Senator Toni Harp, John Geragosian and the Committee members:

My name is Shardae Shipman and I am recently graduated from University of Connecticut. By writing to you I hope to illustrate my support for the Asian Pacific American Coalition; a group comprised of concerned citizens who are leaders in their respective Asian communities. By volunteering their time and resources this non-partisan group advocates on the behalf of Connecticut Asian Pacific Americans.

I would like to thank you in advance for your support in the passage of Establishing an Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission. By July 1st 2009 this legislation is to take effect, should it be properly funded. With adequate funding, the commission, which is only representative of a tiny fraction of the overall budget, will secure a voice for the Asian Pacific American community.

As a volunteer in the Hartford Public School system I see many programs that help students adjust to the classroom environment. While these programs are effective they cater primarily to specific ethnicities. i.e African Americans, Hispanic Americans and White Americans. These educational

Systems teach languages and various cultralisms, all of which overlook Asian Americans. Because of this, Asian Americans are disadvantaged in the classroom which creates and/or contributes to feelings of inadequacy among their peers.

Thank you in advance for your support of the passage of Establishing an Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission. With your help this legislation will take effect on July 1st 2009.

Sincerely,

Shandra Sapu