



**CONGRESSMAN BOBBY L. RUSH
1ST DISTRICT, ILLINOIS**

Asian Pacific American Heritage

“My interest as the Asian Pacific American community grows is to provide legislation and services that address the real needs and concerns of the population”.

Did you know?

• On October 23, 1992 Rep. Frank Horton and Rep. Norman Mineta passed H.R. 5572. This legislation designated May of each year as “Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.”

Asian Pacific American Demographics

• **14.4 million** is the estimated number of U.S. residents in July 2005 who said they were Asian or Asian in combination with one or more other races.

• This group comprises of about **5 percent** of the total population.

Asian American Advisory Council

I started the Asian American Advisory Council nine years ago to serve the area’s growing Asian community because I recognized its potential contribution to the area’s economy. My efforts resulted in the first Asian American Advisory Councils in the U.S. House of Representatives.



9th Annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Reception
May 11, 2007

Congressman Rush’s Legislative Initiatives

I have cosponsored several bills that affect members of the Asian Pacific American Community such as:

H.R. Res.121 This bill expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the government of Japan should: (1) formally acknowledge, apologize, and accept historical responsibility for its Imperial Armed Force’s coercion of young women into sexual slavery (comfort women) during its colonial and wartime occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands from the 1930s through

the duration of World War II; (2) have this official and public apology presented by the Prime Minister of Japan; (3) refute any claims that the sexual enslavement and trafficking of the comfort women never occurred; and (4) educate current and future generations about this crime while following the international community’s recommendations with respect to the comfort women.

H.R. 1592: Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2007

which provides the resources necessary for all levels of gov-

ernment to investigate and prosecute hate crimes based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, and disability.

I have also sponsored: H.R.1285 Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Reauthorization Act of 2005. This bill became law December 20, 2006. This bill amends the Nursing Relief for Disadvantaged Areas Act of 1999 to reauthorize and extend for three years the H-1C visa program.

Congressman Rush’s 110th Congress Caucus List

I am proud to be a member of the following caucus:

• **Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus**

The Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), founded in 1994 by then Congressman Norman Mineta, is comprised of members of Congress (both the House and Senate) who have strong interests in promoting Asian Pacific American (APA) issues and advocating the concerns of APAs. CAPAC

is bipartisan and bicameral.

• **Congressional Caucus on India and Indian American Issues**

The Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans serves as a forum in which Members of Congress may address the concerns vital to this important South Asian nation.

• **Congressional Pakistan Caucus**

The Congressional Pakistani Caucus exists to serve two major purposes: (1) To facilitate dialogue be-

tween Pakistani Americans with their political representatives in Congress and (2) To improve and strengthen bilateral relations between Pakistan and the U.S.

• **The United States – Philippines Friendship Caucus**

The United States Philippines Friendship Caucus was established to help Representatives more easily pursue issues of mutual interest to the United States, the Philippines, and the Filipino-American community.