

TIM FLEMING

Tim Fleming is the Republican nominee for Georgia Secretary of State, having advanced from the primary runoff in June 2026. A state representative from Covington, Georgia, Tim Fleming has spent much of his career in state politics. Fleming served as a longtime aide to Gov. Brian Kemp, managing some of his campaigns and serving as his deputy secretary of state and his chief of staff when Kemp was first elected governor. After leaving the governor's office in 2020, he joined a PAC supporting Sen. Kelly Loeffler. In 2022, Fleming won election to the Georgia House of Representatives, where he has focused heavily on election-law issues. He first held public office as a Newton County Commissioner (2009 to 2013). Fleming is married to Lacey Fleming and together they have three children.

Key Findings:

Fleming stopped short of echoing Trump's false election fraud accusations, but has maintained there were "irregularities" in the 2020 election. According to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, "Fleming stopped short of echoing Trump's false election fraud accusations but maintained there were 'irregularities' in the 2020 election." However, Fleming has said he is "not running on conspiracy theories" and wants to focus on future elections, rather than relitigating 2020. Additionally, Fleming has said he believes that the state has made great strides since 2020 in improving elections.

Fleming pledged to deport undocumented immigrants who attempt to vote in Georgia and "make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections." On Fleming's campaign website, a list of priorities included "Deport any illegals attempting to vote in Georgia" and "Make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections." Other items on the list of priorities included "Champion voter ID." Additionally, Fleming's website boasted that he "took on Stacey Abrams' election schemes" as former Chief of Staff to Gov. Kemp and Deputy Secretary of State.

Fleming sponsored legislation to dismantle Georgia's automatic voter registration system. According to a press release from Georgia Democrats, Fleming "filed legislation to dismantle Georgia's highly successful automatic voter registration system and make it harder for Georgians to register to vote." HB 1467, a bill sponsored by Fleming, would "provide that motor-voter applications shall be opt-in instead of opt-out."

Fleming sponsored legislation that would have allowed a Donald Trump-aligned state board to strike thousands of challenged voters from the rolls, required polling officials to count the number of ballots by hand, and forced the state to withdraw from the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). In 2025, Fleming sponsored HB 397, a bill that sought to force Georgia to leave ERIC. Fleming said he and others decided to remove provisions from HB 397 that would have allowed a Donald Trump-aligned state board to strike thousands of challenged voters from the rolls and would have required polling officials to count the number of ballots by hand after facing criticism. Ultimately, the bill [stalled](#) and did not become law.

Fleming sued Fulton and Gwinnett counties to restrict mail ballot return access. According to Democracy Docket, Fleming and the GOP sued Fulton and Gwinnett counties seeking to block counties from allowing voters to return absentee ballots at advancing voting or alternate locations.

BACKGROUND

Personal Life

As of 2024, Fleming resided in Covington with his wife, Lacey and three children, Jackson, Colby and Hannah. “Tim Fleming is the former Chief of Staff to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. Fleming previously served as Deputy Secretary of State within the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office and Campaign Manager for the Kemp for Governor Campaign. Currently he is a partner with Live Oak Public Strategies and owns a real estate investment company in Covington. A lifelong resident of Newton County, Fleming served as a Newton County Commissioner from 2009 to 2013 and holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. Fleming resides in Covington with his wife, Lacey and three children, Jackson, Colby and Hannah.” [Covington News, [1/4/24](#)]

As of 2024, Fleming was a lifelong resident of Newton County, Georgia. “Tim Fleming is the former Chief of Staff to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. Fleming previously served as Deputy Secretary of State within the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office and Campaign Manager for the Kemp for Governor Campaign. Currently he is a partner with Live Oak Public Strategies and owns a real estate investment company in Covington. A lifelong resident of Newton County, Fleming served as a Newton County Commissioner from 2009 to 2013 and holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. Fleming resides in Covington with his wife, Lacey and three children, Jackson, Colby and Hannah.” [Covington News, [1/4/24](#)]

Education

Fleming received a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. “Tim Fleming is the former Chief of Staff to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. Fleming previously served as Deputy Secretary of State within the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office and Campaign Manager for the Kemp for Governor Campaign. Currently he is a partner with Live Oak Public Strategies and owns a real estate investment company in Covington. A lifelong resident of Newton County, Fleming served as a Newton County Commissioner from 2009 to 2013 and holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. Fleming resides in Covington with his wife, Lacey and three children, Jackson, Colby and Hannah.” [Covington News, [1/4/24](#)]

Career History

Fleming served as a Newton County Commissioner from 2009 to 2013. “Tim Fleming is the former Chief of Staff to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. Fleming previously served as Deputy Secretary of State within the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office and Campaign Manager for the Kemp for Governor Campaign. Currently he is a partner with Live Oak Public Strategies and owns a real estate investment company in Covington. A lifelong resident of Newton County, Fleming served as a Newton County Commissioner from 2009 to 2013 and holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. Fleming resides in Covington with his wife, Lacey and three children, Jackson, Colby and Hannah.” [Covington News, [1/4/24](#)]

Fleming was the chair of a House committee tasked with proposing changes to election laws. “Fleming, a small-business owner from Covington, is the chair of a House committee tasked with proposing changes to election laws.” [Atlanta Journal Constitution, 6/23/26]

- **AP: “The committee produced only the briefest of reports.”** “Fleming previously worked for the secretary of state’s office while Brian Kemp, now the outgoing Republican governor, held the position. He led a study committee on Georgia’s election system last summer, but the committee produced only the briefest of reports.” [AP, 5/15/26]

Fleming served as Gov. Brian Kemp’s chief of staff before running for the state House in 2022.

“The state legislator formerly served as Gov. Brian Kemp's chief of staff before running for the state House in 2022. He also served in senior positions in the secretary of state's office when Kemp held that role.” [Atlanta Journal Constitution, 6/23/26]

- **Fleming served in senior positions in the secretary of state’s office when Kemp held that role.** “The state legislator formerly served as Gov. Brian Kemp's chief of staff before running for the state House in 2022. He also served in senior positions in the secretary of state's office when Kemp held that role.” [Atlanta Journal Constitution, 6/23/26]
- **WABE: “Fleming worked closely with Gov. Brian Kemp, serving as his deputy secretary of state and his chief of staff when Kemp was first elected governor in 2018.”** “Before being elected to the Georgia House of Representatives in 2022, Fleming worked closely with Gov. Brian Kemp, serving as his deputy secretary of state and his chief of staff when Kemp was first elected governor in 2018.” [WABE, [6/16/26](#)]

Fleming was the Campaign Manager for the Kemp for Governor Campaign. “Tim Fleming is the former Chief of Staff to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. Fleming previously served as Deputy Secretary of State within the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office and Campaign Manager for the Kemp for Governor Campaign. Currently he is a partner with Live Oak Public Strategies and owns a real estate investment company in Covington. A lifelong resident of Newton County, Fleming served as a Newton County Commissioner from 2009 to 2013 and holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. Fleming resides in Covington with his wife, Lacey and three children, Jackson, Colby and Hannah.” [Covington News, [1/4/24](#)]

As of 2024, Fleming was a partner with Live Oak Public Strategies and owned a real estate investment company in Covington. “Tim Fleming is the former Chief of Staff to Georgia Governor Brian Kemp. Fleming previously served as Deputy Secretary of State within the Georgia Secretary of State’s Office and Campaign Manager for the Kemp for Governor Campaign. Currently he is a partner with Live Oak Public Strategies and owns a real estate investment company in Covington. A lifelong resident of Newton County, Fleming served as a Newton County Commissioner from 2009 to 2013 and holds a bachelor’s degree in Political Science from the University of Georgia. Fleming resides in Covington with his wife, Lacey and three children, Jackson, Colby and Hannah.” [Covington News, [1/4/24](#)]

2020: Fleming joined Georgia United Victory, a PAC supporting Sen. Kelly Loeffler’s special election bid, as a senior strategist. “Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp’s chief of staff is leaving to work for a political action committee supporting U.S. Sen. Kelly Loeffler in her special election bid. Georgia United Victory announced Thursday that Tim Fleming would begin working as a senior strategist on Oct. 1.” [AP, [9/17/20](#)]

AP: “Fleming has been at Kemp’s side since the former contractor was elected to state Senate in 2002.” “Fleming has been at Kemp’s side since the former contractor was elected to state Senate in

2002. He later worked as campaign manager in Kemp's unsuccessful bid for state agriculture commissioner and then in his successful run for secretary of state. Fleming was Kemp's campaign manager when he ran for governor in 2018 after working as a top aide in the secretary of state's office." [AP, [9/17/20](#)]

Fleming worked as campaign manager in Kemp's unsuccessful bid for state agriculture commissioner and then in his successful run for secretary of state. "Fleming has been at Kemp's side since the former contractor was elected to state Senate in 2002. He later worked as campaign manager in Kemp's unsuccessful bid for state agriculture commissioner and then in his successful run for secretary of state. Fleming was Kemp's campaign manager when he ran for governor in 2018 after working as a top aide in the secretary of state's office." [AP, [9/17/20](#)]

Fleming was Kemp's campaign manager when he ran for governor in 2018. "Fleming has been at Kemp's side since the former contractor was elected to state Senate in 2002. He later worked as campaign manager in Kemp's unsuccessful bid for state agriculture commissioner and then in his successful run for secretary of state. Fleming was Kemp's campaign manager when he ran for governor in 2018 after working as a top aide in the secretary of state's office." [AP, [9/17/20](#)]

SOS CAMPAIGN

New York Times: Fleming "did not go nearly as far as Vernon Jones, a Trump loyalist who finished second in the primary and the runoff, in calling the 2020 results fraudulent," but rather "trumpeted his experience as a top aide to Gov. Brian Kemp. "Mr. Fleming has said the state has since improved its election system, and that he was not running on 'conspiracy theories.' He also did not go nearly as far as Vernon Jones, a Trump loyalist who finished second in the primary and the runoff, in calling the 2020 results fraudulent. Instead, Mr. Fleming trumpeted his experience as a top aide to Gov. Brian Kemp, when Mr. Kemp served a secretary of state in the 2010s." [New York Times, [6/16/26](#)]

Fleming's campaign described him as "a proven conservative, small business owner, and a champion for election integrity with a strong record of fighting for Georgia." "Tim Fleming is a proven conservative, small business owner, and a champion for election integrity with a strong record of fighting for Georgia. As former Chief of Staff to Gov. Kemp and Deputy Secretary of State under then Sec. Kemp, Tim took on Stacey Abrams' election schemes, cracked down on voter fraud, and streamlined professional licensing. Now serving in the State House, he continues to lead efforts to secure our elections and cut red tape. As Secretary of State, Tim will keep fighting to protect our elections, simplify licensing, and defend Georgia values." [flemingfor.ga.com, accessed [3/4/26](#)]

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ELECTIONS & VOTING ISSUES

Ballot Count

Fleming led a legislative study committee on the voting system which recommended hand-counting ballots with QR codes in 2026 before buying a new voting system in fiscal year 2027. “State Rep. Tim Fleming, R-Covington, a Republican candidate for secretary of state, led a legislative study committee of the voting system last year. The committee recommended hand-counting ballots with QR codes this November before buying a new voting system in fiscal year 2027.” [Rome News Tribune, [5/7/26](#)]

- **Fleming supported ditching Georgia’s touchscreen voting system in favor of hand-marked paper ballots counted by scanners.** “Fleming, the chair of a House committee tasked with proposing changes to election laws, supports ditching Georgia’s touchscreen voting system in favor of hand-marked paper ballots counted by scanners, as well as removing Georgia from a multi-state voter list accuracy organization. He’s pledged to deport immigrants in the country illegally who attempt to vote and “make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections.” [Atlanta Journal Constitution, [6/17/26](#)]
- **Fleming said lawmakers needed to find a “temporary fix” during a special session to remove the QR code from the ballot in a way that was “least disruptive for the county elections officials,” but ultimately, he preferred hand-marked paper ballots.** “State Rep. Tim Fleming said he believes there were some “irregularities” in 2020 and that ‘great strides’ have been made to address the issues. He said he’s ‘not running on conspiracy theories’ and is focused on the future. What they’re saying Fleming said he believes he and his fellow lawmakers need to find a ‘temporary fix’ during the special session to remove the QR code from the ballot in a way that is ‘least disruptive for the county elections officials.’ But ultimately, he said, he also wants to see the state move to hand-marked paper ballots, a position supported by many other Republicans.” [WSLS, [5/15/26](#)]

Election Denial

Fleming pledged to deport illegal immigrants who attempt to vote in Georgia, expedite professional licensing and “make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections.” “Fleming pledges to deport illegal immigrants who attempt to vote in Georgia, expedite professional licensing and ‘make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections.’” [Atlanta Journal Constitution, 6/23/26]

Fleming has said there were “irregularities” in the 2020 election but claims the state has made great strides since then in improving elections and prefers to focus on future elections. “Fleming, who worked under Kemp when the governor was secretary of state, has said there were ‘irregularities’ in the 2020 election — a buzz word among Republicans who stop short of echoing Trump without refuting him. But Fleming said he believes the state has made great strides since then in improving elections and said he wants to focus on future elections.” [AP, [5/20/26](#)]

Fleming stopped short of echoing Trump’s false election fraud accusations but maintained there were “irregularities” in the 2020 election. “During the campaign, Fleming stopped short of echoing Trump’s false election fraud accusations but maintained there were ‘irregularities’ in the 2020 election. Fleming has said he is focused on the future rather than relitigating 2020, touting his accomplishments in changing Georgia election laws during his time as a state lawmaker.” [Atlanta Journal-Constitution, [6/16/26](#)]

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Fleming said he believes there were some “irregularities” in 2020 and that “great strides” have been made to address the issues. “State Rep. Tim Fleming said he believes there were some ‘irregularities’ in 2020 and that ‘great strides’ have been made to address the issues. He said he’s ‘not running on conspiracy theories’ and is focused on the future. What they’re saying Fleming said he believes he and his fellow lawmakers need to find a ‘temporary fix’ during the special session to remove the QR code from the ballot in a way that is ‘least disruptive for the county elections officials.’ But ultimately, he said, he also wants to see the state move to hand-marked paper ballots, a position supported by many other Republicans.” [WSLS, [5/15/26](#)]

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2025: As chair of a House elections committee, Fleming said “We are not here to litigate past elections, but rather to prepare Georgia for the future, to make sure that every legal vote counts, that voters have confidence in the system, and that our processes are secure, efficient and fair.” “A committee of lawmakers examining how elections are run held its first meeting Tuesday at the state Capitol. The House of Representatives study committee on election procedure heard from state officials on the role of the State Election Board, Georgia’s voter roll maintenance process, and voter registration procedures. Members of the public also gave their testimony on concerns around elections. Rep. Tim Fleming, who has filed paperwork to begin fundraising for a 2026 Georgia secretary of state campaign,

chairs the committee. ‘We are not here to litigate past elections, but rather to prepare Georgia for the future, to make sure that every legal vote counts, that voters have confidence in the system, and that our processes are secure, efficient and fair,’ he said.” [Georgia Public Broadcasting, [7/15/25](#)]

New York Times: Fleming “did not go nearly as far as Vernon Jones, a Trump loyalist who finished second in the primary and the runoff, in calling the 2020 results fraudulent,” but rather “trumpeted his experience as a top aide to Gov. Brian Kemp. “Mr. Fleming has said the state has since improved its election system, and that he was not running on ‘conspiracy theories.’ He also did not go nearly as far as Vernon Jones, a Trump loyalist who finished second in the primary and the runoff, in calling the 2020 results fraudulent. Instead, Mr. Fleming trumpeted his experience as a top aide to Gov. Brian Kemp, when Mr. Kemp served a secretary of state in the 2010s.” [New York Times, [6/16/26](#)]

Election Integrity

2023: Fleming passed House Bill 1207, a bill initially aimed at revising ballot proofing procedures for local superintendents that was later amended by the Senate. “Fleming has helped shape election policy in his brief time in the General Assembly. During his first term in the Legislature, he successfully passed House Bill 1207, a bill initially aimed at revising ballot proofing procedures for local superintendents. However, it was later amended to include language from Senate Bill 221, a controversial elections bill that failed to pass during the 2023 legislative session. Among other changes, the legislation required all election workers to be U.S. citizens, outlined protections for poll watchers and eliminated the requirement for polling places to maintain a ratio of one voting machine for every 250 voters. The governor signed HB 1207 into law in May 2024.” [Georgia Recorder, 7/3/25]

Early Voting

According to Democracy Docket, Fleming and the GOP sued Fulton and Gwinnett counties seeking to block counties from allowing voters to return absentee ballots at advancing voting or alternate locations. “Republicans sued two of Georgia’s largest counties Thursday over local policies that help voters return absentee ballots, escalating the party’s campaign to restrict voting access in the battleground state ahead of the midterm elections. The Republican National Committee, Georgia Republican Party, Fulton County Republican Party, Gwinnett County Republican Party and state Rep. Tim Fleming (R), the GOP nominee for Georgia secretary of state, filed twin anti-voting lawsuits against election board members in Fulton and Gwinnett counties. The lawsuits challenge county policies that allow voters to return absentee ballots at advance voting or alternate locations. In plain terms, Republicans are asking the court to block counties from giving voters more places to safely hand in their mail-in ballots. The plaintiffs are seeking declaratory and injunctive relief — meaning they want a court to declare the policies illegal and stop counties from using them.” [Democracy Docket, [6/18/26](#)]

2025: Fleming sponsored an elections overhaul bill that sought to ban absentee ballot drop-off the weekend before Election Day. “Fleming sponsored an elections overhaul bill this year that sought to withdraw Georgia from a voter registration accuracy organization and ban absentee ballot drop-off the weekend before Election Day.” [Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 7/4/25]

Paper Ballots

Fleming was a vocal proponent of hand-marked paper ballots, a key demand from activists skeptical of Georgia’s voting machines. “Fleming heads a committee studying Georgia’s election

system and is another vocal proponent of hand-marked paper ballots, a key demand from activists skeptical of the state's voting machines." [Associated Press, 10/15/25]

Fleming called for a test of hand-marked ballots ahead of the 2026 midterms. "Georgia Reps. Tim Fleming and Victor Anderson are asking for a test of hand-marked ballots ahead of the 2026 midterms. The two sent a letter to Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger on Tuesday, asking him to implement the test during the Nov. 4 Public Service Commission election and Dec. 5 runoff for local elections." [Newnan Times-Herald, 9/4/25]

Proof of Citizenship

Fleming pledged to deport illegal immigrants who attempt to vote in Georgia, expedite professional licensing and "make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections." "Fleming pledges to deport illegal immigrants who attempt to vote in Georgia, expedite professional licensing and 'make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections.'" [Atlanta Journal Constitution, 6/23/26]

- **Fleming's campaign website listed "deport any illegals attempting to vote in Georgia" as a priority.** "Tim's Georgia First Priorities Strengthen election integrity by ensuring elections are secure, accessible, fair, and trusted Protect conservative values Get Georgians licensed faster Cut red tape holding small businesses back Champion voter ID and election transparency Deport any illegals attempting to vote in Georgia Make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections" [FlemingForGA.com, accessed [6/26/26](#)]

Voter ID

Fleming's campaign website listed "champion voter ID" as a priority. "Tim's Georgia First Priorities Strengthen election integrity by ensuring elections are secure, accessible, fair, and trusted Protect conservative values Get Georgians licensed faster Cut red tape holding small businesses back Champion voter ID and election transparency Deport any illegals attempting to vote in Georgia Make it impossible for the Left to cheat in our elections" [FlemingForGA.com, accessed [6/26/26](#)]

Voter Registration

Fleming bragged that he had fought to have Stacey Abrams' "shady voter registration group investigated." "We need a proven conservative warrior in the State House who isn't afraid to go toe-to-toe with the radical left and win. Unlike typical politicians, this isn't a talking point for me. I have taken on Abrams and won. In the Secretary of State's Office, I fought to have her shady voter registration group investigated. In 2018, I led the campaign that defeated her at the ballot box. And in the Governor's Office, I fought to secure the passage of the strongest pro-life law in the country and crushed the left's attempts to keep Georgia shut down during the pandemic and force masks on us all." [Rockdale Citizen, 2/15/22]

- **On his campaign website, Fleming boasts that he "took on Stacey Abrams' election schemes" as former Chief of Staff to Gov. Kemp and Deputy Secretary of State.** "Tim Fleming is a proven conservative, small business owner, and a champion for election integrity with a strong record of fighting for Georgia. As former Chief of Staff to Gov. Kemp and Deputy Secretary of State under then Sec. Kemp, Tim took on Stacey Abrams' election schemes, cracked down on voter fraud, and streamlined professional licensing. Now serving in the State House, he

continues to lead efforts to secure our elections and cut red tape. As Secretary of State, Tim will keep fighting to protect our elections, simplify licensing, and defend Georgia values.” [FlemingForGA.com, accessed [6/25/26](#)]

According to Georgia Democrats, Fleming sponsored legislation to dismantle Georgia’s automatic voter registration system. “Georgia GOP State Representative Tim Fleming – who is currently running for Secretary of State – has filed legislation to dismantle Georgia’s highly successful automatic voter registration system and make it harder for Georgians to register to vote. Georgia has one of the highest voter registration rates in the country thanks in large part to automatic voter registration, which was implemented under Republican Secretary of State Brian Kemp and led to a 20% increase in eligible Georgians registered to vote. HB 1467 would change the system from ‘opt-out’ to ‘opt-in’ – a move that would likely cause a precipitous drop in eligible Georgians being registered.” [Press Release, [2/26/26](#)]

- **HB 1467 would “provide that motor-voter applications shall be opt-in instead of opt-out.”** “A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and primaries generally, so as to provide that motor-voter applications shall be opt-in instead of opt-out; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.” [Legiscan, accessed [6/26/26](#)]

Voter Rolls

Fleming supported removing Georgia from a multi-state voter list accuracy organization.

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2025: Fleming introduced a controversial election bill that would prohibit Georgia from sharing voter information with third-party groups like the Electronic Registration Information Center, limit voters' ability to drop off absentee ballots on the final weekend before Election Day and expand poll-watching areas, among other provisions. “Earlier this year, Fleming also introduced a controversial election bill that would prohibit Georgia from sharing voter information with third-party groups like the Electronic Registration Information Center, limit voters' ability to drop off absentee ballots on the final weekend before Election Day and expand poll-watching areas, among other provisions. The bill successfully passed through both chambers, but failed to gain final passage before the Legislature adjourned.” [Georgia Recorder, 7/3/25]

Fleming said he and others decided to remove provisions from HB 397 that would have allowed a Donald Trump-aligned state board to strike thousands of challenged voters from the rolls and would have required polling officials to count the number of ballots by hand. “Georgia lawmakers are retreating from election proposals that could have allowed a Donald Trump-aligned state board to

strike thousands of challenged voters from the rolls and would have required polling officials to count the number of ballots by hand. House Bill 397 was rewritten to remove those provisions before it was passed Thursday by the Senate Ethics Committee, sending it to the full Senate for more debate. The bill still seeks to force the state to leave the Electronic Records Information Center. Some question the funding and motives of that multistate group, which tries to maintain accurate voter rolls. But Georgia now would not be required to exit until mid-2027 instead of within months, as was earlier proposed. Republican Rep. Tim Fleming of Covington said he and others decided to remove some of the most controversial provisions after they were panned by officials who work for Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, county election directors and others in hours of testimony Wednesday night.” [AP, 3/17/25]

- **HB 397 sought to force the state to leave the Electronic Records Information Center.** “Georgia lawmakers are retreating from election proposals that could have allowed a Donald Trump-aligned state board to strike thousands of challenged voters from the rolls and would have required polling officials to count the number of ballots by hand. House Bill 397 was rewritten to remove those provisions before it was passed Thursday by the Senate Ethics Committee, sending it to the full Senate for more debate. The bill still seeks to force the state to leave the Electronic Records Information Center. Some question the funding and motives of that multistate group, which tries to maintain accurate voter rolls. But Georgia now would not be required to exit until mid-2027 instead of within months, as was earlier proposed. Republican Rep. Tim Fleming of Covington said he and others decided to remove some of the most controversial provisions after they were panned by officials who work for Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, county election directors and others in hours of testimony Wednesday night.” [AP, 3/17/25]
- **HB 397 was sponsored by Fleming.** “The Senate voted along party lines Wednesday for the sweeping voting rules changes proposed in House Bill 397 as well as Senate Bill 214, which aims to encourage voters to use pencils or pens to complete ballots instead of electronic voting machines as is the primary option now. Sen. Jason Esteves, an Atlanta Democrat, criticized plans in the bill sponsored by Rep. Tim Fleming, a Covington Republican, that would force the state to withdraw from the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC), a system that backers including Republican Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger contend helps Georgia maintain more accurate voter rolls by sharing voter data across multiple states.” [Newton Citizen, 4/2/25; HB 397, Georgia House of Representatives, accessed [6/26/26](#)]

EXTREME VIEWS

Abortion

Fleming said “I fought to secure the passage of the strongest pro-life law in the country and crushed the left's attempts to keep Georgia shut down during the pandemic and force masks on us all.” ““We need a proven conservative warrior in the State House who isn't afraid to go toe-to-toe with the radical left and win. Unlike typical politicians, this isn't a talking point for me. I have taken on Abrams and won. In the Secretary of State's Office, I fought to have her shady voter registration group investigated. In 2018, I led the campaign that defeated her at the ballot box. And in the Governor's Office, I fought to secure the passage of the strongest pro-life law in the country and crushed the left's attempts to keep Georgia shut down during the pandemic and force masks on us all.”” [Rockdale Citizen, 2/15/22]

Donald Trump

During a debate, Fleming said “I’ve always been there for Donald Trump.” ““I’ve always been there for Donald Trump,’ Fleming said in a debate with Jones earlier this month.” [Atlanta Journal Constitution, [6/17/26](#)]

House Blue-Ribbon Study Committee on Election Procedures

May 2025: Fleming was named chairman of the House Blue-Ribbon Study Committee on Election Procedures. “In May Fleming was named chairman of the House Blue-Ribbon Study Committee on Election Procedures, which was tasked with studying and evaluating Georgia's election laws, policies and procedures.” [Newton Citizen, 7/7/25]

Fleming chaired a House committee tasked with proposing changes to election laws. “The first Republican to enter the secretary of state's race was state Rep. Tim Fleming, a former top aide to Gov. Brian Kemp and a Trump supporter. He filed paperwork for his run two weeks before the first meeting of a House committee tasked with proposing changes to election laws, which he chairs. It's given the Covington Republican a platform to voice his thoughts and concerns on elections. Fleming made it clear he had no intention of revisiting the 2020 election during the committee's first meeting in July. He said the committee's purpose is to ‘take a comprehensive, nonpartisan, data-driven look at how elections are conducted across the state of Georgia.’ Since the inaugural meeting, Fleming and other committee members have traveled the state listening to election experts, officials, party leaders, activists and others.” [Atlanta Journal-Constitution, [10/17/25](#)]

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the inaugural meeting, Fleming and other committee members have traveled the state listening to election experts, officials, party leaders, activists and others.” [Atlanta Journal-Constitution, [10/17/25](#)]

- **Fleming expressed frustrations with the Georgia Election Board, saying “We've seen grandstanding, bombastic rhetoric and public disputes that have done little to serve voters and have at times undermined the confidence in the system itself.”** “At a meeting in August, he expressed frustrations with the State Election Board. ‘We've seen grandstanding, bombastic rhetoric and public disputes that have done little to serve voters and have at times undermined the confidence in the system itself,’ Fleming said.” [Atlanta Journal-Constitution, [10/17/25](#)]

2026: Fleming’s committee recommended that the state use hand-marked paper ballots during the general election but said QR codes should be allowed to remain on ballots, which critics contend are a security risk because only the counting machines can read them. “After six lengthy hearings around the state last year, a special legislative committee studying the elections process has recommended incremental changes to Georgia's voting system. The study committee chaired by Rep. Tim Fleming, R-Covington, who is running for Georgia secretary of state, recommended Monday, Feb. 2, that the state use hand-marked paper ballots during the general elections in November. But there is a twist: the recommendation by the Republican-led panel says QR codes should be allowed to remain on ballots, which critics contend are a security risk because only the counting machines, not voters themselves, can read them.” [Catoosa Walker News, 2/4/26]