**February 26, 2018**

**DRAFT Letter to Patients**

Dear AHS patient,

Asian Health Services deeply care about the health of all families and communities and we are committed to advocating for your access to health care that improve your family’s health. You may have heard about a proposed change in U.S. immigration law that asks more questions about you and your family’s use of government programs, including health services, when you apply for lawful permanent residency (green card). This is called the “public charge” law.

Here’s what you need to know:

1. This is still just a proposed change and the law has not yet changed. AHS and others will fight against the proposed change. You can join us in fighting against the proposed change.
2. This does not change the eligibility of you or your family for public programs, including health services. You are eligible to continue receiving your health services at AHS.
3. If you need health care services now, you should still go to the doctor and enroll in health insurance like Medi-Cal and Covered California.
4. Until this proposal becomes law, your past use of health care services will not be used against you. There is no need to stop using these programs now.
5. If you already have a green card, your use of government programs does not affect your application for citizenship.
6. AHS has prepared the following resources to provide you with more information:
	1. a factsheet of what we know of the proposed change,
	2. how to join AHS in fighting against the proposed change,
	3. a legal clinic at AHS [insert date/time] where you can discuss specific questions about the public charge law and about your green card application with an immigration attorney, and
	4. workshops at AHS [insert dates/times] to answer your questions and help you to apply to become a U.S. citizen

Please continue to share your questions and stories with us by contacting member services at 510-986-6800 or Ms. Vanessa Quach at 510-986-6800 x6885.

Sincerely,

Sherry Hirota

*Chief Executive Officer*