

House Resolution 1325

By: Representatives Roberts of the 52nd, Draper of the 90th, Lupton of the 83rd, Au of the 50th,
Tran of the 80th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing February 12, 2026, as New Americans Day at the state capitol; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, for the past 13 years, New Americans Day celebrations have brought hundreds
4 of new Americans, friends, and community supporters to the state capitol annually for a day
5 of education and celebration; and

6 WHEREAS, Georgia has a long history of extending welcome to new Americans from
7 around the world, giving them an opportunity to live, work, and thrive in the state; and

8 WHEREAS, today, 11 percent of Georgians—more than 1.2 million people—are foreign-born,
9 bringing valuable skills and talents from countries around the world to the state; and

10 WHEREAS, foreign-born Georgians contribute \$15.8 billion in federal, state, and local taxes
11 annually and represent over \$44 billion in spending power; and

12 WHEREAS, approximately one in seven Georgia workers is foreign-born, and are twice as
13 likely to fill high-demand roles as home health aides, physicians, and surgeons as U.S.-born
14 workers; and

15 WHEREAS, foreign-born Georgians are 41 percent more likely than others to start new
16 businesses in the state, accounting for more than 20 percent of entrepreneurs in the state and
17 generating more than \$3.4 billion in business income annually; and

18 WHEREAS, nearly half of all foreign-born Georgians are already naturalized United States
19 citizens eligible to vote and many more are on the path toward citizenship; and

20 WHEREAS, since the withdrawal of United States forces from Afghanistan in August
21 2021 and the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Georgia has provided refuge to thousands
22 and granted humanitarian parole to escape those countries and come to safety in the United
23 States, including many who risked their lives to support the United States' mission overseas;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Georgia has one of the oldest and most successful refugee programs in the
26 United States, with approximately 90 percent of refugees economically self-sufficient within
27 six months; and

28 WHEREAS, Georgia is a welcoming home for peoples of all origins and from all walks of
29 life, and it is abundantly fitting and proper that these new Americans be appropriately
30 recognized.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body recognize and commend the manifold contributions of immigrants
33 to the State of Georgia and recognize February 12, 2026, as New Americans Day at the state
34 capitol.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
37 public and the press.