

Fair Up or Down Vote

Austin Scott - the Chamber Rules and Georgia Drools

Despite telling several people who took the time to go to the Capitol that he would give the Georgia Flag FAIR Vote a FAIR hearing - in the end, Austin Scott has sided with the Metro Atlanta Chamber.

A majority of Georgians have clearly indicated that they believe there is something American about letting the people vote. The Metro Atlanta Chamber has publicly bragged that they have enough influence on the Perdue Administration to prevent the People from voting.

So we have a classic example of grass roots vs. the unholy influence of special interests in the 2005 - 2006 Session of the Georgia Legislature.



Will the Legislature listen to the people or pander to special interests?

This is the first Legislature since Reconstruction that is controlled by the Republican Party. They control the State House, State Senate and Governor's Office. Representative Austin Scott was chosen by Republican Speaker Glenn Richardson to be the chairman of the committee that he assigned to the Georgia

Flag FAIR Vote Act - HB-15.

Southern Party's Platform on the State Flag

- The issue should be settled by a FAIR Up or Down vote.
- Special Interests have an unholy influence which needs to be eliminated on our State government.

What has the response been so far from this Republican controlled State Government?

- The 79% of Georgians that the Mason Dixon Poll showed want a Fair Vote are being ignored!
- The Metro Atlanta Chamber that stated preventing the People from getting a FAIR Vote was their most critical issue - AND - they had influenced the Perdue Administration to not allow the People to Vote is NOT being ignored.

Over the past few months we have all seen the TV ads of the Republi-

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cans demanding a "FAIR Up or Down" vote in Washington. But here in Georgia they say "No Vote!"

When he refuses to let the FAIR Vote bill come up for a Vote - who is Representative Austin Scott representing - you or the special interests? If you are not sure just listen to his own party's statements from Washington! They speak very poorly of officials who do not support a FAIR Up or Down Vote.

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In January 2005, the Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans contracted with the Mason Dixon polling company to find out how Georgians felt about a FAIR Vote on our State Flag. The independent and professional poll only verified what most people already knew. There is something American about letting people vote. Some of the key questions and poll results follow:

QUESTION: The Georgia legislature is presently considering holding a referendum to permit the voters to choose between the current State Flag and the 1956-2001 State Flag, which contained the Confederate battle emblem. Do you believe that the people of Georgia should be allowed to say which State Flag represents them, or not?

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NOT SURE</u>
STATE	79%	15%	6%

79% – just a hair under 8 out 10 – believe that there is something American about letting the people vote! Looking at the various regions and breakdowns:

<u>REGION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NOT SURE</u>
DeKalb/Fulton Counties	73%	17%	10%
Atlanta Suburbs	76%	14%	9%
North Georgia	81%	15%	5%
Central Georgia	83%	15%	2%
South Georgia	83%	13%	4%

<u>SEX</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NOT SURE</u>
Men	79%	16%	5%
Women	79%	14%	7%

<u>RACE</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NOT SURE</u>
White	80%	15%	5%
Black	75%	16%	9%

If you rely on the news media, Republican and Democratic Parties for your news, you are led to believe that only a few Georgians want a FAIR Vote and that it is a racial issue. But this poll shows that Georgians of all parts of the State, of both sexes and both black and white want a FAIR Vote on the State Flag.

Regardless of which Flag Georgians prefer, they are very unified in that they are not satisfied with the decision being made in secret back room deals as has happened twice now since 2001. Every demographic breakdown showed overwhelming support for a FAIR Vote!

QUESTION: Do you believe the referendum held in March 2004, which did not include the 1956-2001 State Flag, was fair to the voters of Georgia, or not?

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NOT SURE</u>
STATE	33%	54%	13%

A majority or 54% of Georgians do not believe that the referendum in 2004 was fair.

The news media, Republican and Democratic parties tell you a different story. They say that the Flag sponsored by the Atlanta Chamber and other special interests was endorsed by a majority of Georgians.

But a look at the actual votes in the 2004 Referendum shows that they are not telling you the whole truth!