NAME: Kellie Austin PARTY: Republican

SEEKING: House District 102



Why are you seeking your office?

I seek to bring genuine relationship and integrity to Georgia politics. I believe that people matter over politics and we must begin to make decisions based on our community rather than to stay in power or please our donors. Our state legislature is the most local form of government in Georgia. We need a representative who cares about her community and is both available and completely trustworthy. I firmly believe that I am best equipped to fight for the best interests of my community and I am asking for my friends and neighbors to please Vote Kellie on May 22nd.

What do you expect to accomplish if elected?

I will reform our current school funding from the antiquated QBE model to one that is focused on benefiting our students and teachers, while expanding educational choice. I will work to allow our teachers to teach according to the learning needs of their students rather than a cookie-cutter generic standard. In accordance with the new federal decision to leave all cannabis decisions to the individual states, I will fight to expand legal access of medical CBD to all those suffering who could benefit from this non-addictive non-invasive alternative treatment. Georgia could and should be a leader in this medical industry.

What distinguishes your candidacy?

I'm the only candidate who understands this position and the political process, while never having a career funded by government officials. I am completely independent to represent the needs and best interest of my community and am not owned or controlled by any elected official or special interest donors.

I have solid relationships with other representatives, as well as with the candidates who will soon take office, including all of the Governor candidates. I work well with others and treat everyone with kindness and respect, even when we don't agree on every issue. I am trustworthy and live with integrity.

How can we improve school safety?

Each school needs an armed security officer dedicated to that school, rather than covering multiple schools in a cluster. Every school must also adhere to strict admittance policies, rather than some remaining unlocked for anyone to enter. An automatic lock-down to close and lock each pod door would ensure any threat is

isolated. As we build new schools, we should consider moving away from these massive institutional concepts, as the larger the "soft-target" the more attractive it becomes to some deranged lunatic. We should offer elective weapons education and safety training. Knowledge and understanding are the best remedies against violence.

Pick one issue. Expand on how you will address it.

A hundred years ago, in pre-prohibition era, agricultural hemp was one of our largest crops. Now that science has disproven the myth of "reefer madness" and Congress is removing the Schedule 1 status, 24 other states have passed enabling legislation and are pursuing agricultural hemp, including 2 of our neighboring states.

I will fight to ensure Georgia doesn't get left behind. Our farmers can regain our position as a leader in this billion-dollar market, and our manufacturing industry could flourish.

Implementing this kind of common-sense idea, we will lower taxes, increase funding for education and transportation, and grow our economy.

Please give a 100 word summary on your background:

A native Georgian, life experience has prepared me to represent diversity. I was married for a decade, then as a single mother supporting five children for 11 years I've been employed, worked in corporate and run a small business. I attended public-school, private-school, was home-schooled and attended two colleges for 3 years. My highest degree is a GED and I've experienced educational discrimination. One of my children is dyslexic and shown me how much more can be done through our educational system to benefit individual student needs. I've lived in poverty, worked myself off government subsidies, and been financially successful.