



Advancing Justice-Atlanta Strongly opposes SR 675 (english-only constitutional amendment) at Capitol

NORCROSS, GA , February 26, 2016 — NORCROSS, GA - In the Georgia State Senate, SR 675, a bill that would declare English as the official language of the State of Georgia, is scheduled for a floor vote today. Advancing Justice-Atlanta strongly opposes such mean-spirited and anti-immigrant legislation.

Just two days ago, Advancing Justice-Atlanta staff member, Raymond Partolan, testified in opposition to a separate anti-immigrant bill. After sharing an overview of the struggles he has had to face in Georgia as an undocumented immigrant with Deferred Action (DACA), he was told by a Senator that his testimony amounted to a “PR Ploy.”

The actions of the Senator are inexcusable because they diminish the value of immigrant testimony in the lawmaking process, even when they are honest reactions to how bills would affect their families and communities. The bill would limit immigrants to only do business in English, hurting our ethnically diverse business community that Georgia wants to continue to attract. It would also negatively impact domestic violence providers, homeless shelters, and other needed public services. This bill is part of several bills aimed at limiting access to services, limiting civic participation to immigrants, and overall limiting Asian American rights.

Executive Director, Stephanie Cho, commented, “We already have a problem across the board with Asian Americans and civic participation. Anti-immigrant bills, like SR 675, are harmful and limit our important contributions to Georgia”

Advancing Justice-Atlanta urges people in opposition to SR 675 and other anti-immigrant legislation to call 1-877-721-4575, wait to be connected with their Senator, and tell them to vote NO on SR 675.

For more information about Asian Americans Advancing Justice, call 404-585-8446 or email info@advancingjustice-atlanta.org.

About Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta (formerly Asian American Legal Advocacy Center or AALAC) is the first non-profit law center dedicated to Asian immigrants and refugees (“Asian Americans”) in the Southeast.

Our goal is to engage, educate and empower under-represented Asian Americans to greater civic participation.

We are one of five independent organizations that make up the national Asian Americans Advancing Justice. Together with our affiliates in Chicago, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco, we bring more than 100 years of collective experience in addressing the civil rights issues faced by Asian Americans and other vulnerable and underserved communities. Visit www.advancingjustice-atlanta.org.