

THE STATE CONSTITUTION OF GEORGIA. To perpetuate the principles of free government, insure justice to all, preserve peace, promote the interest and happiness of the citizens, and transmit to posterity the enjoyment of liberty, we, the people of Georgia, relying upon the protection and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish this Constitution. ARTICLE I. BILL OF RIGHTS. SECTION I. Paragraph I. Origin and Foundation of Government. All government, of right, originates with the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole. Public officers are the trustees and servants of the people, and at all times, amenable to them. Paragraph II. Protection the Duty of Government. Protection to person and property is the paramount duty of government, and shall be impartial and complete. Paragraph III. Life, Liberty, and Property. No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, except by due process of law. Paragraph IV. Right to the Courts. No person shall be deprived of the right to prosecute or defend his own cause in any of the courts of this State, in person, by attorney, or both. Paragraph V. Benefit of Counsel; Accusation; List of Witnesses; Compulsory Process. In every criminal case, the accused shall have the privilege and benefit of counsel; and a list of the witnesses on whose testimony the charge against him is based, shall be furnished to him, and he shall have the right to examine and cross-examine the witnesses against him; and shall have a public and speedy trial by an impartial jury. Paragraph VI. Criminality [sic], or Self Not Compelled. No person shall be compelled to be a witness against himself, or to furnish testimony tending in any manner to criminate himself. Paragraph VII. Banishment with Whipping as Punishment for Crime. Neither banishment beyond the limits of the State, nor whipping, as a punishment for crime, shall be allowed. Paragraph VIII. Jeopardy of Life or Liberty More Than Once Forbidden. No person shall be put in jeopardy of life or liberty, more than once for the same offense, save on his, or her own motion for a new trial after conviction, or in case of mistrial. Paragraph IX. Bail; Fines; Punishment; Arrest; Abuse of Prisoners. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted; nor shall any person be abused in being arrested, while under arrest, or in prison. Paragraph X. Costs. No person shall be compelled to pay costs except after conviction on final trial. Paragraph XI. Habeas Corpus. The writ of Habeas Corpus shall not be suspended. Paragraph XII. Freedom of Conscience. All men have the natural and inalienable right to worship God, each according to the dictates of his own conscience, and no human authority should, in any case, control or interfere with such right of conscience. Paragraph XIII. Religious Opinions; Liberty of Conscience. No inhabitant of this State shall be molested in person or property, or prohibited from holding any public office, or trust, on account of his religious opinions; but the right of liberty of conscience shall not be construed as to excuse acts of licentiousness, or justify practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the State. Paragraph XIV. Appropriations to Churches, Sects, Etc., Forbidden. No money shall ever be taken from the public Treasury, directly or indirectly, in aid of any church, sect, or denomination of religionists, or of any sectarian institution. Paragraph XV. Liberty of Speech or of the Press Guaranteed. No law shall ever be passed to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech, or of the press; any person may speak and publish his sentiments, on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty. Paragraph XVI. Searches, Seizures, and Warrants. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrant shall issue except upon probable cause, supported by oath, or affirmation, particularly describing the place, or places, to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized. Paragraph XVII. Slavery and Involuntary Servitude. There shall be within the State of Georgia neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, save as a punishment for crime after legal conviction thereof. Paragraph XVIII. Status of the Citizen. The social status of the citizen shall never be the subject of legislation. Paragraph XIX. Civil Authority Superior to Military. The civil authority shall be superior to the military, and no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war, except by the civil magistrate, in such manner as may be provided by law. Paragraph XX. Contempts. The power of the Court to punish for contempt shall be limited by legislative acts. Paragraph XXI. Imprisonment for Debt. There shall be no imprisonment for debt. Paragraph XXII. Arms, Right to Keep and Bear. The right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed, but the General Assembly shall have power to prescribe the manner in which arms may be borne. Paragraph XXIII. Legislative, Judicial, and Executive Powers, Separate. The legislative, judicial and executive powers shall forever remain separate and distinct, and no person discharging the duties of one, shall, at the same time, exercise the functions of either of the others, except as herein provided. Paragraph XXIV. Right to Assemble and Petition. The people have the right to assemble peaceably for their common good and to apply to those vested with the powers of government for redress of grievances by petition or remonstrance. Paragraph XXV. Citizens' Rights. No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law, or without just compensation. Paragraph XXVI. Private Property. Private property shall not be taken, or damaged, for public purposes, without just and adequate compensation being first paid by the applicant. Paragraph XXVII. Attainder; Ex Post Facto and Retroactive Laws, Etc. No Bill of Attainder, ex post facto law, retroactive law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or making irrevocable grant of special privileges or immunities, shall be passed. Paragraph XXVIII. Revocation of Tax Exemptions. All exemptions from taxation heretofore granted in corporate charters, shall be declared to be henceforth null and void. SECTION II. Paragraph I. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph II. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph III. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph IV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph V. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph VI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph VII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph VIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph IX. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph X. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XIV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XVI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XVII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XVIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XIX. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XX. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXIV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXVI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXVII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXVIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXIX. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXX. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXIV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXVI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXVII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXVIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XXXIX. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XL. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLIV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLVI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLVII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLVIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph XLIX. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph L. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LIV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LV. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LVI. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LVII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LVIII. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for which provision has been made by general laws. Paragraph LIX. General Laws; Uniform Operation; How Varied. Laws of a general nature shall have uniform operation throughout the State, and no special law shall be enacted in any case for