's environment. In contests across the state, 17 of 20 races targeted by GCV boasted a win with one race headed to a runoff. In addition both constitutional amendments endorsed by GCV passed, while one opposed by GCV was defeated.

"These victories prove that conservation issues are on the minds of Georgia voters," said Chris Osborne, Executive Director of Georgia Conservation 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.
- Amendment 3, Infrastructure Development Districts, was defeated. Amendment 3 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.

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.

Full list of Georgia Conservation Voters Endorsements (*italics indicate winner*)

#### Senate

*District 6 – Doug Stoner (D)*  
*District 29 – Seth Harp (R)*  
*District 42 – David Adelman (D)*  
*District 46 – Bill Cowsert (R)*

#### Public Service Commission

District 4 – Jim Powell (D)

#### House

District 8 – Charles Jenkins (D)  
*District 11 – Barbara Massey Reece (D)*  
*District 13 – Katie Dempsey (R)*

#### House cont.

*District 16 – Rick Crawford (R)*  
District 28 – Jeannette Jamieson (D)  
*District 34 – Rich Golick (R)*  
*District 37 – Terry Johnson (D)*  
*District 44 – Sheila Jones (D)*  
*District 80 – Mike Jacobs (R)*  
*District 81 – Jill Chambers (R)*  
*District 85 – Stephanie Stuckey Benfield (D)*  
*District 96 – Pedro "Pete" Marin (D)*  
*District 124 – Sistie Hudson (D)*  
*District 140 – James "Bubber" Epps (D)*  
*District 177 – Mark Hatfield (R)*