

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
June 27, 2019
Cat Nou, cat.nou@asm.ca.gov, 209-606-4736

California Assemblymember Chiu Statement on Supreme Court Census Decision

Assemblymember David Chiu (D-San Francisco), Chair of the California Asian Pacific Islander (API) Legislative Caucus, today issued the following statement after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Department of Commerce v. New York:

"The shameful decision to include a citizenship question on the 2020 Census was yet another example of the Trump Administration's attempt to erase our communities of color. It is a relief that the Supreme Court understood what we have known all along--the Administration's reason for adding the citizenship question was dubious at best. The Court said 'the evidence tells a story that does not match the explanation the Secretary gave for his decision.'

However, given that this decision does not entirely shut the door on the inclusion of a citizenship question, we must remain vigilant and double down on our efforts to ensure that all of our communities are counted.

Asian Pacific Islander Americans already face unique barriers to being counted and have been identified as the least likely to complete the Census form. Despite these challenges, we will not be rendered invisible.

California has championed unprecedented investments to ensure we have a fair and accurate count because too much is at stake. Resources will be directed to monitor federal efforts, to educate all Californians on the importance of filling out the Census, and to inform the public that the privacy of personal information is protected under federal law."

###

Assemblymember David Chiu (D–San Francisco) is the Chair of the California Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, which 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. Learn more at: http://apicaucus.legislature.ca.gov