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## **FJP Statement on Georgia Legislature’s Latest Anti-Democratic Efforts to Create Prosecutor Oversight Commission**

[Fair and Just Prosecution](#) Executive Director Miriam Krinsky issued the following statement in response to Georgia Gov. Brian Kemp signing into law [Senate Bill 332](#) (“S.B. 332”) – a renewed effort (after the last attempt was rejected by Georgia’s Supreme Court) – to put into place an unelected Professional Attorneys Qualifications Commission to investigate local district attorneys and solicitors general, this time without the need for the state Supreme Court to approve that entity’s rules:

“Today, Gov. Brian Kemp signed into law a bill that would allow a commission of appointed members to unilaterally investigate and discipline locally elected prosecutors with whom they disagree. After the Georgia Supreme Court declined to approve the rules of conduct enacted by the commission, as required by a previous version of this law, the legislature passed this latest legislation allowing the commission to operate without the Court’s approval. In removing the Court’s oversight, S.B. 332 allows a group of partisan appointees to remove duly elected officials – individuals who have been chosen by their communities to carry out their vision of justice.

Despite claims to the contrary, this law is not about public safety, but instead stems from efforts by some state leaders to erode well-established [prosecutorial independence and discretion](#) and substitute their views for that of voters who think differently than them. As more than 80 criminal justice leaders argued in an [amicus brief](#), the oversight commission threatens the very foundations of our democracy by infringing on the rights of voters to be represented by their chosen elected leaders. In doing so, these actions undermine the integrity of the criminal legal system and erode trust in our democracy. And our communities will suffer as a result.”

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*Fair and Just Prosecution is a national network of elected prosecutors working towards common-sense, compassionate criminal justice reforms. To learn more about FJP’s work, visit our [website](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).*