

2013

**GEORGIA
ASIAN AMERICAN
& PACIFIC ISLANDER
LEGISLATIVE DAY**



**2013 Georgia Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) Legislative Day:
Bringing AAPI Issues to the Forefront at the Georgia Capitol**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Atlanta, Georgia, February 28, 2013 –

Over 100 Asian American & Pacific Islander (AAPI) leaders from all across Georgia will gather at the State Capitol on Thursday, Feb. 28, 2013, to celebrate 2013 Georgia AAPI Legislative Day. (See www.aapilegislativeday-ga.com). “The number of AAPIs in Georgia has increased by more than 83% from 2000 – 2010 according to the U.S. Census report. Elected officials should take notice that our votes matter. This day is a terrific opportunity for our voices to be heard in Georgia, to inform the legislature of the concerns in our AAPI communities,” says Bonnie Youn, Chair of the 2013 Steering Committee and immigration attorney.

The celebration will include an official photo with Georgia Governor Nathan Deal and a reading of the House Resolution recognizing the day, sponsored by Rep. BJay Pak (R - 108), the first Korean American elected to the GA legislature. The issues that participants will raise include the need for more AAPI judges and government officials, rebooting a new AAPI Commission for Georgia, and supporting a bill to ease state licensing renewal requirements for US citizens. Rep. Pak states, “Diversity is of great value to the state of Georgia. Appointing more judges and government officials from different backgrounds can certainly benefit our community and the state as a whole. More professionals and small business owners from different backgrounds may be attracted to the state if they see more dynamics here.”

Programming throughout the day will include the Second Annual Legislative Breakfast hosted by the Asian American Legal Advocacy Center (AALAC) beginning at 7:30 am, and an Advocacy Training session with a recognized panel of experts. The day will culminate in a Luncheon keynoted by Georgia Secretary of State Brian Kemp, and featuring Rep. Pak, Atlanta City Council Member Alex Wan, Rep. Pedro Marin (D – 96), and other invited elected officials.

The special Advocacy Training session will be of particular interest to participants who want to learn more about the Georgia legislative process, and how to effectively promote AAPI issues. The session will feature a blockbuster panel including:

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- The Honorable Alvin T. Wong, State Court of DeKalb County, who is the first elected AAPI judge in the Southeast;
- Glenn Magpantay, Director of the Democracy Project at the Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund (AALDEF);
- Mike Vaquer, a recognized Georgia lobbying expert and Principal of The Vaquer Firm; and
- Farooq Mughal, Georgia policy expert and Managing Partner of MS Global Partners, and current chair of the AAPI Caucus of the Georgia Democratic Party.

Magpantay will provide AALDEF's latest briefing and analysis of AAPI voter information following the 2012 elections, with a focus on Georgia AAPI voters. In 2012, he coordinated the nation's largest multilingual exit poll of AAPIs, surveying over 9,000 voters in 14 states and 37 cities.

The Advocacy Training and a barbecue Luncheon will be held at the Georgia Railroad Freight Depot, 65 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. All programs are open to the public with advance registration, and seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis with preference given to Sponsors, which include UPS and the Law Office of Hung Nguyen.

Media are invited to join a special press conference held between 12:20 - 12:35 pm at the Railroad Depot, to address elected officials and panelists. For additional information, visit www.aapilegislativeday-ga.com, or contact Public Relations Liaison Lillie Madali at lillie.madali@gmail.com, Tel. (404) 218-0061.

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PRESS ADVISORY

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“The number of AAPIs in Georgia has increased by more than 83% from 2000 – 2010 according to the U.S. Census report. Elected officials should take notice that our votes matter. This day is a terrific opportunity for our voices to be heard in Georgia, to inform the legislature of the concerns in our AAPI communities,” says Bonnie Youn, Chair of the 2013 Steering Committee and immigration attorney.

The Luncheon will feature keynote speaker Brian Kemp, Georgia Secretary of State, and Rep. BJay Pak (R – 108), Atlanta City Councilman Alex Wan, and Rep. Pedro Marin (D – 96). A complete program of the day is attached.

A special Advocacy Training session will be of particular interest to participants who want to learn more about the Georgia legislative process, and how to effectively promote AAPI issues. The session will feature a blockbuster panel including:

- The Honorable Alvin T. Wong, State Court of DeKalb County, who is the first elected AAPI judge in the Southeast;
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panel will also discuss the need for more AAPI judges and government officials, rebooting a new AAPI Commission for Georgia, and supporting a bill to ease state licensing renewal requirements for US citizens.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES AT THE GEORGIA CAPITOL:

- Formal Photo with the Governor, 10 a.m., North Wing Steps
- Reading of the House Resolution, 10:20 a.m., Georgia House Chamber and Ante-Room, 3rd Floor.

PRESS CONFERENCE

- Media are invited to join a special press conference held between 12:20 - 12:35 pm at the Georgia Railroad Freight Depot, the Blue Room, 65 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334, to address elected officials and panelists.
- Press are invited to take photos and ask questions.

MEDIA CREDENTIALS:

- **At the Georgia Railroad Freight Depot, from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m., and from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.,** there are NO credentialing requirements to attend, but please RSVP to: aapilegisday@gmail.com
- **At the Georgia Capitol, from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.,** to gain access to the House Chamber and Floor, media credentialing must be provided in advance. Please follow guidelines at <http://www.aapilegislativeday-ga.com/pressmedia.html>:

1. E-mail us at aapilegisday@gmail.com and provide the following information:
 - Your Name & Contact Information
 - Your employer and brief summary of what they are
 - What day and time you will be at the State Capitol to cover the event and how long you will be there
 - The reason for being at the event
 - What you plan to do at the event
 - Your photo headshot
2. We will contact Representative BJay Pak on your behalf, to provide a list press/media covering the event. We will obtain permission from Rep. Pak's office to vouch for this list so that his legislative aide can attach and e-mail it to J.D. Easley at john.easley@house.ga.gov for approval.

3. YOU MUST READ AND FOLLOW the House Floor Rules. (SEE attached PDF "House Floor Rules").

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THURSDAY, FEB. 28, 2013, 7:30 AM – 2:00 PM
AT THE GEORGIA CAPITOL & RAILROAD DEPOT
WEBSITE: www.AAPILegislativeDay-GA.com



We cordially invite you to join us as Georgia Asian American & Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) spend a day at the Georgia Capitol, meeting elected officials, and educating each other about issues that impact our communities. AAPI Communities will learn how lobbying works, and how Georgia's laws are made or amended. We hope to create a meaningful dialogue between our AAPI communities and those who represent us.

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST: 7:30 - 9:30 am

Hosted by the [Asian American Legal Advocacy Center \(AALAC\)](#)

LOCATION: [GA Railroad Freight Depot, 65 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334](#)

TO ATTEND THE BREAKFAST, REGISTER at the [AALAC Event Page](#). Cost: \$20+

REGISTRATION: 9:30 - 10:00 am

LOCATION: [THE GEORGIA CAPITOL, 206 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, GA 30334](#)

MEET INSIDE BUILDING AT GRAND STAIRCASE. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

CELEBRATION AT THE CAPITOL: 10:00 - 11:00 am

LOCATION: [THE GEORGIA CAPITOL, 206 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, GA 30334](#)

- Photo with Governor & Legislators at the North Wing Capitol Steps (Inside).
- Reading of AAPI Legislative Day Resolution on the House Floor.

LOBBY TRAINING & LUNCHEON: 11:00 am - 2 pm

PLEASE NOTE: SEATING IS LIMITED. This program is available 1st come, 1st serve, up to 125 with priority given to LEGISLATORS & SPONSORS. [SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES](#) AVAILABLE.

LOCATION: [GA Railroad Freight Depot, 65 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30334](#)

AAPI Lobby Issues:

- Appointment of more AAPI judges and government officials in Georgia
- Request to amend HB 87 to ease state licensing renewal ID requirements for US citizens
- Resolution to create and appoint a new AAPI Commission for Georgia

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THE
DATE
FEBRUARY 28
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Legislative Chair: Rep. BJay Pak, the first Korean American elected to the Georgia General Assembly.
For more information, visit www.AAPILegislativeDay-GA.com or contact the Steering Committee: AAPILegisDay@gmail.com.

[Sponsorship Packages Available](#)

House Floor Rules

It is the intention of these rules to allow access by the media to the members of the Georgia House of Representatives while minimizing distractions and disruption of House proceedings while in session.

1. After devotion, properly credentialed members of the news media may enter the House floor.
2. Reporters may have access to the floor of the House of Representatives only to request that a member leave the floor for an interview. Following the request, reporters must leave the floor immediately.
3. No interviews may be conducted on the House floor while the House is in session. Interviews may be taken in the South ante room or in the capitol hallways. The South ante room is located between the Speaker's office and the House Chamber. The media alcoves on the 3rd and 4th floors are well suited for interviews.
4. Photographers and camerapersons may have access to the House floor while the House is in session, but must stay along the walls and as out of the way as possible. They cannot conduct interviews on the floor.
5. Media may NOT stand around the door between the South ante room and the House floor. If you need to find a representative, please enter the floor of the House of Representatives, walk away from the door way, and look for the representative while standing along a wall.
6. Media may NOT enter or use the center aisle. Nor may any media encroach upon the area around the well.
7. Members of the media may NOT enter the North ante room (by the television/radio press gallery).
8. Photographers and television camerapersons may NOT film or record the desk or any document or object on the desk of a Representative, unless permission is granted by the member.
9. The floor of the House of Representatives has a strict dress code that requires jackets for men. Because we understand that it would be impractical for photographers and television camerapersons to meet this requirement, the dress code is slightly more flexible for members of the media. However, all members of the press are expected to dress professionally. Blue jeans are not allowed and collard shirts are required.
10. If, in the discretion of the presiding officer, the number of photographers/camerapersons is excessive or creates a disturbance or disruption, the presiding officer may have them removed from the House floor.
11. If a credentialed member of the media is found lobbying, advocating, or promoting for any individual, political party, group, corporation, organization, or government agency, the person will be removed from the House floor and press gallery and will lose all media credential privileges for the remainder of the year.
12. Trade publications cannot receive permanent media credentials, but may apply for a temporary day pass to the press galleries, which will be revoked if the person is found lobbying or advocating.
13. Members of the media who do not work for trade publications may get one temporary media credential if they have not had an opportunity to apply for permanent media credentials. Media must present credentials from the employer at the time of request. After receiving the one-time temporary credential, the person should promptly apply for permanent media credentials.
14. Members of the media who have received permanent House media credentials may be granted temporary media credentials one time if they do not have their permanent media credentials with them for any reason. Media must present credentials from the employer at the time of request. After taking advantage of this one-time use, he/she will not be eligible for temporary media credentials for the remainder of the session.
15. One chair in the South Press Gallery will remain reserved for House Communications staff at all times.

The Speaker may prescribe other limitations as appropriate under the circumstances. These limitations may be given through the House Messenger, the House Sergeant-at-Arms, or House Communications staff.

Violations of these rules and/or failure to comply with the instructions of the Speaker, House Messenger, Sergeant-at-Arms or House Communications staff could result in reporters, photographers, and/or camerapersons being removed from the floor of the House of Representatives. Persons found in violation of these rules may also lose their House media credential privileges for the remainder of the calendar year. Such violations and resulting penalties will be handled by House Communications Staff.

If you have any questions about these rules or any other matters concerning House floor procedures, House media credentials or House Communications, please contact J.D. Easley, Marshall Guest, or Kristy Lindstrom.