House Leader Misleads Republican Caucus in Opposing Mail-in Ballot Applications for All Voters

ATLANTA GA – VoterGA released a harsh letter today to the House Republican Majority Caucus criticizing how Chairman Matt Hatchett misled caucus members in an Email that opposed emergency help for voters to vote by mail. Rep. Hatchett’s Email sought caucus members to pressure Secretary of State (SOS) Brad Raffensperger into changing plans to send mail-in ballot applications to all voters for the May 19th Georgia Primary Election. Sec. Raffensperger made that decision to protect voters, poll workers and residents of senior citizen center precincts from risks of contracting the COVID-19 Coronavirus.

Rep. Hatchett’s sought caucus members to support House Speaker David Ralston’s letter to Raffensperger urging him to postpone the May 19th election until June 23rd. That election already includes the remainder of the Presidential Preference Primary that was suspended in mid-stream. Ralston urged postponement “so that voters can vote in the manner in which they are most familiar” and claimed "legislative consideration” was needed before mail-in ballot applications could be sent to all Georgia voters. Georgia counties currently send applications to voters by request. Most Georgia voters have not yet voted on the new system and no Georgia law prevents counties from sending applications to all voters.

Hatchett’s brief Email claimed Democrats and those who support mail-in ballot applications for all voters are “for a system that does not uphold election integrity” because it “breeds fraud”. The VoterGA response details five of Hatchett’s statements in a single paragraph all considered as “false” and “misinformation”.

The VoterGA letter explains that:

- Mail-in ballot applications for all voters is a non-partisan issue;
- The new system accumulates votes hidden in QR codes that are 100% unverifiable to voters;
- Most races will not be audited and statewide and federal races will use improper procedures;
- The electronic vote count, not the mail-in vote, in the 2018 Lt. Gov. race appeared rampant with fraud and the election was likely rigged;
- A system using BMDs for all voters breeds fraud and does not uphold election integrity, not mail-in voting.

VoterGA offered a presentation to the caucus and requested Hatchett to respond.