

To Whom It May Concern,

As we approach Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month this May, we invite you to be part of something truly impactful. In the spirit of unity and collaboration, we extend a warm invitation to join us in issuing a declaration, proclamation, or statement in honor of the seventh annual "Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Day Against Bullying and Hate" on May 18, 2025.

May 18 is the birthday of Vincent Chin, who was killed in a hate crime in 1982, an act that fueled a national Asian American activist movement. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, nearly 11,500 cases of anti-AAPI violence and hate have been reported. AAPI youth face unprecedented amounts of bullying online and offline, with 1 in 3 AAPI youth reporting being bullied at school in 2024. Our work of raising awareness and bullying prevention helps to increase tolerance, safety and belonging among AAPI youth.

In pursuit of a more tolerant, safe, and inclusive world, our national anti-bullying non-profit, <u>Act To Change</u>, is working to end bullying for students and develop confident leaders in the AAPI community and beyond. We envision a world where all youth have the opportunity to grow up feeling proud and supported in their identities.

Last year, we honored this day with our <u>sixth annual Day Against Bullying and Hate summit</u>, gathering proclamations and statements from 40 cities and states, and nearly 100 partner organizations. It was a truly impactful mobilization across the country. This year, our impact has increased tenfold with a bigger team, a revamped programming of our Youth Ambassador Program and Homeroom Anti-Bullying Workshop, and an inspiring theme for the <u>seventh annual AAPI Day Against Bullying and Hate summit</u> that speaks to the power of inclusivity and belonging, "The Future of Allyship."

Will you join us this year in commemorating this important day? Your voice matters, and your statement denouncing bullying and hate against the AAPI community would be a powerful testament to your commitment to this crucial cause.

If you have any questions, please contact us <u>info@acttochange.org</u>. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Josef Canaria

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Manager, Programs & Strategic Initiatives

Act To Change