

Executive Order

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

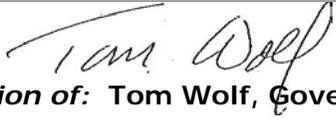
Governor's Office

Subject:

Governor's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

Number:

2015-10


By Direction of: Tom Wolf, Governor

Date: August 4, 2015

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are helping to build a strong and vibrant Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities represent many ethnicities and languages that span generations, and their shared achievements are an important part of the Pennsylvania experience; and

WHEREAS, AAPIs represent a vital and valued part of the culture, society and economy of the commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, AAPI businesses and communities have expressed great interest in doing business and pursuing educational opportunities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and participating in the revitalization of Pennsylvania's economy; and

WHEREAS, the commonwealth is committed to providing equality and opportunity for all its citizens and increasing access for AAPIs to civic, economic, and educational opportunities in Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, it will benefit the commonwealth to define and address the unique contributions, needs and concerns of the AAPI communities, in order to improve the lives of all Pennsylvanians.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby reestablish, in the Office of the Governor, the **Governor's Advisory Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs** (hereinafter referred to as "Commission") as the commonwealth's advocate agency for AAPI Pennsylvanians as hereinafter set forth.

1. Functions.

- a. Advise the Governor on policies, procedures, legislation and regulations that affect the AAPI communities;

- b. Develop, review and recommend to the Governor policies in the areas of health and human services, housing, education, employment, business formation and other relevant areas, which affect the AAPI communities;
- c. Provide appropriate assistance and advice to state agencies, including the Pennsylvania Minority Business Development Authority, and work with the Bureau of Workforce Planning, Development, and Equal Employment Opportunity, within the Office of Human Resources and Management, in the Governor's Office of Administration, to strengthen the enforcement of the commonwealth's anti-discriminatory hiring, retention and promotion policies;
- d. Serve as a liaison to federal, state and local agencies to ensure that programs affecting AAPIs are effectively utilized and promoted;
- e. Serve as a resource for community groups and provide forums for developing strategies and programs that will expand and enhance the civic, social, educational, cultural and economic status of the AAPI communities;
- f. Identify programs, scholarships, mentoring programs, sources of funding or other resources for the benefit and advancement of AAPIs; and
- g. Promote the cultural arts of the AAPI communities throughout the commonwealth.

2. Composition of the Commission.

- a. The Commission shall consist of no more than 30 members, to be appointed by the Governor, who are representatives of the commonwealth's AAPI communities or others who have an interest in the success of the AAPI communities and provide value to the work of the Commission;
- b. The Governor shall designate one Commission member to serve as chairperson. The Governor shall designate one Commission member to serve as first vice-chairperson and two other Commission members to serve as second and third vice-chairpersons respectively. The chairperson and all vice-chairpersons shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor; and
- c. The Governor shall appoint an Executive Director of the Commission, who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

3. Terms of Membership.

- a. Members shall be appointed for terms of two years and serve until their respective successors are appointed. A member may be reappointed for one additional term. All members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor;
- b. Should a vacancy occur on the Commission, the Governor shall appoint a successor; and the successor shall be appointed to fulfill the remainder of the term. A successor so appointed may thereafter be reappointed for one additional term; and

- c. A member who is absent from two consecutive meetings of the Commission, without excuse, shall forfeit membership on the Commission.
- 4. Compensation.** Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their service, except that members may be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with commonwealth policy.
- 5. Relationship with Other Agencies.** All agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction shall cooperate with and provide assistance and support as needed by the Commission to carry out its functions effectively. Independent agencies, state-affiliated entities and state-related institutions are also strongly encouraged to work with the Commission to support its mission.
- 6. Reports.** The Commission shall submit reports to the Governor or the Governor's designee, as it deems necessary, on issues affecting AAPI communities in the commonwealth.
- 7. Procedures.**
 - a. The Commission is authorized to establish subcommittees, rules and procedures for the effective implementation of its functions, consistent with this order, which subcommittees may include advisory non-members, if approved by the Commission chairperson; and
 - b. A majority of the Commissioners serving at any time shall constitute a quorum.
- 8. Effective Date.** This order shall take effect immediately and shall continue in effect unless revised or rescinded by the Governor.
- 9. Rescission.** *Executive Order 2012-07* is hereby rescinded.