

**Press Release**

June 23, 2020

Contact: Garland Favorito

(404) 664-4044

## **Candidates Tell SOS to Count Votes Uncertified Scanners Missed**

ATLANTA GA – Two U.S. Congressional candidates have [written](#) to Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger telling him to count all mail-in votes that **uncertified Georgia scanners failed to include in county results**. Candidates Blake Harbin and Dr. Joe Profit, who competed in the same 6<sup>th</sup> District June 9<sup>th</sup> Republican primary, co-authored the letter.

Harbin and Profit had previously [requested](#) Cobb, DeKalb and Fulton counties to review and adjudicate **all** 6<sup>th</sup> District mail-in ballots to ensure the counties would count all legitimate votes prior to results certification. Mykel Barthelemy, another candidate in that same primary joined their request but all were largely ignored.

Georgia Supreme Court candidate Beth Beskin similarly [petitioned](#) the Fulton County Election Board to adjudicate and count votes on all mail-in ballots but her petition was never considered. None of the counties complied and thousands of votes remain **uncounted** in ballots the voting system accepted.

Adjudication teams in five counties discovered the [statewide technical issue](#) where new scanners accept ballots but tabulators **ignore some vote marks** even though they show clear, visible intent of a specific vote. The vote marks are typically thinner check marks within mark sense bubbles for a candidate.

The check marks are not counted as votes, not rejected as undeterminable and not displayed for adjudication. County election officials are not alerted to the fact that the votes are not being counted unless there is some other problem with the ballot. Marks that show clear voter intent are required to be counted as votes by Georgia law and State Election Board rules for all methods of voting.

[\[O.C.G.A. 21-2-438, Rule 183-1-15-.02 \(2e\)\]](#).

Counties scanned most mail-in ballots using Canon DR-G2140 high speed scanners that have **not been certified at the [state](#) or [federal level](#)** for use with Dominion 5.5 voting systems. Scanners are required to be certified prior to use.

[\[O.C.G.A. 21-02-368 \(c\), \(f\)\]](#)

Mail-in ballots represent roughly 40% of the total votes cast in the June 9<sup>th</sup> primary. The SOS office is expected to certify state election results this week.