



Eric Jeng

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Chairwoman Brittney Miller

Interim Committee on Reapportionment and Redistricting
401 S Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: Nevadans Count - Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Population Growth

Dear Chairwoman Miller and Committee Members:

The Census Data released in August shows that the Asian population grew by about 36%, making it one of, if not the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population. The data also showed that the Asian and Latinx communities accounted for 74% of the nation's growth.

And Nevada's Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) residents helped lead that growth. Regardless of how you separate the data, Nevada ranks 4th with respect to the share of the Asian and Pacific Islander population. Asians, alone or in combination, make up 11.4%; Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, alone or in combination, make up 1.7%; in both, the Silver State ranks 4th. Because of the way the Census Bureau collects AAPI data, we cannot simply add these two percentages together. Still, when we count Asians and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islanders accurately, we make up 12.5% of the state's population, and still, Nevada ranks 4th in the country. That's over 389,000 Asians and Pacific Islanders in the State of Nevada.

10 years ago AAPI residents were too few and scattered throughout the Las Vegas Valley. A decade later, that is not the case. Our communities are geographically compact in the southwest part of the valley. Our community has political cohesiveness because organizations like the Asian Community Development Council provide culturally and linguistically appropriate information so AAPI residents can make informed decisions.

Nevada is one of only six states where AAPI makes up more than 10% of the state population. Yet when our community looks at the makeup of the state legislature, we cannot help but notice the underrepresentation of AAPI Nevadans. Chairwoman Miller and committee members, It would be a disservice to the AAPI community if this committee and the Legislature does not take into consideration the growth of our community when redrawing state legislative districts.

For the AAPI communities in Nevada, the 2021 redistricting process is a defining moment and we are ready to ensure our communities are kept together. The AAPI community in Nevada deserves fair representation.

Thank you for your consideration,

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