

Opposition against SB 17 and HB 17 and other National Origin Based Discrimination Bills in the 89th Texas Legislature

Dear Esteemed State Senators and Representatives:

Texas needs your help and your voice!

- These bills are unconstitutional and discriminatory, as they target individuals based on their nation of origin. In other words, individuals are being targeted and rights taken away, not because of something they did, but because of where they came from. In so doing, these bills threaten the protections afforded by the U.S. Constitution and Texas constitution.
 - These bills will discourage foreign investments and talents from coming to Texas, leading to loss of jobs and economic opportunities – when the bills aim to punish some of Texas’ largest trading partner(s). This is especially the case when President Trump specifically stated, “we want them to invest in the U.S.” (Feb. 26, 2025).
 - These bills falsely equate individuals with governments; and will punish individuals who may have no political affiliation in their former or current countries.
 - These bills are based on paranoia and have no legitimate basis in reality. There have not been any realistic data or facts that support the implementation of these restrictions, or how these bills will actually support national security.
 - These bills will provoke discrimination against the Asian and immigrant community.
- For these same reasons, the 59th Texas state legislature abolished the former version of alien land laws in 1965. We should not repeat the mistakes made in the previous century. Please voice your opposition to these legislations.

Sincerely yours,

The following Texas and national AAPI organizations co-signed the open letter before 3:00 p.m., March 30, 2025:

48 Texas Organizations

Anhui association of Texas, Asian American Art & Culture Initiative, Asian American Bar Association of Houston, Asian American Cohesion Foundation, Asian American Community Civic Coalition, Asian American Democrats of Texas, Asian Americans for Progressive America, Asian Chamber of Commerce - Houston, Asian Real Estate Association of America - San Antonio, Asian Texans for Justice, Association of Chinese Professionals Foundation DFW, Austin Asian American Bar Association, Austin Chinese-American Network, Chinese Calligraphy & Art Association, Chinese Civic Center, Chuan Yu Association of Houston, Construction American Chinese Professionals- Texas, Dallas Asian American Bar Association, Dallas Chinese Arts Association, DFW Chinese Alliance, DFW Sichuanese Association, DFW Tianjinian Association, ECUST Alumni Association, Fujian Association of South USA, General Association of Henan In Dallas, Greater Houston LULAC Council, Greater San Antonio Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Guangxi Association, Heyuan Association in North America, Houston Zhi Qing Association, Huanan Houston Club, International Cross Cultural Foundation, Jiangxi folks Associate, NAACP Houston Branch, North Texas Hubei Association, OCA Greater Houston, Rise AAPI, Shaanxi Folks Group, Shandong Fellowship Association of Southern USA, Sino Professional Club, Texas Capital News, Texas Multicultural Advocacy Coalition, Texas Northeast Chinese Association, The Texas Chapter of The Society of Chinese Bioscientists in America, U.S Chinese Restaurant Alliance Dallas Chapter, United Association of the Chinese Alumni of Houston, US China Friendship Exchange Center, US-China Chamber of Commerce Dallas

32 National and Other Organizations

1882 Foundation, APA Justice Task Force, Asian American Advancing Leadership, Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC, Asian Americans Leadership Council, Asian Pacific American Public Affairs, Asian Pacific American Public Affairs-Carolinas, Asian Real Estate Association of America, Chen’s Family Association of USA, Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Chinese Americans Civil Rights Coalition, Chinese American Legal Defense Alliance, Chinese American Professors Association in Connecticut, Chinese for Affirmative Action, Florida Asian American Justice Alliance, Global Friendship Exchange Foundation, Global Green Development Alliance, Japanese American Citizens League, Justice Is Global, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, National Iranian American Council, New England Chinese American Alliance (NECAA), OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates, Pivot to Peace, Register2vote, Stop AAPI Hate, The Asian American Foundation, The Federation of Asian Professor Associations, The Yick Wo Institution, UmiUni, United Chinese Americans (UCA), University of Michigan - Association of Chinese Professors