Handel’s Fake Ossoff Claim Reversed By SOS Facts

ATLANTA GA – Karen Handel stated during both debates with 6th District (GA6) opponent Jon Ossoff that Georgians are seeing a fake Ossoff who may differ from a real Ossoff in Washington due to much out of state money that has been donated to his campaign. She may or may not be correct but one thing is provably true: Former Secretary of State (SOS) Handel has her own issue of being fake vs. real.

Fake Handel:
As a 2006 SOS candidate, Karen Handel produced a Basics report that stated:

- “The electronic voting machines currently used in Georgia’s elections are already obsolete and cannot feasibly be retrofitted with a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT) device”
- “Voters should have the ability to review their ballot both electronically and manually on paper, with the opportunity to correct their ballot, before it is officially cast.”

Page 5 of her report on System Integrity for our elections continued:

- As Secretary of State I will establish a commission that includes both county and state elections officials to make recommendations regarding new purchases of electronic voting machines.
- “Procedures must be established for audits of elections to verify that the electronic vote totals are accurate.”
- “The paper audit trail should be the determining factor in discrepancies in the vote and should be the ballot of record.”

Real Handel:
But after elected SOS, Handel never established a commission and made no improvements to the worst rated voting system in America. On Sept. 28, 2009 she reversed her position, telling a Gwinnett Co. news service that “Georgia has the most secure elections in the nation...” By then, the machines were known to have accepted over 3,000 test votes into live election results in two counties. (See Appendix)

Her reversal eventually became clear by following the money. Ethics Commission records show that Handel received over $25,000 in donations from family members and partners of the voting machine vendor lobbyist, Massey Bowers LLC. Handel hired Massey Bowers partner, Rob Simms, as Assistant Secretary of State and he became a key fund raiser in her 2010 gubernatorial campaign.

Handel’s reversal is a primary reason why Georgians still vote on unverifiable voting equipment today. Will the real Karen Handel please stand up?