Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, Governor

Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
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Letter of support of HB 2134
Friday, February 15, 2013

House Committee on Health Care

Chair Greenlick, Vice Chairs Keny-Guyer and Thompson, and Representatives Clem, Conger, Harker, Kennemer, Lively, and Weidner:

The Oregon Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs is working with its community partner OHEA to identify and support a number of issues affecting the health and success of the API community in Oregon. In pursuing the statutory missions of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions we depend on good data from key state agencies to monitor how well we are doing in serving the culturally diverse groups that make Oregon a great state. The API community itself is comprised of over 50 distinct cultural groups. Better, more granular data is needed to do that effectively.

We appreciate the efforts of the vibrant community groups that comprise the OHEA and are honored to add our voice to theirs in supporting HB 2134. The state agencies that gather this data need this legislation to add the capacity and standards that are the foundation of the effort and we will all benefit from the data produced that will inform better policy and service in the years ahead. Oregon is changing in its diverse citizenry and this is a step in the right direction to assure the success of all Oregonians.

We encourage you to positively consider HB 2134 as a foundational piece to better outcomes for all.

OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

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Signed:

Stephen Ying, Chair, Oregon Commission on Asian Affairs and Pacific Islander Affairs