

GEORGIA RUNOFF ELECTIONS: WORKING PEOPLE MADE THE DIFFERENCE

In November, working people shocked the nation by turning out to vote President-elect Joe Biden into office.

In January, the voices of working people were heard again loud and clear with the historical election of Jon Ossoff and the Rev. Raphael Warnock to the U.S. Senate. Warnock will be Georgia's first Black senator. Ossoff, the son of Jewish immigrants, previously worked for the late civil rights icon Rep. John Lewis. Both of the incoming senators will be champions for working people.

When it was announced in November that both Georgia Senate races had turned into runoff elections, union members across the nation immediately regrouped and reorganized on a massive scale to keep the momentum going.

It's safe to say this victory would not have been possible without the incredible, hard work of the labor movement. Weekends became volunteer days of actions. Evenings became phone-banking parties. Afternoons became dedicated to postcard writing. In an instant, community and constituency groups, labor councils and state federations stepped up and mobilized union volunteers to get out the vote like never before. The result? Millions of doors knocked, millions of phones called and thousands of pieces of literature distributed.

With a pro-labor majority in the U.S. Senate, America's labor movement now has the once-in-a-generation opportunity to work with legislators who have the courage and conviction to take on critical issues facing the American workplace. This will start with the PRO Act so workers who want to form a union can do so freely and fairly, and it includes workplace safety, voting rights, infrastructure investment, pensions, paid family leave and more.

The presidential election was decided by a small margin in Georgia, and the Senate runoff elections were decided in the same way. What made the difference was where people decided to step up. The labor movement showed up, stepped out and made history.



GEORGIA BY THE NUMBERS

The numbers speak for themselves. Both on the ground in Georgia and coast to coast across the nation, union members worked around the clock to get out the vote for the Rev. Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff. For months, the AFL-CIO and our allies hosted virtual phone banks to reach millions of union and nonunion voters in Georgia.

Altogether, America's labor movement made 6,717,694 calls and sent 1,185,296 text messages. Dozens of virtual events hosted by a united movement was a key component of our program and made a real difference in this election.

Meanwhile, across the country, thousands of union members participated in the AFL-CIO's Georgia Postcard Campaign. Launched Dec. 1, the program targeted both union and nonunion voters who needed an extra push to make sure they voted early, by mail or on Election Day, Jan. 5. In a matter of just three weeks, the AFL-CIO state and local central bodies, affiliates, constituency groups and allies ordered postcards in droves. In total, 400,209 postcards were ordered, shipped, distributed, handwritten and sent to voters.

And on the ground in Georgia, union members came together to safely distribute voter and candidate information material to the doorsteps of Georgia voters. In total, state federations, central labor councils, affiliates and community groups touched 10,879,974 doors and sent 852,347 pieces of mail. Each and every one of these efforts made an impact on Georgia voters.

6,717,694
PHONE CALLS



400,209
POSTCARDS



10,879,974
DOORS



852,347
MAILINGS



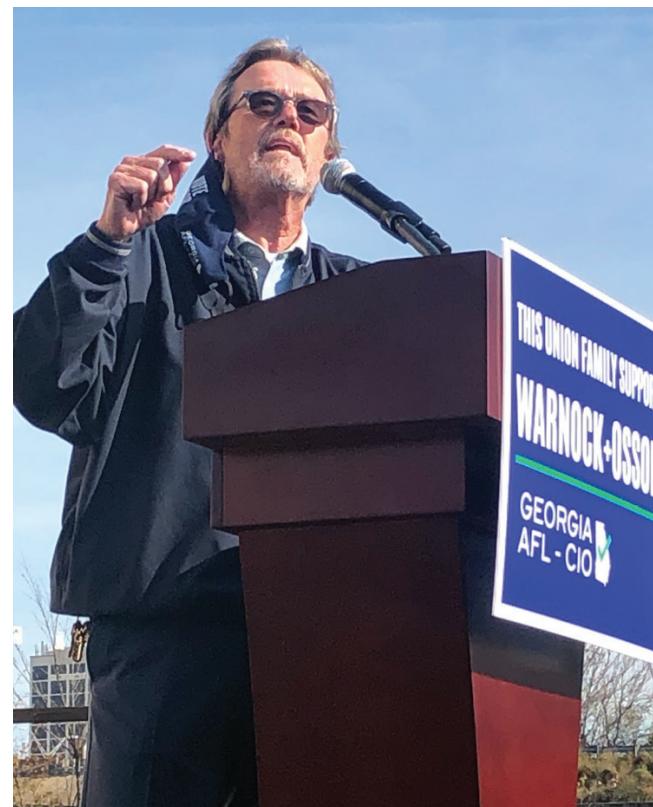
1,185,296
TEXT MESSAGES



UNION POWER: STATE FEDERATIONS AND CENTRAL LABOR COUNCILS

The AFL-CIO commends the work of the Georgia AFL-CIO, the Atlanta North-Georgia Labor Council, the Savannah Regional Central Labor Council, the Central Georgia Federation of Trades and Labor Council, and the Augusta Federation of Trades during the Georgia runoff election cycle. From day one, these Georgia labor groups divided and organized themselves into six powerful geographical zones, where union members canvassed, dropped literature and held events to get out the vote.

The AFL-CIO also commends the work of state federations and central labor councils across the country that stepped up to help during this runoff election. The top 10 labor bodies that sent out Georgia postcards were the Oregon AFL-CIO, the Cincinnati AFL-CIO Labor Council, the Greater Northwest Ohio AFL-CIO, the North Shore Federation of Labor, the Dayton-Miami Valley AFL-CIO Regional Labor Council, the Inland Empire Labor Council, the Sacramento Central Labor Council, the South Florida AFL-CIO, the Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO and the Texas AFL-CIO.



UNION POWER: STATE FEDERATIONS AND CENTRAL LABOR COUNCILS

The top 10 labor bodies that made phone calls to Georgia voters were the Georgia AFL-CIO, the Central Florida AFL-CIO, the California Labor Federation, the New Jersey State AFL-CIO, the Florida AFL-CIO, the Sacramento Central Labor Council, the Michigan State AFL-CIO, the Colorado AFL-CIO, the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO and the Oregon AFL-CIO.

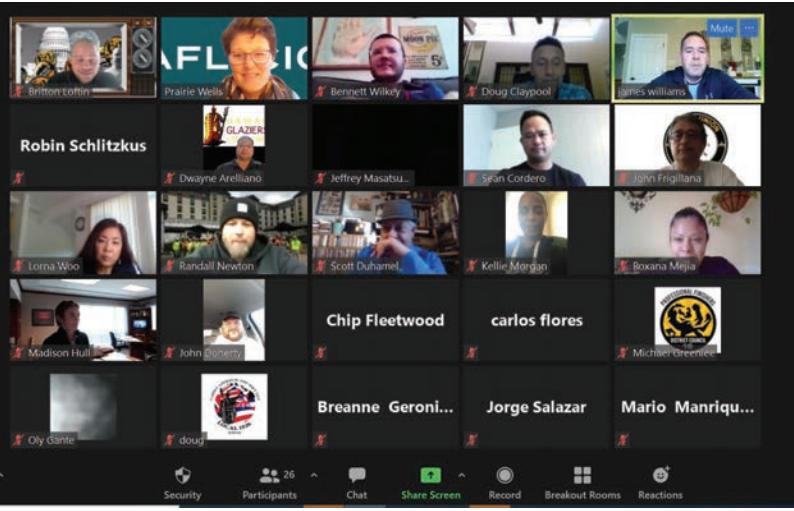
Union members made the difference in this election, and it showed in the work done by the affiliates, state federations and labor councils.



AFL-CIO UNION AFFILIATES GOT OUT THE VOTE

When the Jan. 5 runoff elections were announced in November, AFL-CIO-affiliated unions mobilized at lightning speed to elect Jon Ossoff and the Rev. Raphael Warnock. It's truly safe to say that union members stepped up and made the difference in this election.

Across the country, day in and day out, AFL-CIO affiliates made phone calls and handwrote postcards to distribute to voters in Georgia. Many held phone-bank parties, lit-drop events and get-out-the-vote celebrations. Our affiliated unions knew what was on the line, which is why everyone immediately heeded the call to action. Through tremendous and tireless teamwork, dedication and drive, America's labor movement got out the vote to millions of Georgians and successfully flipped the Senate.



AFL-CIO UNION AFFILIATES GOT OUT THE VOTE



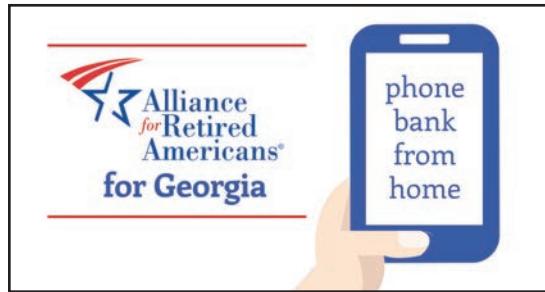
AFL-CIO CONSTITUENCY GROUPS STEPPED UP

The AFL-CIO's constituency groups build bridges between the labor movement and our community partners, and at no time was that work more important than it was in Georgia's Senate runoffs. Our six constituency groups stepped up in every way possible, from phone banks to literature drops to postcards. Every step of the way, the members of our constituency groups helped lead this campaign both on the ground and virtually. The AFL-CIO recognizes:

- A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI), led by President Clayola Brown (Workers United).
- Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA), led by President Monica Thammarath (CTA).
- Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU), led by President Terry Melvin (CSEA-AFSCME).
- Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW), led by President Elise Bryant (TNG-CWA).
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA), led by National President Yanira Merino (LIUNA).
- Pride At Work (P@W), led by Co-Presidents Shellea Allen (SAG-AFTRA) and Gabe González (WBNG-CWA).



AFL-CIO CONSTITUENCY GROUPS STEPPED UP



GEORGIA COMMUNITY GROUPS GOT THE WORK DONE

Across the state of Georgia, community groups with ties to the labor movement came together to get out the vote for the Rev. Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff. Each and every day, these groups got the work done, and the labor movement is forever grateful for their contributions.

One weekend, the Coalition for the People's Agenda and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Green Fund rallied volunteers at shopping malls to drop literature and educate community members on the voter registration deadline. On another day, volunteers from Georgia STAND-UP made calls to potential voters. On Election Day, The New Georgia Project offered rides to the polls. And on one special occasion, Stacey Abrams and her voter advocacy group Fair Fight crafted a video thanking the Atlanta-North Georgia Labor Council and all Georgia union members for everything they had done in this runoff election.

Thanks to these groups going above and beyond in the field, we now have a pro-worker majority in the U.S. Senate. The AFL-CIO thanks America Votes, Georgia STAND-UP, the Coalition for the People's Agenda, Mi Familia Vota, Fair Fight, The New Georgia Project, the Asian American Advocacy Fund and the HBCU Green Fund for their hard work.



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