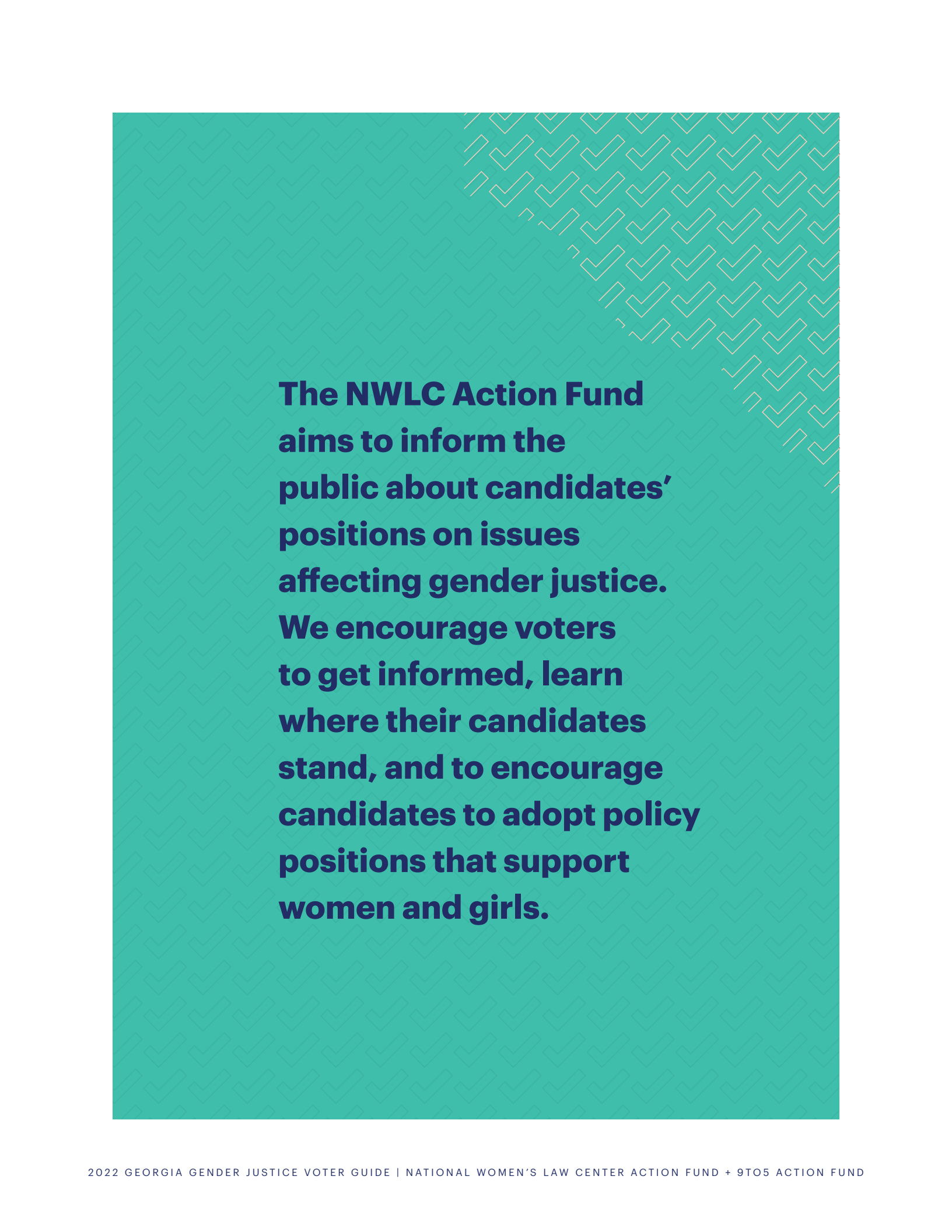




# 2022 Georgia Gender Justice Candidate Guide



**The NWLC Action Fund  
aims to inform the  
public about candidates'  
positions on issues  
affecting gender justice.  
We encourage voters  
to get informed, learn  
where their candidates  
stand, and to encourage  
candidates to adopt policy  
positions that support  
women and girls.**

# Georgia Secretary of State



Bee Nguyen	Policy	Brad Raffensperger
<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Protect and strengthen abortion and contraception access	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>	Fund affordable and accessible child care	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Strengthen paid family and medical leave	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Protect women, especially women of color, and others from discrimination and harassment in the workplace	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Raise the minimum wage	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Keep all children—including LGBTQI+ children and children of color—safe from discrimination and harassment	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Oppose censorship in school curricula	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Advance gun safety measures that keep schools free from gun violence	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>CHAMPION</b>	Expand voting access	<b>OPPOSES</b>
<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>	Build diverse courts that work for everyone	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>
<b>SUPPORTS</b>	Strengthen and expand access to maternal health care	<b>UNKNOWN POSITION</b>

NWLC Action Fund does not endorse candidates. These voter guides are an educational resource for the public and are not intended to be an endorsement of any candidate or political party. Candidates' positions on the issues are determined using recorded votes for and against legislation; statements from interviews, press appearances, press releases and candidate events; social media posts from verified accounts; and endorsements from organizations and associations.

**Champion:** This candidate has led legislative efforts addressing the issue, including introducing and/or co-sponsoring legislation; created an organization or association dedicated to supporting the issue; and/or made the issue stance a cornerstone of their campaign on their website or in speeches.

**Support:** A candidate is considered in support of an issue area if they have shown support for the majority of policies within the issue area.

**Unknown position:** We could not find a record of a clear policy position from this candidate during our research.

**Opposes:** A candidate is considered in opposition to an issue area if they have shown opposition for the majority of policies within the issue area.

## Bee Nguyen – Secretary of State

### **Abortion**

- Codify the right to abortion in-state and support the creation of a nationwide right that stops abortion bans and guarantees that the right and access to abortion does not depend on where a person lives.
  - » In a [statement](#) responding to her endorsement by NARAL, she said “Reproductive freedom across the country and in Georgia is under attack. As one of five sisters, I understand how essential the right to decide is for women and families. The fundamental right to make decisions about our bodies is about health, economic justice, and gender equality.”
  - » [Tweeted](#) that “women will die” because of the JWHO ruling
- Ensure that people’s access to health care is free from stigma, barriers, and restrictions, including abortion care, contraceptives, and maternal health care.
  - » Voted against [HB 481](#), banning abortion once a fetal heartbeat is detected
  - » She [testified against HB 481](#), including “Requiring rape and incest victims to file a police report...is cruel.” and “Why should any woman need to file a police report to obtain an abortion?”
  - » She has said [abortion](#) will be a large part of her campaign “saying the GOP support for anti-abortion measures is a sign that they ‘don’t care about women. That’s what our Georgia Legislature has told us,’ Nguyen said. ‘And we have been ringing the alarm bell before leader Abrams, before Raphael Warnock, before Senator Ossoff. And people discounted Georgia, and our Georgians have suffered tremendously.’”
- Make sure quality pregnancy supports are accessible, affordable, and culturally competent for all— including protections and supports, like doula access, are available that promote the health outcomes of Georgia’s pregnant people, especially Black women.
  - » Co-sponsored [HB188](#) to improve required pregnancy supports in Georgia
- Safeguard and expand access to contraception.
  - » Research into this candidate has yielded no statements indicating support or opposition
  - » Nguyen has not commented on contraception in particular but has been [endorsed](#) by NARAL Pro-Choice America.

### **Family Economic Security**

- Make millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share of taxes,
  - » Nyugen has not commented on fair tax policies.
- Help families with the rising cost of child care by investing in high-quality, affordable child care. – silent
  - » Nyugen has not commented on expanding child care.
- Establish universal paid family and medical leave.
  - Voted in support of [HB146](#), authorizing paid parental leave for eligible state and local board of education employees

- Protect women, especially women of color, and others from discrimination and harassment in the workplace.
  - » In 2020, Nguyen introduced a bill to combat harassment in the workplace. The bill didn't make it to the Georgia House floor, but she later [spoke on the issue on television](#).
- Pay workers fairly, including ensuring equal pay for all and raising the minimum wage to at least \$15/hour for all working people.
  - » Co-sponsored [HB116](#) "to provide for an increase in the minimum wage; to provide a credit toward the minimum wage for employers of tipped workers; to eliminate various eligibility exemptions from the minimum wage"
  - » Co-sponsored [HB 499](#) "to repeal certain provisions relating to the preemption of wage and employment benefit mandates adopted by a local government entity"
  - » In 2020, she [tweeted](#) in support of raising the minimum wage to at least \$15/hour

### **Education**

- Support students' ability to learn and be themselves by keeping them safe from discrimination and harassment in school.
  - » Nguyen has not commented on policies to keep students safe from discrimination
- Oppose efforts to fuel divisions in our communities by vilifying and excluding transgender students.
  - » Condemned a last minute amendment to HB 1084 to exclude transgender girls
- Oppose censorship of schools' ability to teach truth, including about race and gender and how they have been used to divide us.
  - » Voted against [HB1084](#), which limits how and what teachers can teach
    - In response to the bill, Nguyen said she feared a "[chilling effect](#)" and questioned if teachers could, "get in trouble for saying slavery is wrong?"
- Safeguard students' ability to live full, dignified lives free from gun violence.
  - » [Endorsed](#) by Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America
- Oppose discriminatory discipline policies in schools, including increased policing of students
  - » Nguyen has not commented on discriminatory discipline policies.
- Ensure full funding that meets every school's needs - including schools building safer environments by prioritizing COVID safety measures.
  - » Voted to pass [SB514](#), which provides "that no local board of education, local school superintendent, or school administrator, teacher, or other school personnel shall make or enforce any rule that requires a student to wear a face mask or face covering while present on school property unless such rule provides that a parent or guardian of such student may elect for his or her child to be exempt from such rule"

### **Democracy**

- Protect and expand access to the ballot and restore the Voting Rights Act.
- Cosponsored [HB1096](#) "to provide for drop boxes for use in returning absentee ballots; to provide for locations; to provide for requirements and operation; to provide for ballot collection"
- Co-sponsored [HB1612](#) "to provide for an additional form of identification for voting"

- Co-sponsored [HR28](#) “to remove a conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude as an exception to the right to register and vote”
- Co-sponsored [HR868](#) “to provide that all elections shall be free and fair; to provide that no power shall interfere with the free exercise of the right of suffrage”
- Co-sponsored [HB484](#) “to make primary and election days state holidays”
- Ensure all voters have equal access to the ballot box and their votes are counted fairly, including expanded early voting days, language access protections for Limited English Proficient (LEP) voters, and a district map that empowers all voters.
- Co-sponsored [HB252](#) to ensure access to same-day voter registration
- Improving elections and upholding their results are key parts of her campaign platform on her [website](#)
- Reshape the makeup of the judiciary by working with federal lawmakers to nominate and confirm judges with a strong record of supporting gender and racial justice issues and who affirmatively declare they will uphold equality, opportunity for all, individual liberty, and the freedom to make personal decisions about our bodies and relationships
- Nguyen has not commented on judiciary policy

## **Brad Raffensperger – Secretary of State**

### **Family Economic Security**

- Make millionaires and billionaires pay their fair share of taxes
  - » Raffensperger has not spoken about changes to tax policy.
- Help families with the rising cost of child care by investing in high-quality, affordable child care – silent
  - » Raffensperger has not commented on policies to expand access to high-quality, affordable child care.
- Establish universal paid family and medical leave
  - » Research into this candidate has yielded no statements indicating support or opposition
    - In 2018, Raffensperger [was endorsed](#) by the National Federation of Independent Business, which has called paid leave “[burdensome](#)” and has [testified](#) in front of Congress against federal paid leave programs
- Protect women, especially women of color, and others from discrimination and harassment in the workplace.
  - » Raffensperger has not commented on policies to address discrimination and harassment in the workplace
- Pay workers fairly, including ensuring equal pay for all and raising the minimum wage to at least \$15/hour for all working people
  - » Research into this candidate has yielded no statements indicating support or opposition
    - In 2018, Raffensperger was [endorsed](#) by the National Federation of Independent Business, which has [opposed](#) federal increases to the minimum wage and paying for [overtime](#)

### **Abortion**

- Brad Raffensperger has not made comments about abortion, maternal health, or contraception.
  - » Research into this candidate has yielded no statements indicating support or opposition
    - Raffensperger co-sponsored [HR1306](#) to support “life-affirming” pregnancy centers

### **Education**

- Brad Raffensperger has not made comments around protecting transgender youth, book bans, curriculum censorship, gun control, discipline policies, or COVID protection policies in schools.

### **Democracy**

- Protect and expand access to the ballot and restore the Voting Rights Act. –
  - » Ga. Secretary of State [says](#) his office is preparing for ‘routine’ voter purge to maintain election integrity
  - » Often [exaggerates](#) numbers for double voting
  - » In 2021, Raffensperger [purged](#) 100,000 names from Georgia’s voter registration rolls in an attempt to keep the state’s voter files “up to date”
  - » Long lines, poorly trained poll workers, and malfunctioning equipment plagued election sites in “majority-minority counties” - [all falling under the SS’s purview](#)



- Ensure all voters have equal access to the ballot box and their votes are counted fairly, including expanded early voting days, language access protections for Limited English Proficient (LEP) voters, and a district map that empowers all voters.
  - » Advancement Project National Office, along with a coalition of faith and civic engagement organizations, filed a [lawsuit](#) against Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger to block the implementation of Senate Bill 202, which undermines absentee voting, early voting, voting on election day, and allows the state to take over county elections
  - » A coalition of civil rights groups, including Fair Fight and PPFA, sent a letter to Raffensperger’s office, saying “After previously defending the integrity of the November 2020 election, Raffensperger has ‘embraced ongoing attempts by Fulton-centric conspiracy theorists to sow doubt in an election.’ He has ‘winked and nodded to the likes of a 9/11 truther and a bamboo-fiber-obsessed treasure hunter who are spearheading the Fulton County ballot resurrection and known for pushing violent election conspiracies,’ putting election workers at risk to protect his own political future.
  - » Banned ballot [harvesting](#), preventing third party groups from helping absentee voters submit their ballots
- Reshape the makeup of the judiciary by working with federal lawmakers to nominate and confirm judges with a strong record of supporting gender and racial justice issues and who affirmatively declare they will uphold equality, opportunity for all, individual liberty, and the freedom to make personal decisions about our bodies and relationships.
  - » Raffensperger has not commented on reshaping the judiciary.

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