



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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API Council Opposes Proposed Census Rule That Would Undercount San Francisco's Immigrant Communities

SAN FRANCISCO, CA — The Asian & Pacific Islander Council (API Council), a coalition of over 50 nonprofit organizations serving San Francisco's Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities, strongly opposes the Trump administration's proposed rule to exclude noncitizens without permanent resident status from the 2030 Census. The API Council calls on the Commerce Department to withdraw the rule and urges community members, partners, and elected officials to take action.

"An accurate census is how San Francisco gets its fair share of resources and representation. This rule would erase the elders, families, students, and workers our members serve every day, and our communities would pay the price until the next count in 2040. The API Council will stand with our communities and our partners to make sure every San Franciscan counts," **stated Cally Wong, Executive Director, API Council.**

We've Done This Work Before

During Census 2020, when a proposed citizenship question threatened participation, API Council members reached the hardest-to-count API communities across every San Francisco neighborhood and in many languages. We know what fear does to a count, and what trusted community organizations can do to overcome it. We are ready to do that work again.

How the Rule Would Harm API Communities

The Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islander community make up one third of San Francisco's population, and API Council members serve more than 250,000 residents each year, nearly 76 percent of them immigrants and 90 percent living below the poverty line.

The proposed rule would exclude millions who live, work, and pay taxes here, including international students, refugees, asylum seekers, and people with Temporary Protected Status. Undercounting our neighbors means losing federal funding for food, healthcare, housing, and education through programs like Medicaid, CalFresh, Head Start, and children's health insurance for the next ten years, along with fair representation in Congress and local district lines.

Removing race and ethnicity questions would erase the data used to enforce civil rights and to show the distinct needs of Chinese, Filipino, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese, Burmese, Cambodian, Pacific Islander, and other communities too often grouped together. And by opening the door to an immigration status question or record checks, the rule would spread fear among mixed-status families, discouraging even citizens and green card holders from responding.

Three Ways You Can Take Action Now

Submit a public comment opposing the rule by November 2, 2026 at 11:59pm Eastern Time:

- 1) **Federal Register Webpage**: Click “Submit a Public Comment,” and fill out the fields.
- 2) **Federal e-Rulemaking Portal**: Enter “USBC-2026-0628” in the search box, click the “Comment” icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments.
- 3) **By Mail**: Send written comments to 4600 Silver Hill Road, Designation: ADDEMO/FRN, Washington, DC 20746.

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The API Council is a coalition of 57 nonprofit organizations building the voice, visibility, and influence of San Francisco’s diverse Asian and Pacific Islander communities. Since forming in response to proposed budget cuts in the 2010s, the Council has secured more than \$90 million to support culturally and linguistically appropriate services for API communities and San Francisco families. The Council advocates for equitable resources that improve the quality of life for San Francisco’s underserved Asian and Pacific Islander residents, in solidarity with multiracial coalitions working for equity across the city.

Learn more at: www.apicouncil.org