Georgia State Advisory Committee to U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Convenes Public Meeting on Immigration

When:       Tuesday, February 19, 2013
            2:30 pm – 4:30 pm ET (Afternoon Session)
            6:00 pm – 8:00 pm ET (Evening Session)

Where:     Gwinnett Center
            6400 Sugarloaf Parkway
            Duluth, GA 30097

ATLANTA, GA - The Georgia State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a public meeting to examine the issue of immigration, which has moved to the forefront of public policy debate. The Associated Press recently reported that “leading Democratic and Republican senators pledged to propel far-reaching immigration legislation through the Senate by summer providing a possible path to citizenship for an estimated 11 million people now in the U.S. illegally.”

The purpose of the meeting by the Georgia State Advisory Committee is to examine immigration laws and their enforcement in Georgia in order to learn about effective implementation of immigration policy. The Committee will hear from elected officials, business leaders, government officials and community organizations. Invited speakers include: John King, Police Chief, City of Doraville; Karen Bremer, Georgia Restaurant Association; Mike Giles, Georgia Poultry Association; and Charles Hall, Georgia Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association.

Also invited are representatives from the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Others invited include representatives from the Atlanta Catholic Diocese, the Southeast Georgia Communities Project, the Asian American Legal Advocacy Center, the Latin American Association, the Refugee Family Service Center, and the Hispanic Opportunities Project for Education.

The meeting is open to the public and those attending will be given the opportunity to make statements for the record.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) is an independent, bipartisan agency established by Congress to study and collect information relating to discrimination or a denial of equal protection of the laws under the Constitution because of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or national origin, or in the administration of justice. The Commission has established a state advisory committee in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia composed of state citizens who advise the Commission of civil rights issues in their states that are within the Commission’s jurisdiction. Charles B. Tanksley (Marietta, Georgia) is the Chairman of the Georgia State Advisory Committee.