Resolution Opposing the Real ID Act

M/s Richard Bergeon / Patricia Din, to Approve Resolution.
Motion Approved, 35 supporting, 0 opposing, 1 abstaining.

OCA is a national civil rights advocacy and educational organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) through legislative and policy initiatives at all levels of government, and to bettering the lives of the more than 12 million APAs across the country.

OCA represents APAs who are concerned about the country’s future with respect to national security and protecting our country’s borders. OCA recognizes the need for national security measures to protect our country against terrorist activity. OCA supports comprehensive reform of U.S. immigration laws. As an underlying principle, OCA supports federal laws to protect against terrorist entry, and applauds efforts of Congress to enact enhanced security measures designed to identify terrorist activity, based on actions, rather than race or ethnicity. Any measures, however, must be consistent with the American tradition of individual rights and liberties.

OCA is deeply concerned that the Real ID Act of 2005 imposes unreasonable burdens on our nation’s immigrants, and significantly undermines fundamental due process and basic fairness in our immigration system, while doing little to enhance our safety or reform our immigration system.

Whereas:  Approximately 60% of APAs were born outside of the United States, and

Whereas:  APAs are a diverse mix of native-born and naturalized citizens, lawful permanent residents, refugees and asylees, and

Whereas:  OCA opposes enactment of laws that are discriminatory against our community, unduly infringe upon our privacy, or create barriers to APAs who seek driver’s licenses, and

Whereas:  OCA supports strong hate crime laws and does not support asylum laws requiring asylees to prove central motive of the persecutor’s intent, and

Whereas:  OCA always supports a person’s right to due process, and

Whereas:  OCA opposes all instances of guilt by association, and

Whereas:  OCA believes that immigration enforcement should not be the responsibility of private bounty hunters, and

Whereas:  OCA believes that the Real ID Act of 2005 undermines the principles OCA promotes,

Therefore, Be It Resolved:  OCA joins the over 600 recognized civil rights advocacy, civic, APA and business organizations, and opposes the passage of the Real ID Act of 2005.