Asian Americans Advancing Justice affiliates Recommend that Members Vote YES on the Nadler Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to the No Ban Act, HR 2214

Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC (Washington, DC), Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus (San Francisco), Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Atlanta & Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Chicago jointly submit this vote recommendation.

We strongly urge Members to vote YES on the Nadler Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to the No Ban Act, HR 2214. As outlined in the attached statement for the record of House Judiciary markup of HR2214, we support the No Ban Act.

We urge Members to oppose any harmful amendments, such as those that would weaken the bill or strip any of its provisions.

We further urge Members to amend the bill to include the President’s expanded Muslim Ban, Presidential Proclamation 9883, issued January 31, 2020.

Proclamation 9883 bans immigrants and refugees from Myanmar (Burma) from seeking entry to the United States. The addition of Myanmar to the Muslim Ban causes irreparable and in some cases fatal harm to Burmese immigrants and refugees. This is particularly tragic given the recent decimation of the Refugee Admissions Program. In the past 10 years, 1 in 4 US-bound refugees have arrived from Myanmar, and since Fiscal Year 2012, the largest group of refugees by national origin has come from Myanmar. The Rohingya, a Muslim ethnic minority experiencing ongoing genocide in Myanmar, are a particularly recent population of refugees to the U.S. seeking to reunite with family in Myanmar or refugee camps in neighboring countries, but are now barred from doing so. As the New York Times has reported, many Rohingya children have been resettled here as refugees without their families and eagerly await to become citizens old enough to sponsor their family members. However, this cruel expansion prevents these children from ever seeing their loved ones. Contrary to our values, it is unthinkable that our nation would turn away innocent victims fleeing oppression and genocide.

The No Ban Act is a significant step forward in reigning in Executive authority and protecting people from discrimination based on religion or national origin.

For questions, please contact Megan Essaheb messaheb@advancingjustice-aajc.org.