

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

July 26, 2022

Speaker Pelosi and Leader Schumer,

We the undersigned organizations are writing to express our strong objection to the inclusion of Anti-Asian language in the CHIPS-Plus bill. Asian American communities are under attack, both from individual acts of hate and from federal government programs such as the China Initiative. We encourage Democratic lawmakers to strongly oppose any language that expands federal discriminatory policies targeting communities on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin or religious background.

We understand that Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH) has proposed an amendment that would deny admission or revoke visas of Chinese nationals and others based on innuendo, bad information, and racial targeting. We also understand that this amendment includes language that would prevent the Department of Justice from dismantling the China Initiative. We strongly oppose the inclusion of this language in the CHIPS-Plus bill and we strongly encourage Democratic lawmakers to stand with AAPI and the broader civil rights communities in voting against the Portman amendment.

In addition, we encourage Democratic lawmakers to **reject any compromise legislative language** that would subject Asian American communities to heightened levels of government enforcement based on their racial and ethnic origin. These provisions are harmful to our communities and only increase our lived experiences of hate and violence.

Thank you for your consideration and your support of the AAPI community.

Sincerely,

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus
Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA)
AAPI Equality
APIA VOTE-MI
Asian American Advocacy Fund
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)

Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO
Campaign for Peace, Disarmament & Common Security
Communities United for Status and Protection (CUSP)
Community Change Action
FIRM Action
First Congregational Church of San Jose
Immigrant & Refugee Justice (IRJ), a task force of the WNY Peace Center
Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC)
Japanese American Citizens League
Japanese American Citizens League, Twin Cities Chapter
Justice is Global
Muslim Justice League
NAKASEC - National Korean American Service & Education Consortium
National CAPACD - National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development
National Employment Law Project
National Immigrant Justice Center
National Immigration Law Center
OPAWL - Building AAPI Feminist Leadership
Peace Action New York State
Project South
Rising Voices
South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT)
The Immigration Hub
The National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund
Tsuru for Solidarity