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For Immediate Release:

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**The following is a statement by the CA Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus in response to the virulent anti-immigrant rhetoric and hatred inspired by President-elect Donald Trump:**

The California Asian Pacific Islander (API) Legislative Caucus is extremely concerned about the virulent anti-immigrant rhetoric and hate crimes directed against Asian and Pacific Islanders and other immigrant and minority groups. The API Caucus strongly condemns the stereotypes and outright bigotry that has been and continues to be vocalized by President-elect Donald Trump.

“As leaders in California, we will stand up and not be complicit or complacent in the trampling of rights and the destruction of families in our immigrant communities,” said Assemblymember Rob Bonta, Chair of the API Legislative Caucus.

The API Caucus is committed to protecting the rights and freedoms all Californians deserve regardless of their immigration status.

“The rhetoric coming from President-elect Donald Trump and his inner circle cannot be tolerated. As president, his actions would tear families apart, destabilize communities and hurt our economy. As Californians, we will stand by our values and fight together to protect the most vulnerable in our society,” said Bonta.

In the days following the election, there has been an increase in reports of racism and hate crimes according to the Southern Poverty Law Center. Our communities of color are encountering race-based bullying and attacks.

“We are all part of one California. As the most diverse state in America, California is an example to the nation and the world of how public policies of inclusion and compassion foster stronger, safer and more prosperous communities,” said Bonta.

*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>

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