Resolution of The Organization of Chinese Americans in Supporting Federal Assistance for Institutions of Higher Education Serving Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

WHEREAS An amendment to the Higher Education Bill is introduced by Congressman Underwood to provide federal assistance to Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and

WHEREAS although Asian Americans and Pacific Islander are one of the fastest growing communities in the United States, they are often completely forgotten in many higher education assistance programs that target minority students; and

WHEREAS so far, the Department of Education has the power to assist minority-serving higher educations institutions for Blacks, Hispanics, American Indians, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Natives, but no assistance is provided for the APA community; and

WHEREAS through the activities permitted by the bill, colleges and universities can develop diverse study curriculums to educate all students about Asian American and Pacific Islander issues and cultures; and

WHEREAS interaction between institutions of education and grass-roots communities can form through such additional programs funded by this bill while more resources for research and data collection can be utilized for community analysis and public policy development; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that such an amendment to the current Higher Education Bill to include federal assistance to Asian American and Pacific Islanders is absolutely justified; and

FURTHER IT BE RESOLVED OCA is fully committed in pushing for the passing of this bill.