February 12, 2016

Dear Senator Bye, Representative Walker, and esteemed members of the Appropriations Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Mari Merwin. I am from New Britain, CT.

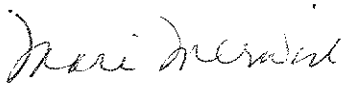
I work with Asian-American clients at Asian Family Services in Hartford and witness their difficulty becoming independent in the Greater Hartford community every day.

Although each ethnic group tries to help members of the group, APA community as a whole lacks resources to satisfy all the fundamental needs such as health insurance, SNAP, and transportation due to language barrier and lack of knowledge. Since APAAC was established ethnic groups are uniting for the first time and their voices are heard by policy makers for the first time.

I urge you not to forget the fastest growing race, Asians, in Connecticut, but with great needs that are not being met. Without APAAC, many Asian-Americans will remain marginalized and unproductive, and they will spend more state funds.

I thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Office: (860) 951-8770 ext. 234