

The clock is ticking... but don't turn it back!

Civil Rights March and Speak-Out: Protect Asian American Voting Rights

On June 19, African American Emancipation Day, we pay tribute to the African American community's struggles which paved the way for other communities' voting rights.

In the decade after the Civil War, 650 African American state legislators, congressmen, and senators were elected. But the clock was turned back when the federal government allowed Ku Klux Klan violence and by legal restrictions such as poll taxes and literacy tests. By 1940, only 3% of eligible African Americans in the South were registered to vote.



During the 1960s, African Americans who dared to register as voters faced threats, vandalism, beatings, and jail, and many died in the struggle. In 1964, a thousand civil rights activists registered African Americans during Mississippi Freedom Summer. Twenty-five thousand people marched on the state house in Alabama for the right to vote. This organizing finally led to the 1965 Voting Rights Act, which was expanded in 1975 to protect language minority groups.

Now, Chinese American and Vietnamese American voters in Boston will lose bilingual ballots unless action is taken quickly at the State House! Please support the Boston Home Rule Petition to extend Chinese and Vietnamese bilingual ballots and allow those ballots to be fully bilingual!

Our demands:

**The equal right to vote in November!
Chinese and Vietnamese bilingual ballots!**

Thursday June 19th 2008

**10:00am Meet at China Trade Center
10:45 am Arrive in front of State House
11:00 am Nurse's Hall Speak-Out**

For information, contact the Coalition for Asian American Voting Rights, 617-357-4499.

聯署組織 Coalition for Asian American Voting Rights : Alderman Amy Mah Sangiolo, Newton, 亞美基督徒教育及社會服務 Asian American Christian Educational & Social Services, 亞美聯會 American Chinese Federation, 亞美福利會 Asian American Civic Association, 亞美社區發展協會 Asian Community Development Corporation, 亞太美議程聯盟 Asian Pacific American Agenda Coalition, 亞裔文化中心 Asian American Resource Workshop, Blessed Mother Teresa Parish, 波士頓華埠社區中心 Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, 華埠主街 Chinatown Main Street, 華埠居民會 Chinatown Resident Association, 中華公所 Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, 紐英倫華人歷史協會 Chinese Historical Society of New England, 華人前進會 Chinese Progressive Association, 僑立學校 Chung Wah Academy, 波士頓市議員尹常賢 City Councilor Sam Yoon, Boston, 中華耆英會 Greater Boston Golden Age Center, 客家同鄉會 Hakka Association, 譚金源法律援助紀念基金 Harry H. Dow Memorial Legal Assistance Fund, 公路村住客聯誼會 Mass Pike Towers Tenant Association, 麻省越美婦女聯盟 Massachusetts Vietnamese American Women's League, 麻省投票 MassVOTE, 新眾數 New Majority, 羅威第一 ONE Lowell, 美華協會 Organization of Chinese Americans, 台山同鄉會及台山一中校友會 Taishan Association and Taishan #1 High School Alumni Association, 大同村住客聯誼會 Tai Tung Village Tenants Association. 越美福利會 Viet-AID, Vietnamese American Community of Massachusetts, Vietnamese American Small Business Association