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API Legislative Caucus Applauds Governor's Appointment of Assemblymember Rob Bonta as Attorney General

Sacramento, CA – The California Asian Pacific Islander (API) Legislative Caucus applauds Governor Gavin Newsom for recognizing the needs of our communities and appointing Assemblymember Rob Bonta as California's first Filipino American Attorney General.

As Attorney General, Assemblymember Rob Bonta will be California's top law enforcement official. His appointment comes at a critical time for the API community. Since the start of the pandemic, the Stop AAPI Hate organization reported more than 3,700 incidents of anti-Asian attacks nationwide. Almost 50% of the attacks occurred in California and around 70% of the reports came from women. In 2021, more than 500 reports of anti-Asian discrimination have been reported.

"Thank you Governor Newsom for appointing Assemblymember Rob Bonta as California's Attorney General. We appreciate your leadership and commitment to the API Community," said **Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento), Chair of the API Legislative Caucus**. "This appointment demonstrates California's belief that there is strength in our diversity. Assemblymember Rob Bonta is breaking another glass ceiling as the first Filipino American to become California's Attorney General. He gives our communities hope and will lift API voices during a time of fear caused by the rise in anti-Asian hate crimes. Thank you again Governor Newsom for listening and responding to the needs of the API community."

"Governor Newsom has once again shown his commitment to the Asian and Pacific Islander community with this historic appointment of Attorney General Bonta," said **Assemblymember Evan Low (D-Silicon Valley), who serves as Vice Chair of the API Legislative Caucus**. "Hate crimes targeting the API community have skyrocketed over the last year, and we need a champion who will make the pursuit of justice for these victims a top priority. I have full faith AG Bonta is the right person to meet this moment."

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The California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus represents and advocates for the interests of the diverse API communities throughout California. It seeks to increase Asian Pacific Islander participation and representation in all levels of government.

Website of the California API Legislative Caucus: <http://apicaucus.legislature.ca.gov>