

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

& POLICY ADVOCACY

*A digital toolkit for community leaders,
people of faith & engaged Georgians*

2026-2027 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
EDITION

KNOW MORE • SPEAK CLEARLY • SHOW UP



Georgia
Equality

Democracy is a practice, not a spectator sport.

“ Civic engagement is what happens when ordinary people understand the decisions being made around them, know how to reach the people making those decisions, and believe their voice belongs in the room. ”

Political Philosophy, Principle of Deliberative Democracy

01

LEARN

Understand the issue, the process and who has power.

02

SPEAK

Use facts, values and lived experience to make the case.

03

ACT

Vote, testify, organize, convene and follow up.

There is always a next step.

Not everyone has to do everything. The goal is movement.

KNOW

Check registration.
Read your ballot.

CONNECT

Meet advocates.
Join a briefing.

COMMUNICATE

Call. Email.
Share facts.

SHOW UP

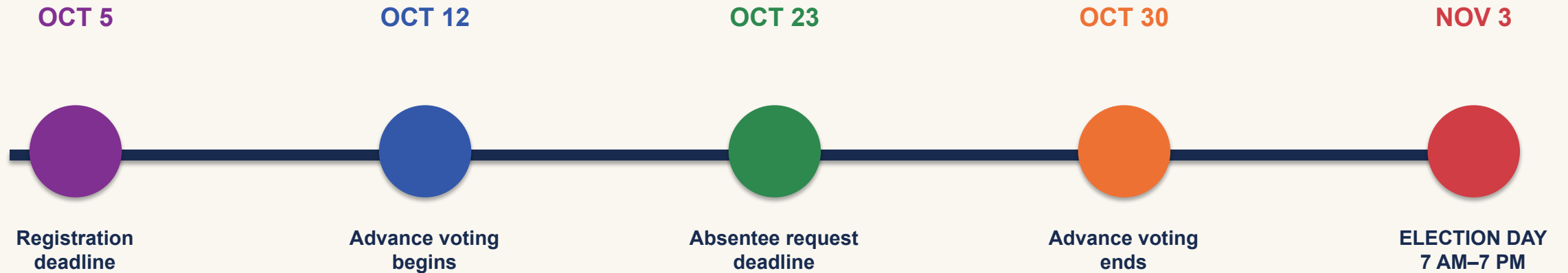
Attend. Testify.
Ask questions.

LEAD

Host. Organize.
Build power.

Put these dates on the calendar now.

Georgia 2026 General Election



Use Georgia's [My Voter Page](#) to check registration, polling places, early-voting sites and your sample ballot.



Make a plan before there is a problem.



Confirm registration + address



Review your sample ballot



Know your early-voting options



Bring accepted photo ID



Know your Election Day precinct



Track absentee status if voting by mail

IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG

Ask questions. Request the appropriate ballot option. Document what happened. Use official election resources.

Anatomy of a strong ask.

Specific beats loud. Clear beats complicated.

WHO?

Who actually has authority to act?



WHAT?

What bill, rule, budget or decision is in front of them?

WHY?

What is the concrete human impact?

ASK.

What exactly do you want them to do?

Five minutes with a decision-maker.

Short. Human. Memorable.

01

INTRODUCE

Who you are + where
you live

02

HUMANIZE

One story or concrete
example

03

INFORM

One or two verified facts

04

ASK

One clear action

05

FOLLOW UP

Document + keep the
relationship

The 90-second testimony formula.

You do not need to sound like a lawyer to be persuasive.



1

WHO YOU ARE

2

WHAT IS BEFORE THEM

3

WHY IT MATTERS HERE

4

ONE FACT OR EXAMPLE

5

YOUR SPECIFIC REQUEST

6

THANK THEM

TIP

Submit written testimony when allowed, and save your remarks for follow-up.

Reproductive justice is about the conditions for human flourishing.

Bodily autonomy • health access • family well-being • economic security



TALK ABOUT

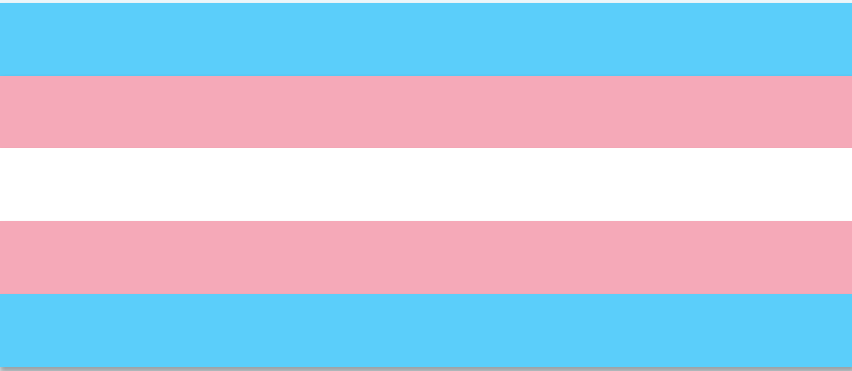
- Health decisions with patients and qualified providers
- Geography, transportation, insurance and provider access
- Maternal health and family well-being
- Privacy and bodily autonomy

ASK POLICYMAKERS

Who is affected? What happens to access? What evidence supports the policy? How will impact be measured?

Trans rights are about access to ordinary public life.

Safety • privacy • health • education • equal treatment



TRANS GEORGIANS ARE

**students • workers • parents
neighbors • voters • people
of faith**

TALK ABOUT

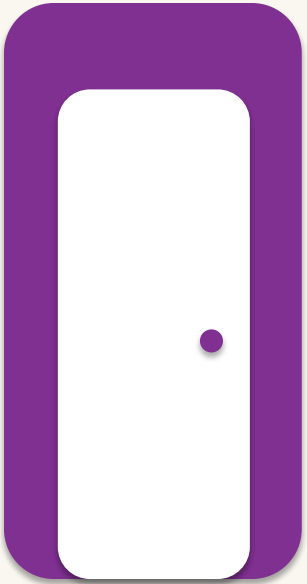
- What a proposal actually does, not what social media says it does
- Safety and privacy in schools and public spaces
- Access to medically appropriate care
- Whether enforcement creates new harms or barriers

ASK POLICYMAKERS

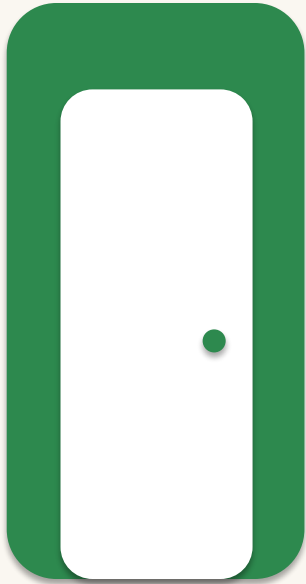
Who is affected? What evidence supports the restriction? How will it be enforced? Are less restrictive approaches available?

Non-discrimination makes belonging practical.

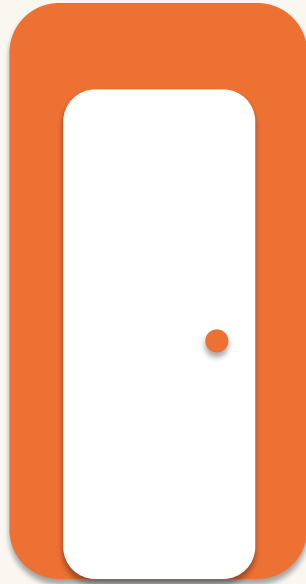
Work • housing • services • public life



WORK



HOME



SERVICES

A SIMPLE MESSAGE

People should be able to work, rent a home and access public services without arbitrary discrimination.

QUESTIONS FOR LOCAL LEADERS

What protections exist now? Who is not covered? Is there a clear complaint process? How are residents and businesses educated?

Voting access is policy and practice.

Rules matter. Information matters. Logistics matter.

VOTE

WHERE?

Early voting + Election Day sites

WHEN?

Hours, deadlines + absentee timing

HOW?

ID, accessibility + ballot options

WHAT IF?

Problem-solving + official contacts

Access questions should include:

transportation • disability • language
work schedules • documentation • rural distance

Faith and community leaders can turn information into participation.

Use trusted institutions to make civic engagement feel local, relational and possible.



EDUCATE

Issue briefings + voter information

CONVENE

Bring residents and officials together

MODEL

Correct misinformation without dehumanizing

CONNECT

Keep reliable resources easy to find

Nonprofit and faith organizations should follow applicable rules governing partisan political activity.

PUT IT TO WORK

A 30-day civic activation plan.

One month. Four moves. A stronger local civic network.

WEEK 1

MAP

Who has power? Who has trust? What issues are already moving?

WEEK 2

EDUCATE

Host a briefing. Share official voting links. Practice talking points.

WEEK 3

ENGAGE

Meet a policymaker. Attend a hearing. Submit comment.

WEEK 4

MOBILIZE

Make voting plans. Follow up. Decide what continues after Election Day.

KNOW MORE.

SPEAK CLEARLY.

SHOW UP.

The goal is not simply to win an argument. It is to help more people understand their power, enter public life with confidence, and stay engaged after Election Day.

Faith • Gender Justice • Community Education • Policy • Mobilization

KEEP THESE CLOSE

Georgia Secretary of State

Registration • My Voter Page • polling locations • absentee voting • election calendar

Georgia General Assembly

Bills • committees • votes • legislative information

Georgia Equality

LGBTQ policy • nondiscrimination • advocacy resources