

Testimony opposing the consolidation of Asian Pacific Americans Affairs Commission into a new Commission on Citizen Advocacy.

Good evening, my name is Ted Hsu of Simsbury CT, I am a small business owner and I serve on the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission. The Asian Pacific American (APA) businesses have unique needs and the State of Connecticut has Asian business resource needs that cannot be served by a general, all purpose commission. Consider the specialized work our commission has provided in the past year:

Assistance to APA small business in the form of:

Advisory for new business startups from peer APA small businesses

Monthly meetings throughout the state with active and involved APA businesses for the purpose of growing these businesses.

A unique resource for the State of Connecticut as the state reaches out to attract business from Asia

Special database of Asian American business resources to be available to the State government in future needs to attract business from Asia particularly China and India.

Developing APA business community through recognition like last year's CAAB awards.

Will keep the networks of Connecticut's Asian business ready and available to the State as global opportunities arise.

No other group in Connecticut exists to compile local APA resources to help Connecticut stay ready for Asian businesses coming to Connecticut or CT firms doing business in Asia.

Minority business assistance:

Work to correct disparities with State set-aside program also in conjunction with other commissions. Compile needs and recommendations from CT APA businesses.

Thank you for listening and considering my testimony.