

**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON
CITY OF SOUTH FULTON**

RESOLUTION No. 2018-047

**A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE CITY'S HOLIDAY SCHEDULE TO
RECOGNIZE ELECTION DAY AS AN ANNUAL, OFFICIAL CITY HOLIDAY AND FOR
OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES**

(Sponsored by Councilman khalid)

WHEREAS, the City of South Fulton ("City") is a municipal corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia;

WHEREAS, the duly elected governing authority of the City is the Mayor and Council thereof ("City Council");

WHEREAS, the City seeks to increase voter participation by fostering a "culture of voting;"

WHEREAS, the City wishes to promote opportunities for resident voters to engage in the democratic process and compensate staff for participation in the Saturday Electoral College event;

WHEREAS, a 2014 Pew Research Study found that non-voters are typically younger voters, more racially diverse, less educated and more financially strapped, and 2010 United States Census Data show City residents reflect these demographics;

WHEREAS, Election Day is already a holiday in Puerto Rico in presidential election years, and throughout the late 20th century, turnout for Puerto Rico's quadrennial elections was 50 percent higher than it was for presidential contests in the United States;

WHEREAS, voter turnout in the United States is among the lowest in the world, and voter turnout in Georgia is among the lowest in the United States;

WHEREAS, the City holds elections every November, for state and federal offices in even-numbered years, and City Council in odd-numbered years; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to safeguard and promote the public health, safety, and general welfare of all citizens through the adoption of this Resolution.

**NOW THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH FULTON
HEREBY RESOLVES** as follows:

Section 1.

1. **Observation of Holiday.** The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November is hereby declared "Election Day" in the City and shall be observed annually as an official paid holiday. City employees who are mission critical to Election Day will be offered flex time for the hours they work on Election Day.

2. **Local, State and Federal Encouragement.** The City Council hereby encourages:
 - a. Business owners in the City to give their employees sufficient time on Election Day to research election issues and participate in voting and volunteering;

 - a. Georgia municipal, county and school board leaders to enact Election Day resolutions for their employees and students;

 - b. State and Federal Leaders to adopt resolutions making Election Day an official holiday;

 - c. Voters to voice their concern for low voter turnout and become actively involved in the promotion and/or facilitation of Election Day voting.

Section 2. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that:

- (a) All sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Resolution are, or were, upon their enactment, believed by the City Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

- (b) To the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution. No section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution.

- (c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Resolution shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the City Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of the Resolution.

Section 3. All Resolutions and parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed.

Section 4. The effective date of this Resolution shall be the date of adoption unless provided otherwise by the City Charter or state and/or federal law.

Section 5. *Instruction to City Clerk:* The City Clerk is hereby directed to circulate a copy of this Resolution to all City employees, staff and officials.

The foregoing **RESOLUTION No. 2018-047**, adopted on **August 28, 2018**, was offered by Councilmember **khalid**, who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by **Mayor Pro Tem Baker**, and being put to a vote, the result was as follows:

	AYE	NAY
William "Bill" Edwards, Mayor	_____	_____
Mark Baker, Mayor Pro Tem	_____√_____	_____
Catherine Foster Rowell	_____	_____√_____
Carmalitha Lizandra Gumbs	_____√_____	_____
Helen Zenobia Willis	_____√_____	_____
Gertrude Naeema Gilyard	_____√_____	_____
Rosie Jackson	_____√_____	_____
khalid kamau	_____√_____	_____

THIS RESOLUTION adopted this 28th day of August 2018. CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA.

Became law - Monday, Sept. 17, 2018
WILLIAM "BILL" EDWARDS, MAYOR

ATTEST:


MARK MASSEY, CITY CLERK



ITEM# Res 2018-047 DATE 8/28/2018

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


EMILIA C. WALKER, CITY ATTORNEY