



Peachtree NORML Voter Guide

(With thanks to Texas NORML)

2014 General Election Edition

Early Voting: October 13, 2014—October 31, 2014

Election Day: November 4, 2014 Polls open from 7 am to 7 pm

Cast an Informed Vote in the General Election

This Peachtree NORML Voter Guide was compiled, published and funded by the Georgia affiliate of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML). Our goal is to help voters cast an educated vote when they go to the polls. We encourage informed and active participation in our government. In Georgia, we have no ballot initiatives and are therefore solely reliant on our Elected Officials. Below are the 6 questions we posed to the Candidates (**and, how they are each referenced in the responses**):

1. Would you support legislation that would allow Cannabis (Marijuana) to be re-legalized, taxed and regulated in a manner similar to alcohol and tobacco, for use by adults twenty-one (21) years of age and older? (**Legalization**)
2. Would you support legislation that would allow doctors to prescribe/recommend Cannabis (Marijuana) to patients who could benefit from its medical uses? (**Medicine**)
3. Would you support patients and/or providers using an affirmative defense for Medical Cannabis (Marijuana) use? (**Defense**)
4. Would you support legislation that would reschedule Cannabis (Marijuana) so that U.S. scientists could conduct research in human clinical trials and further understand cannabinoids and their benefits? (**Research**)
5. Would you support legislation that would re-legalize and regulate Industrial Hemp for agricultural use (textiles, fuel, etc.)? (**Hemp**)
6. Would you support legislation that would change simple Marijuana (Cannabis) possession of one ounce or less to a Misdemeanor, saving law enforcement resources and **millions** in tax payer dollars? (**Decriminalization**)

Party	Total Number of Candidates	Number Sent to/Called	Number of Respondents
Democrat	125	125	17
Republican	190	190	6
Libertarian	4	4	3
Independent	5	5	1
Total	324	324	27

Candidate replies were printed without verification. Peachtree NORML does not support or oppose any political party or candidate. The responses do not reflect Peachtree NORML's opinion, views, or stance.

What to Take to the Polls?

When you go to vote, take your registration certificate with you. If you do not provide a voter registration certificate, you may vote by providing some other form of identification. You will be allowed to vote if your name appears on the rolls in your county of residence. The following are acceptable forms of identification for the November 4, 2014, election:

- Drivers license
- Another form of identification containing your photograph
- United States citizenship papers
- Official mail addressed to you from a governmental entity
- Current utility bill
- Government check, or other government document that shows your name and address.
- Personal identification card issued by the Dept. of Public Safety
- Birth certificate
- United States passport
- Pay check that shows your name and address
- Bank statement

U.S. SENATOR

Amanda Swafford (L)

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr. (D) District 4

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes.

Thomas Dee Wight (D) District 7

Legalization – Yes -
Medical – No
Defense – No
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

Comments: I favor legislative and regulatory structure that treats marijuana exactly like we treat tobacco.

David Donald Vogel (D) District 9

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

GOVERNOR

Andrew T. Hunt (L)

Legalization – No
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

Comments: The candidate supports decriminalization, but believes that legalization would encourage too much recreational consumption.

SECRETARY OF STATE

Doreen Carter (D)

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

Ted Metz (L)

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

Comments: Cannabis in all its forms should not be a crime. It should be un-prohibited, un-propagandized and un-stigmatized.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

William Jeffrey "Jeff" Langley (R) Enotah Districts 20 & 21

Legalization – No
Medical – No
Defense – No
Research – Unprepared to answer
Hemp – No
Decriminalization – No response

STATE SENATOR

Tamara Y. Johnson (D) District 40

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

Francisco Xavier Rodriguez Artley (R) District 35

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – No

Timothy Andrew Swiney (D) District 9

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

Comments: I support legalization of Marijuana possession, use and cultivation for adults 21 years of age and over.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Erick E. Allen (D) District 40

Legalization – No
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – No
Decriminalization – Yes

Comments: I am open to the discussion on questions 1 and 5 but I would need to receive/gather more information.

Bill Bozarth (I) District 54

Legalization – No

Medical – Yes

Defense – Yes

Research – Yes

Hemp – Yes

Decriminalization – Yes

Comments: "I am strongly in favor of de-criminalizing use and small-time possession of Marijuana. Making criminals out of these people does not serve them or the society at large. At this time, I do not believe the people of Georgia are ready for full legalization. That day may come, but it is not now.

Medical use needs more studies to fully understand the secondary effects of treatment for autism, etc. However, we should remove the barriers to the relief of suffering while we learn more from our research. "

Buzz Brockway (R) District 102

Legalization – No Response

Medical – No*

Defense – No Response

Research – No Response

Hemp – No Response

Decriminalization – No*

*Answers received via votesmart.org. Candidate Brockway forwarded us to his answers on this survey stating that he only answers one survey per year.

<http://votesmart.org/candidate/political-courage-test/122858/buzz-brockway/#.VEpojTx0zmI>

Christopher Deraney (R) District 78

Legalization – Yes

Medical – Yes

Defense – Yes

Research – Yes

Hemp – Yes

Decriminalization – Yes

Virgil Fludd (D) District 64

Legalization – No

Medical – Yes

Defense – No

Research – Yes

Hemp – Yes

Decriminalization – Yes

Comments: To answer question 1, Mr. Fludd said he would need more information on the health benefits and consequences of usage.

Richard C. Garrett (D) District 13

Legalization – Yes

Medical – Yes

Defense – Yes

Research – Yes

Hemp – Yes

Decriminalization - Yes

Renita Hamilton (D) District 105

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization - Yes.

Brett Harrell (R) District 106

Would not take the survey
Comment: "I have no opposition this cycle"

Sadie Jenkins (D) District 157

Legalization – No
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – No
Decriminalization – No

Comments: "The 'NO' answers denote: not without further information on industrial use.

The last question brings up the need to look at laws and enforcement for possession of all drugs. The prisons are too full of inmates who could have been given a misdemeanor and alternative sentencing. "

Ronnie Mabra (D) District 63

Legalization – No
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – No

Comments: Medical use and under the care and supervision of a doctor is a step in the right direction. We need more information on other uses. Thanks!

Howard Mosby (D) District 83

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

Dylan L. Patrick (D) District 15

Legalization – Yes
Medical – Yes
Defense – Yes
Research – Yes
Hemp – Yes
Decriminalization – Yes

Comments: When marijuana remains illegal and on the black market it is able to become a cash crop for illegal drug cartels that produce harder drugs and participate in violent crime. If marijuana is indeed a gateway drug when it's made illegal and sold by street dealers, I believe that would change if it was made available from legal sources, regulated and distributed to adults 21 and over on the condition they not sell it or share it with minors.

Pat Rhudy (D) District 18

Legalization – Yes

Medical – Yes

Defense – Yes

Research – Yes

Hemp – Yes

Decriminalization – Yes

Earnest Smith (D) District 125

Legalization – No

Medical – Yes

Defense – Yes

Research – Yes

Hemp – Yes

Decriminalization – No Response

Comments: "There must be "" Stringent "" Guidelines in place prior to Any Wholesale usage initiatives of Cannabinoids in the State of Georgia.

We must not engage in the Hypocrisy of "" Hypocrisy "" for all of the inmates presently incarcerated, and those Georgians presently on Probation for using, and or selling marijuana prior to this particular time in Georgia's Progressive history..."

Jason Chauncey Spencer (R) District 180

Legalization – Yes

Medical – Yes

Defense – Yes

Research – Yes

Hemp – Yes

Decriminalization – Yes