



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION



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March 22, 2013

Senator Eric Coleman  
Representative Gerald Fox, III  
Judiciary Committee  
Legislative Office Building Room 2500  
Hartford CT, 06106

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Dr. William A. Howe

### *Vice-Chair*

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### *Executive Director*

Mui Mui Hin-McCormick

### *APAAC Interns*

Kyle Barrette

Nan Hu

### **RE: Testimony In Support of Raised Bill No. 1143 An Act Concerning Traffic Stop Information**

Dear Senator Coleman, Representative Fox and members of the Judiciary Committee

My name is Mui Mui Hin-McCormick, Executive Director of Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (APAAC). On behalf of the Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission I submit testimony supporting Raised Bill No. 1143 recommending Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission be added to section (j) as one of the agencies that OPM submits reports to. Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission sits on the Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project Advisory (CRPPPA) Board representing the Asian Pacific American communities.

Our Commission represents one of the fastest growing minority populations. U. S. Census reported Asian Pacific American (APA) population grew in Connecticut from 95,368 in 2000 to 157,088 in 2010, which is remarkable as this is a 65% increase in just ten years. APAAC represents almost fifty countries and numerous Asian languages. APAAC makes recommendations to the Governor, General Assembly, state agencies, service providers, etc. on health, safety, education, economic self-sufficiency and efforts to remain free from discrimination within the APA community in Connecticut. APAAC focuses on APA issues; partnering with various agencies, groups, and communities to address the various issues such as racial profiling. The APA community has experienced an increase of racial profiling after September 11<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately most of our APA community will not report issues, especially with law enforcement due to various reasons; some would include distrust of government due to negative experiences in their native country, fear of retaliation, not knowing the rights they have and the process of filing a complaint, lack of English proficiency, etc.

The Connecticut Racial Profiling Prohibition Project Advisory Board has been working diligently and meeting regularly for the past eleven months. The board composition is diverse and rich in knowledge. We have reached consensus on ten recommendations (1. Expand who is required to report, 2. Written policies, 3. Clarify where a stop occurs, 4. Allow unique ID, 5. Require additional information on stops, 6. Exemption for reporting data, 7. Require monthly reporting, 8. Require individual stop data, 9. Encourage electronic reporting, and 10. Change deadline of first report) that our Co-Chair, Honorable William Dyson will be testifying on. Additionally our board has discussed at length the impact of these proposed policy changes on each of our communities and safe guards that can be implemented; in hopes of fostering a

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more positive relationship with law enforcement.

I urge you to support Raised Bill No. 1143 as this legislation will improve our current system and protect community members and police officers. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mui Mui Hin-McCormick

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