

For Immediate Release:

AFP Georgia Joins National Effort to Celebrate Freedom

Americans for Prosperity Foundation, Center For An Educated Georgia to honor the late Noble Laureate Milton Friedman on Friday, July 30

(ATLANTA, GA)– The legacy of the late Dr. Milton Friedman will be celebrated on Friday, July 30 as part of a national day of recognition for the Nobel Laureate, his work, theories, and contributions. The Americans for Prosperity Foundation along with Center for an Educated Georgia will host a Georgia Education Forum in his honor. The Friedman Legacy for Freedom Day is being celebrated in every state.

The Georgia Education Forum is being sponsored by the Foundation for Educational Choice, the continuation of the Milton and Rose D. Friedman Foundation. The event will explore how the ideas of Dr. Friedman, who advised Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher, have benefited mankind and how they can move our country forward amidst current economic uncertainty.

The Georgia Education Freedom panel will be moderated by radio host **Martha Zoller**. Panelists are: **David Pusey** - Center for an Educated Georgia Director, **BJ VanGundy**, Georgia State Charter School Commission member, **Patrick Batubenze** - 3 Masters degrees; 13 year public school teacher, **Sandra Foster** - Christian Family Home School Educators, Early Founder. The forum will begin with a briefing on Georgia school choice legislation by **State Senator Chip Rogers**.

AFPF GA State Director Virginia Galloway stated, "Education is a vital issue in the state of Georgia, and student achievement currently puts us at a comparative disadvantage economically. Georgia educators, policy makers, and citizens need to think outside the current public education box. Georgia's prosperity in the future depends on giving parents viable alternatives that lead to better outcomes for their students."

David Pusey, Director of Center For an Educated Georgia, added, "Meaningful education reform is desperately needed in Georgia and expanding school choice is an essential component. Our current educational system puts too much emphasis on systems and bureaucracies and not enough on what's best for kids. Our children only get one chance at a quality education and making sure that all options are open to them is critical."

Dr. Friedman, who passed away in November 2006, is regarded as one of the world's most influential promoters of economic freedom. He argued that the voluntary choices of individuals, not the dictates of government, should be the default mode of human life. His revolutionary work in economic theory earned him the Nobel Prize in 1976.

“In an era of bailouts and greater government economic intervention, citizens should remember Dr. Friedman’s work for its emphasis on individual freedom,” said Robert Enlow, president and CEO of the Foundation for Educational Choice. “Our country is at a crossroads today. Do we go down the path of individual control, or do we adhere to the free-market principles, like those espoused by Dr. Friedman, that made our country what it is today: Great.”

“We’re delighted to have Americans for Prosperity Foundation join us in celebrating his legacy for freedom,” added Enlow.

Although he typically is recognized for his economic contributions, Dr. Friedman spent the last decade of his life fighting to bring educational freedom to all of America’s children. In 1996, he and his wife Rose founded the Foundation for Educational Choice to promote his vision for universal school choice—an idea he first proposed in 1955.

The event will be held July 30 at 1pm at the Hilton Hotel in Norcross, GA. For more information, individuals are asked to contact Virginia Galloway at 770-315-4304.

Last year, dozens of organizations throughout the country participated in the Friedman Legacy for Freedom Day.

Americans For Prosperity Foundation (AFPF) is a nationwide organization of citizen leaders committed to advancing every individual’s right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFPF believes reducing the size and scope of government is the best safeguard to ensuring individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFPF educates and engages citizens in support of restraining state and federal government growth, and returning government to its constitutional limits. AFPF has more than 1,250,000 members, including members in all 50 states, and 30 state chapters and affiliates. More than 60,000 Americans in all 50 states have made a financial investment in AFP Foundation and Americans for Prosperity. For more information, visit www.americansforprosperityfoundation.org.

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