

## Campaign Update: What Georgians Need to Know

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While David Perdue's Senate tenure is replete with examples of corruption and self-dealing, at this time Georgia voters still need to be informed specifically about his outrageous COVID-related stock trading while lying to the public about the threat.

All voters need to see and hear and voters on the go need to know:

- Though he was briefed repeatedly in Washington on the threat, David Perdue **repeatedly lied** to the public about the dangers of Coronavirus while using his insider knowledge to line his own pockets.
- On January 24th, the same day the US Senate was given a classified briefing on Coronavirus, David Perdue bought medical equipment stock. He then dumped casino shares and bought vaccine stock. David Perdue traded up to fourteen million in stock while repeatedly telling the public the virus posed little threat.

*September 12, 2020*

### BACKGROUND

**11Alive News:** "Both of Georgia's US Senators are under fire for allegedly trying to profit from the Coronavirus pandemic ... David Perdue bought and sold stock shortly after a private Senate briefing on the virus, a classified briefing ... Republican Senator David Perdue's financial portfolio was very active ... all following a private US Senate briefing January 24th on the spreading threat of Coronavirus ... Records show that Perdue ... did purchase between \$63,000 and \$245,000 worth of stock in Pfizer, a pharmaceutical company now developing a Coronavirus vaccine ... the transactions are raising questions about whether Georgia's two wealthy US Senators are getting even richer with early knowledge of the virus's threat."

LINK: <https://www.11alive.com/article/news/health/coronavirus/perdue-loeffler-stock-trades/85-885ed523-9733-4f2d-b3c3-7b75524c490b>

**Business Insider:** "Sen. David Perdue Bought Stock In A Company That Produces Protective Medical Equipment The Same Day Senators Received A Classified Briefing On The Coronavirus"

LINK: <https://www.businessinsider.com/coronavirus-david-perdue-bought-stock-company-producing-ppe-after-briefing-2020-4>

**Atlanta Journal Constitution:** "He invested up to \$245,000 in Pfizer, the

pharmaceutical company”

LINK: <https://www.ajc.com/news/state--regional-govt--politics/perdue-loeffler-among-senators-whose-stock-trading-during-coronavirus-raises-questions/YjEYsWqAVwZh52HTp1EpL/>

**Atlanta Journal Constitution:** “Perdue Sold Up To \$165,000 In Stocks For Caesar Entertainment, The Casino And Hotel Company Whose Facilities Had Shuttered To Help Combat The Spread Of Coronavirus”

LINK: <https://www.ajc.com/news/state--regional-govt--politics/perdue-loeffler-among-senators-whose-stock-trading-during-coronavirus-raises-questions/YjEYsWqAVwZh52HTp1EpL/>

**Atlanta Journal Constitution:** “the senator invested up to \$50,000 in streaming provider Netflix”

LINK: <https://www.ajc.com/news/state--regional-govt--politics/david-perdue-stock-trading-saw-uptick-coronavirus-took-hold/MRWmzwXeHgxi6lcmBbPgaN/>

## DOWNPLAYING THE CRISIS

### Perdue describing the number of people affected by the Coronavirus

**Perdue:** “It’s the balance between being precautionary and overreacting. And I think we have to realize that the risk of this virus in the United States right now still remains low... The normal mortality rate of the normal flu is well under 1%. This so far is over 1%, but you know, so far, very, very few people have been exposed to it in the United States... So I think we're doing what we should do right now. I don't want to see America panic and overreact.”

LINK: <https://www.iheart.com/podcast/53-the-valleys-morning-28270541/episode/us-senator-from-georgia-david-perdue-59060056> (06:35)

### Perdue about the risk the Coronavirus posed to the American people

**Perdue:** “It’s the balance between being precautionary and overreacting. And I think we have to realize that the risk of this virus in the United States right now still remains low... The normal mortality rate of the normal flu is well under 1%. This so far is over 1%, but you know, so far, very, very few people have been exposed to it in the United States... So I think we're doing what we should do right now. I don't want to see America panic and overreact.”

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### **Perdue comparing the Coronavirus to the flu**

**Perdue:** “Let's all recognize that this COVID-19 crisis is nowhere near what was being forecast back in March. So we're about 80,000 deaths in the United States, and we don't want to lose anybody. But we've had ordinary flu seasons with more deaths than we're seeing now in this one. So we're now trying to get a balance between the human cost of the disease and human costs of having an economy like ours shutdown.”

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4ksWxl7hbg> (00:00)

### **Perdue saying the Coronavirus was not as bad as it was “projected” to be**

**Perdue:** “The numbers projected were supposed to be much worse than they have been, and I give the president and his protocols a lot of credit for the numbers not being worse than they are.”

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BBPsC6lOQgM> (00:00)

### **Perdue saying that the Coronavirus response had been “going very well”**

**Interviewer:** “The reopening was early. It was somewhat controversial, then it was, I think, lauded and sort of pointed to as a way to do things where it might not — there might not be any recriminations about it, shall we say? Are we still there? We're always going to offset economic costs and health concerns I guess, to some extent, Senator. Would you say it's going well in your state?” **Perdue:** “It's going very well, Joe.”

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOdcO9JwKtA> (00:00)

### **Perdue said active cases were “not rising in Georgia” and “we've had no real spikes in death or infections”**

**Perdue:** “You know, we're following the President's three-phase plan to reopen the economy. We're doing it judiciously. Active cases are not rising in Georgia. We've had no real spikes and deaths or infections. We're following a similar curve to other countries that are ahead of us in this virus. But we're being very careful. We're following the protocols.”

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZOdcO9JwKtA> (00:30)

### **Perdue said he did not think there would be a “significant uptick” in cases**

**Perdue:** “The President put me on a task force to determine the best way to do that. We're trying every day to judiciously provide information so that the states can decide on their own how they want to treat this. Our state is moving through phase one now of the President's plan. And if we follow the curve that every other country has had, we're not going to have a significant uptick in cases.”

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBa3Onl8JOU> (00:00)

### **Perdue said deaths were “actually continuing to decline”**

**Perdue:** “Well, we've seen an uptick in some areas. But remember, the new cases are trending much younger. It's summer, a lot of young people are being active. Some are not wearing a mask as they should, as we are here in the Senate. But I applaud what the governor has done; he followed the President's three-phase plan. We opened our economy, one of the first. And what we are seeing is if we follow the protocols, we can continue to open this economy with no downside effect. Now, here's the problem: While cases are going up in Georgia, the good news is that deaths are actually continuing to decline.”

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2lks3r70cw> (00:05)

### **Perdue said that things in Georgia were “going as well as they could be expected”**

**Perdue:** “I think things in Georgia right now are going as well as they could be expected. And I think we have to continue on that train.”

LINK: <https://www.cnbc.com/video/2020/07/15/sen-david-perdue-on-georgias-reopening-process-amid-covid-19-pandemic.html> (04:40)

### **Perdue said the Senate was getting briefed “just about every day”**

**Perdue:** “We get updates here just about every day” (00:35)

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LaKk3KdbAnM&feature=youtu.be&t=35>

**Perdue said hit to economic growth would be “little”**

***Perdue***: It will probably hit our economic growth a little bit this year (02:38)

LINK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=siL6dcu2KNk>