

CALIFORNIA

APILC

ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

2018

YEAR END REPORT

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the California Asian Pacific Islander (API) Legislative Caucus, I want to thank all of you for your incredible, inspiring work during this momentous year.

I am pleased to present our 2018 Year End Report. Together, we achieved great success including our budget and policy wins and the powerful comeback of the California Asian Pacific Islander Policy Summit.

I also wanted to take this opportunity to personally extend my appreciation to you for your partnership over the last two and a half years that I had the pleasure to serve as chair.

I was proud to serve with Assemblymember Phil Ting as our Vice Chair and Assemblymember Evan Low as our Parliamentarian. December 3rd marked our caucus' leadership transition. I am proud to pass the gavel to our next chair, Assemblymember David Chiu.

I know that our Caucus will continue to thrive with Assemblymember Chiu's leadership, and the rest of our 2019-2020 officers which includes Vice Chairs Senator Richard Pan and Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi, and Assemblymember Ash Kalra as Parliamentarian.



Our caucus looks forward to working with you in the New Year!

Sincerely,
Rob Bonta
Assemblymember, 18th District
Chair, 2016-2018, CA Asian Pacific Islander
Legislative Caucus

The API Legislative Caucus established 2018 Budget and Policy Priorities to address issues important to the Asian and Pacific Islander community. The final budget approved by the Governor incorporated all Caucus priorities with the exception of priorities related to health and human services.

In particular, the API Legislative Caucus played a key role in the passage of the Film Tax Credit extension and advocated for accountability provisions related to diversity and inclusion.

BUDGET & POLICY PRIORITIES

FINAL BUDGET BY THE NUMBERS

\$90.3M

Census outreach
and education
funding

\$248.8M

One-time General Fund
funding to the UC, and
ongoing General Fund
increase of \$98.1 million

\$4M

legal services for
undocumented and
immigrant students
to the UC

\$197.1M

Ongoing General Fund
fund increase to the
CSU

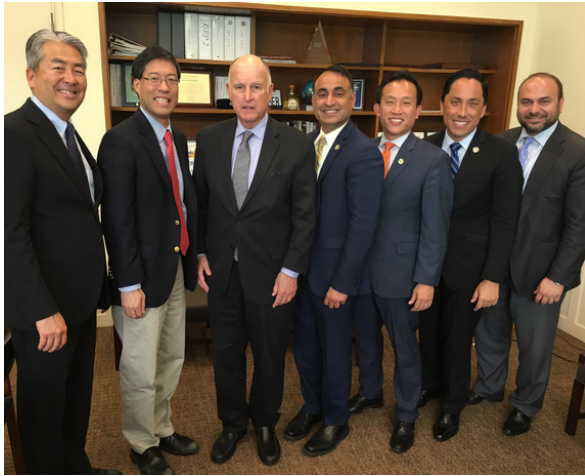
\$5.1B

Federal and state
funds to address
housing and
homelessness

\$161.6M

One-time funds totaling
\$161.6 million General
Fund to the CSU

PRIORITY BILLS



BILLS SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR

Public Safety	Health & Mental Health
AB 2034 (Kalra) – Human Trafficking Awareness Training: Transit Employees	AB 2022 (Chu) – On-Campus Mental Health Professionals
AB 2845 (Bonta) – Pardon Process Reform	
Worker Rights & Protections	Small Business
AB 2775 (Kalra) – Professional Cosmetics Ingredients Listing	AB 2184 (Chiu) – Immigrant Business Inclusion Act AB 2335 (Ting) – Corner Stores (through the budget)
Education	
SB 892 (Pan)– Lunar New Year	
AB 1248 (Gloria) – Cultural Diversity at Graduation Ceremonies	
AB 2291 (Chiu) – Campus Climate	

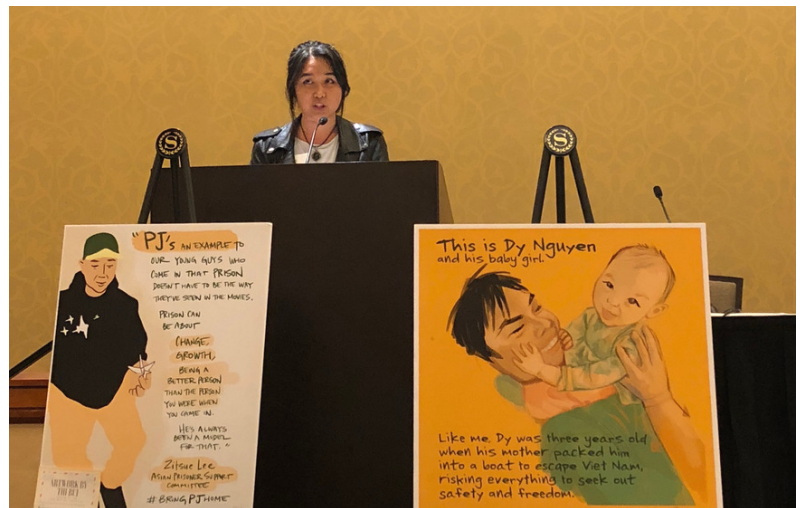
There were a historic number of API Legislative Caucus priority bills this year with 18 bills. The Caucus sent 13 bills to the Governor, 8 were signed and one was enacted through the final budget.

Community Engagement API POLICY SUMMIT

Building on the momentum and success of the 2017 statewide community listening tours and policy roundtable discussions, the API Legislative Caucus held a two-day API Policy Summit from May 15-16.

It featured ten skills building and policy workshop sessions, three expert panels, an API advocacy day and a strategy session.

The Summit was attended by nearly 200 individuals representing organizations, businesses and schools from across California.



Thi Bui, author of "The Best We Could Do," speaks about the role of arts in activism. She presented two panels she illustrated for the Asian Prisoners Support Committee and their campaign to pardon formerly incarcerated persons who are eligible for deportation.



Panelists from left to right: Andrew Medina, CA Policy Manager (AAAJ-CA); Mai Vang, Board Member (Sacramento City Unified School District); Mariko Yamada, former Assemblymember; Alissa Ko, former White House AAPI Director.

CULTURAL RECOGNITIONS & CELEBRATIONS

The API Legislative Caucus introduced a variety of resolutions to recognize the diversity of our API communities and important moments in our history. We also hosted receptions to bring increased awareness of cultural celebrations and traditions within the Capitol community.

In recognition of the significance of the movie, "Crazy Rich Asians," the API Legislative Caucus hosted an advanced premiere for the Capitol community. This was the first movie in 25 years to feature an all Asian cast in a major motion picture.

This event aligned with the Caucus' priority for increased API representation in film and entertainment.

In May, the API Legislative Caucus celebrated the talents, contributions and rich history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with resolution ACR-231, authored by Assemblymember David Chiu, to recognize Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Outstanding community leaders were recognized for excellence in their industries in the Assembly Chambers during a floor ceremony.



Meet the 2018 Honorees

The API Legislative Caucus recognizes seven outstanding community members for Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Pictured from left to right: Peggy Saika, Excellence in Philanthropy; Ron Wong, Excellence in Business; Maeley Tom, Excellence in Public Service; Amanda Nguyen, Excellence in Advocacy; Vincent Zhou, Excellence in Sports; Assemblymember Stephen Choi; Viet Thanh Nguyen, Excellence in Literature; Assemblymember Rob Bonta. Not pictured: Dave Low, Excellence in Labor.

IN THE PRESS



The API Legislative Caucus spoke at press conferences this year with other legislative caucuses to denounce policies separating children and families at the border.

Our Caucus, along with WME and Endeavor, hosted a press conference in Hollywood to celebrate the approval of the Film Tax Credit extension. Speakers included George Takei, Nina Yang Bongiovi and Leonardo Nam.



In May, the California League of Conservation Voters recognized the API Legislative Caucus for championing environmental issues. The API Legislative Caucus also received the highest score card rating from the California Environmental Justice Alliance for 2017.

GOVERNOR PARDONS AND APPOINTMENTS

In accordance with our goals to increase API representation in all levels of government, including statewide appointments, the API Legislative Caucus was pleased to support seven judicial nominees.

Three were appointed as Superior Court Judges, Frederick S. Chung and Audra Ibarra to the Santa Clara County Superior Court and Eumi Lee to the Alameda County Superior Court.

Two were appointed as Associate Justices to District Courts of Appeal, Justice Tracie L. Brown to Division Four of the First District Court of Appeal and Justice Halim Dhanidina to Division Three of the Second District Court of Appeals.

The API Legislative Caucus also supported the appointment of Wenda Fong to the California State University Board of Trustees. Her appointment makes her the only trustee of Asian American descent.

The Caucus supported pardons for Southeast Asian Americans facing the threat of deportation. Four have received pardons so far. Although those convicted of crimes may spend years rehabilitating themselves into productive law-abiding residents, formerly incarcerated immigrants face the risk of being sent back to countries where they often have few, if any, ties. Many, such as Southeast Asian refugees, came here as children and don't know any other country than the United States.



The API Legislative Caucus and civil rights organizations call on Governor Brown to pardon Southeast Asian refugees facing deportation in October.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The API Legislative Caucus supported the fourth cohort of Asian Pacific Islander Capitol Association interns.

This cohort of six interns worked in legislative offices, including members of the API Legislative Caucus, where they learned about the legislative process, wrote policy analyses and provided support for members and staff.

The Caucus also hosted our annual “Internship Day” in partnership with Asian Pacific Islander Capitol Association (APICA), Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA), Asian Americans for Community Involvement (AACI) and Taiwanese American Citizens League (TACL).

This year’s 60 participants heard from API Legislative Caucus members, learned from legislative staff and advocates and held a mock committee hearing.



The API Legislative Caucus would specifically like to thank the five interns who served in our office in 2018: Jimina Afuola, Ayana Galace, Marian Gonzales, Lina Lalwani, and Dante Paulhus.



API Legislative Caucus 2017-2018



Members (left to right): Assemblymember Ed Chau, Assemblymember Kansan Chu, Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian, Assemblymember Phil Ting, Senator Kevin de Leon, Senator Richard Pan, Assemblymember Rob Bonta, Assemblymember Ash Kalra, Assemblymember David Chiu, Assemblymember Evan Low, Assemblymember Todd Gloria, and Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi.

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