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## **APALA Condemns Barring of Transgender People in the Military**

Washington, DC – In response to the administration's announcement that transgender individuals will be barred from serving in the military, the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO (APALA) issued this statement from Johanna Puno Hester, APALA National President and Assistant Executive Director of the United Domestic Workers, AFSCME Local 3930:

"The administration's announcement is deeply disappointing for the transgender community. Serving our country in this capacity should be open to all Americans, and this includes the diverse transgender community throughout the country. Our AAPI community has and continues to face discrimination – from the barring of Japanese Americans from serving in the military during World War II to the current administration's agenda to criminalize and deport millions of immigrants. We reject policies and rhetoric that perpetuate discrimination, hate, and bigotry against ours- and allied- communities, and we will continue to fight for equity and access for all marginalized communities."

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The **Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance** (APALA), AFL-CIO was founded in 1992 as the first and only national organization for Asian Pacific American union members to advance worker, immigrant and civil rights.

For more information, visit <a href="https://www.apalanet.org">www.apalanet.org</a> and follow <a href="https://www.apalanet.org">@APALAnational</a>



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