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Contact:

Stacy Lavilla

Director of Communications, AAPCHO

(510) 272-9536 x110

[slavilla@aapcho.org](mailto:slavilla@aapcho.org)

**AAPCHO and More than 150 Organizations Join Amicus Brief in Support of President's Immigration Actions**

*Brief Filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit Asks Court to Lift Block on Expanded DACA and DAPA*

**WASHINGTON, D.C., April 8, 2015** – The Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO), joined 150 other organizations in support of President Obama's recent actions to allow immigrants to apply for relief from deportation and work authorization.

In an amicus brief filed earlier this week, AAPCHO joined the National Immigration Law Center and other partners in arguing that these actions would also improve the nation's economy and society. This brief was one of several filed in support of the administration's immigration actions, which economists predict will raise the nation's GDP by more than \$200 billion over the next ten years.

AAPCHO and its member community health centers advocate on behalf of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders that are medically underserved.

"We know our communities face ongoing challenges with the current immigration system," said Jeffrey Caballero, executive director of AAPCHO. "It is estimated that 1 in 8 Asian American immigrants, or about 1.3 million persons, is undocumented and the President's actions stand to benefit the quality-of-life of many in our communities."

On February 16, 2015, a federal district court blocked implementation of the president's initiative to expand Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), under which certain immigrants who arrived in the U.S. as children can apply for protection from deportation and work authorization. The court also blocked implementation of a second initiative that would allow certain immigrant parents of U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents to apply for protection from deportation and work authorization (known as Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents, or DAPA.)

The groups that filed the amicus brief argue that delays in implementing the two initiatives will harm the nation's economy and prevent aspiring Americans from participating more fully in their communities. The brief features profiles of small business owners, primary breadwinners, and social activists who would be able to increase their economic and societal contributions if granted the relief proposed by DACA and DAPA.

Among those profiled are Rosalva and Fidel, parents of three U.S. citizen children, one of whom recently completed basic training with the U.S. National Guard. Rosalva, a small business owner, would be able to operate her business and move about her Indiana community without fear of deportation if she were granted DAPA.

#MORE#

This week's filings are the latest legal step in *Texas, et al. v. United States, et al.*, the 26-state challenge to the administration's immigration actions. On April 17, the Fifth Circuit will hear oral argument in a request for emergency stay of the lower court's injunction. If granted, the emergency stay would allow the U.S. government to begin implementation of the DAPA and "expanded DACA" initiatives.

**Read the brief [here](#).**

**About AAPCHO**

AAPCHO is a national association of 35 community health organizations dedicated to promoting advocacy, collaboration, and leadership that improves the health status and access of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiian, and other Pacific Islanders in the United States. For more information on AAPCHO and its Guiding Principles and Values, please visit [www.aapcho.org](http://www.aapcho.org).

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