

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
ROME DIVISION

Common Cause/Georgia,
League of Women Voters of
Georgia, Inc., et al.,

Plaintiffs,

CIVIL ACTION FILE

v.

NO. 4:05-CV-0201-
HLM

Ms. Evon Billups, et al.,

Defendants.

ORDER

This case is before the Court on the State Defendants' Motion to Lift Stay of Proceedings and to Set Trial on the Merits [151].

On July 27, 2007, the State Defendants filed their Motion to Lift Stay of Proceedings and to Set Trial on the Merits. (Docket Entry No. 151.) The State Defendants request that the Court enter an Order lifting the stay imposed by the Court's September 28, 2006, Order. (Id. at 1.) The State Defendants also have requested

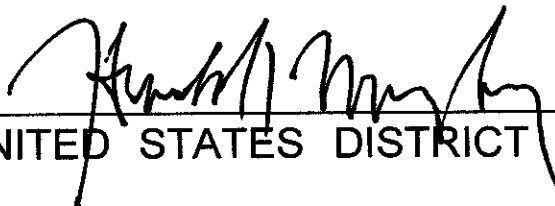
that the Court consolidate any further hearing on a request by Plaintiffs for a preliminary injunction with the final trial on the merits. (Id. at 1-2.)

On July 31, 2007, Plaintiffs responded to the Motion to Lift Stay of Proceedings and to Set Trial on the Merits. (Docket Entry No. 153.) In their response, Plaintiffs state that they consent to an Order lifting the stay of proceedings, and that they also consent to the consolidation of the hearing on Plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction with the final trial on the merits of this case. (Id. at 1-2.)

The Court **GRANTS** the State Defendants' Motion to Lift Stay of Proceedings and to Set Trial on the Merits [151]. The Court **LIFTS** the stay of the proceedings imposed by the Court's September 28, 2006, Order. The Court also **CONSOLIDATES** the hearing on Plaintiffs' request for a preliminary injunction with the final trial on the merits of this case. In preparation for the final trial

on the merits of the case, the Court **DIRECTS** the parties to file their proposed consolidated pretrial order and their trial briefs within ten days of the date of this Order. Finally, the Court **DIRECTS** the Clerk to set a date for the final trial on the merits of this case.

IT IS SO ORDERED, this the 1st day of August, 2007.


UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE