

State's voter ID law holds up in court 09/06/07

Federal judge rejects challenge

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The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Published on: 09/06/07

A federal judge in Rome has thrown out a lawsuit challenging Georgia's photo voter ID law.

In a ruling issued Thursday, U.S. District Judge Harold Murphy declined to issue an injunction suspending the law and also dismissed the case.

The plaintiffs failed to prove that the 2006 law's photo ID requirement unduly burdens the right to vote, Murphy ruled.

The fate of Georgia's much-debated photo voter ID law hung in the balance with local elections scheduled in 23 counties, including Fulton, on Sept. 18. Murphy held hearings on the federal lawsuit late last month. The state Supreme Court this summer dismissed a similar suit filed in Fulton County Superior Court.