



## **The Coalition of Refugee Service Agencies Proudly Supports Release of House Bill 932**

**ATLANTA (January 27, 2022)** — The Coalition of Refugee Service Agencies is proud to share the release of House Bill 932, which would extend in-state tuition at Georgia public colleges and universities to refugees immediately upon their arrival to our state. This bill also applies to individuals who risked their lives to support the U.S. military overseas, including our Afghan allies who had to be evacuated last summer after the fall of Afghanistan to the Taliban.

H.B. 932 is born from the hard work of the House Global Talent Study Committee, a long-time project of the CRSA. We thank Rep. Wes Cantrell for his leadership on the important issue of tuition access for all Georgians seeking to build a better life and give back to their communities. We look forward to seeing H.B. 932 become law.

“Georgia has a proud history of welcoming refugees and special immigrants who risked their lives to work with the U.S. military overseas, and it is now doing the same for Afghan allies granted humanitarian parole. For these newcomers, Georgia is the only state they have ever called home, and we applaud HB 932 for ensuring they have access to in-state tuition upon their resettlement here.”

– Yonas Abraha, Co-Chair of the Coalition of Refugee Service Agencies and  
Executive Officer of the Eritrean American Community Association

“Georgia businesses across the state are struggling with workforce shortages, and HB 932 is a much-needed tool for building the talent pipeline. Georgia refugees bring skills and talents to the state from countries around the world. Many of these young people have put their education on hold due to war and conflict, and they're eager to restart their schooling, build their skills, and get into the workforce to support themselves and their families. HB 932 would help Georgia maximize global talent by allowing these motivated students to continue their education without delay. The BIG Partnership thanks the members of the House Global Talent Study Committee for their support on this issue.”

– Darlene Lynch, Chair of the Business & Immigration for Georgia (BIG) Partnership  
and Head of External Relations for The Center for Victims of Torture Georgia