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California State Legislature



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February 3, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Office of the Governor
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

The California Asian Pacific Islander (API) Legislative Caucus is proud to endorse our caucus colleague, Assemblymember Rob Bonta, for appointment to the office of California Attorney General. Assemblymember Bonta's legal, legislative and lived experiences make him the best choice to represent the diversity of this state. Moreover, his appointment would be a major step towards the equitable representation of California's fastest growing racial and ethnic groups, Asian Pacific Islanders. While the Caucus recognizes there are many highly qualified API candidates, it is with great pleasure that we request your appointment of Assemblymember Rob Bonta to be California's next Attorney General.

Bonta holds a degree from Yale Law School and has nearly 15 years of litigation in both the public and private sectors. During his accomplished legal career, Assemblymember Bonta worked nine years as a Deputy City Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco. In private practice, he worked pro-bono defending Californians from exploitation and racial profiling. At trial, he did not lose a jury verdict for a single client.

In 2012, Assemblymember Bonta became the first Filipino American to serve in the State Legislature. During his tenure, he has distinguished himself as a leader among leaders, successfully authoring groundbreaking legislation to protect Californians in the areas of criminal justice reform, consumer protection, environmental policy, and many others. He also served with distinction as Chair of the API Legislative caucus.

As a young child, Assemblymember Bonta was exposed to the farmworker labor movement by his parents who worked as organizers. Ever since, his life has been shaped by service, integrity and social justice. Therefore, we urge you to appoint Assemblymember Rob Bonta to the position of California Attorney General.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Pan".

Senator Richard Pan
Chair, Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus