

1 **RESOLUTION BY THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS IN**  
2 **SUPPORT OF THE JOHN ROBERT LEWIS VOTING RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT,**  
3 **AND STOPPING VOTER SUPPRESSION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**  
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5 **WHEREAS**, on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives  
6 approved the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, sending the legislation  
7 to the U.S. Senate; and  
8

9 **WHEREAS**, upon enactment, the Act will restore the federal preclearance  
10 provision originally instituted by the 1965 Voting Rights Act, which was eroded by a 2013  
11 Supreme Court decision in the *Shelby v. Holder* case; and  
12

13 **WHEREAS**, the preclearance provision required states and jurisdictions with  
14 histories of racial discrimination—largely the Jim Crow South—including Georgia, to gain  
15 approval from the Department of Justice before implementing any change to voting  
16 procedures; and  
17

18 **WHEREAS**, states including Georgia have recently enacted numerous voting  
19 laws, such as Georgia Senate Bill 202 (“SB202”), that curtail and make it harder to cast  
20 ballots under the guise of “election integrity” and “fighting fraud;” and  
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22 **WHEREAS**, upon the final count of the 2020 Presidential Election in Georgia,  
23 including a manual hand recount, a machine recount, Secretary of State Brad  
24 Raffensperger and Governor Brian Kemp declared no massive voter fraud took place in  
25 Georgia, and despite the loss and false claim of fraud by the sitting U.S. president, Mr.  
26 Raffensperger stated that “By all accounts, Georgia had a wildly successful and smooth  
27 election.,” and in Fulton County 528,777 of the 806,451 registered electors (65.57  
28 percent) cast a ballot; and  
29

30 **WHEREAS**, SB202, among other things, effectively makes it harder to vote,  
31 particularly providing for the: a) takeover of the Fulton County Board of Registration and  
32 Elections; b) the ending of mobile voting; c) reduction in request time for an absentee-  
33 voter ballot; d) reduction of drop boxes, from 38 to 8 in Fulton County; e) the arrest of  
34 persons offering food or water to persons waiting in line to vote; f) elimination of outside  
35 funding assistance to improve elections; and  
36

37 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County citizens believe in safe and secure, free and fair  
38 elections and support laws which uphold the fundamental rights of citizenship, and abhor  
39 the erecting of new barriers to voting; and  
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41 **WHEREAS**, the pending bill known as H.R.4, is named in honor of Rep. John  
42 Robert Lewis and supports this great American ideal, and laws such as SB202 do the  
43 exact opposite; and  
44

45 **WHEREAS**, Fulton County and the Board of Commissioners recognizes and  
46 honors the lifelong commitment of Rep. John Robert Lewis to voters’ rights, from being  
47 brutally beaten at age 26, in Selma, Alabama, on “Bloody Sunday” in 1965, to his final  
48 days of life in July 2021, as a standout Fulton County resident.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Fulton County and the Board of Commissioners reinforces its long-standing commitment to the U.S. Voting Rights Act of 1965 as amended and applauds the House passage of the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and urges the U.S. Senate to follow suit and send the legislation to President Joe Biden's desk forthwith.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon adoption of this Resolution, that the Clerk to the Commission is directed to send copies of this Resolution to each member of the Georgia Congressional Delegation, members of the U.S. Senate, and to the President and Vice President of the United States, forthwith; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that all resolutions and parts of resolutions in conflict with this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County, Georgia, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September 2021.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS

**SPONSORED BY:**

Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner  
District 6

District \_\_\_\_\_, Commissioner

District \_\_\_\_\_, Commissioner

District \_\_\_\_\_, Commissioner

District \_\_\_\_\_, Commissioner

1    ATTEST:

2    \_\_\_\_\_  
3    Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission

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6    APPROVED AS TO FORM:

7  
8    \_\_\_\_\_  
9    Kaye Woodard Burwell, Interim County Attorney