

Ally Bolour For Elected Director

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I am running for re-election as an Elected Director for AILA's Board of Governors and I am counting on your vote. This will be my last run for this position, which is consistent with my initial campaign promise three years ago that AILA BOG thrives best when new and diverse voices are continually added to the mix.

During my first term at BOG, I am happy to report that I earned my keep. I never missed a meeting or a vote. I was honored and proud for the opportunity to represent the membership, engage in spirited debates on countless issues and vote on many resolutions.

One of my consequential votes was to move the Annual Conference 2018 (AC18) from TX to CA following the enactment of SB4 –Texas's widely condemned anti-immigrant law. This was a difficult vote. As the Chair of AC18, I understood that the financial risks were high. However, the blatant inhumanity of the TX law weighed heavy on my conscience and didn't allow me to move forward with holding the event there.

AC18 resulted in being the 2nd most financially successful Annual Conference and one of the most highly acclaimed programmatically. Additionally, for the very first time, AILA

recognized our Muslim members' celebration of Eid at AC18 by providing special halal meals, prayer room, and family-oriented activities.

Last year, I was honored to serve on AILA national's nominating committee. Our presented slate was one of the most diverse in terms of both personal and political identities. I value differences of thought and perspectives and wholeheartedly believe that diversity expands and improves AILA's reach across intersections of all communities.

I have served in various other leadership roles such as the Membership and Governance committees. Furthermore, I have continuously nurtured my robust relationship with AILA through pro-bono representation via the Justice Campaign, mentoring programs for younger colleagues, and conference speaking participation. I've also had multiple tenures on both AILA National and SoCal Chapter Media committees. I also utilize social media to amplify AILA's mission and goals.

If elected, I will continue to advocate for our members by listening and welcoming their ideas. I will continue to make the needs of AILA members a priority. An empowered and supported community of advocates, especially in the current political climate, is essential for our work as immigration attorneys. In these times of obstacles and insecurity, it is imperative that we remain steadfast in our pursuit to urge our political leaders to enact tangible and logical changes