## **Statistical Analysis Challenges GA6 Runoff Results**

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ATLANTA GA – VoterGA released today advance copies of its comprehensive new <u>statistical analysis</u> for the reported results of the 6<sup>th</sup> District Special Election Runoff (GA6) held on June 20, 2017. The study was compiled during the last four months in conjunction with national elections integrity experts after controversies surrounding the Special Election and Runoff generated national skepticism. It employs widely accepted techniques in three different scenarios to assess the credibility of the reported results.

<u>VoterGA</u> co-founder Garland Favorito presented some of the key findings at the Georgia State Capitol. The study concludes it is statistically improbable that the runoff results showing Karen Handel defeating Jon Ossoff by a 51.78 to 48.22 margin are correct. The study reveals statistics that are unprecedented in the history of national electronic vote monitoring. As an example, it cited the facts that Ossoff won verifiable mail-in voting by a 64 to 36 percent margin although Republicans had a 61 to 39 percent turnout advantage in party affiliation for the mail-in votes.

The study rules out local tampering or fraud but cites statistics that outline how an undetectable hack manifesting externally through the Kennesaw State University's Center for Elections Systems (CES) could have altered the results. The statistics show early voting results disproportionally recorded votes in favor of Handel over Ossoff when compared to party affiliation of early voters. The disparity impacted as many as 11,400 votes in the election that was decided by 9,300 votes.

VoterGA members delivered the 70 page study to the Secretary of State's (SOS) office with a <u>letter</u> that calls for answers to key questions it raises. The study also raises questions about the role of CES in leaving Georgia's election system vulnerable to hacking earlier this year and last year. For example, it asks:

- Why did CES place GEMS election databases and voting system executables on their public web site?
- Why did the CES Executive Director fail to remediate vulnerabilities in the CES web site and notify the SOS office when they were discovered in 2016?

VoterGA members requested Secretary Kemp to immediately assemble any experts needed and schedule a public forum to address their concerns and those of the 6<sup>th</sup> District voters.