

REFERENCE TITLE: Asian-Americans; diversity; data collection

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-third Legislature
First Regular Session
2017

SCR 1012

Introduced by
Senator Yee

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE DIVERSITY WITHIN THE ASIAN-AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER POPULATIONS AND SUPPORTING IMPROVED DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS TO REFLECT THAT DIVERSITY.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, the Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities are the
2 fastest growing segments in Arizona, increasing in population from 255,000
3 in 2010 to more than 322,000 in 2014, as well as the nation, increasing
4 from approximately 16.4 million people in 2009 to approximately 20.5
5 million in 2014; and

6 Whereas, the United States decennial census revealed that Asians and
7 Pacific Islanders constitute approximately 5.9% of the total population;
8 and

9 Whereas, the Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities are
10 among the most diverse groups in Arizona, representing over 50 nations and
11 speaking over 100 different languages; and

12 Whereas, current data collection standards do not accurately
13 represent and are incapable of adequately assessing the status and needs
14 of the Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities; and

15 Whereas, data collection by many agencies, such as the National
16 Center for Health Statistics, generalizes all Asian-Americans and Pacific
17 Islanders under a single label; and

18 Whereas, the generalization of all Asian-Americans and Pacific
19 Islanders makes it difficult to analyze how race, ethnicity and language
20 impact individual and community health; and

21 Whereas, Asian-American and Pacific Islander immigrants face
22 challenges that can affect their ability to access critical services; and

23 Whereas, improvements in data collection standards are needed to
24 ensure state-of-the-art, consistent data collection by race, ethnicity and
25 preferred language.

26 Therefore

27 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of
28 Representatives concurring:

29 That the Members of the Legislature recognize the diversity within
30 the Asian-American and Pacific Islander populations and support improved
31 data collection and analysis to reflect that diversity.