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APALA Disturbed that Affirmative Action Is Under Attack

Washington, DC – The Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO (APALA) released the following statement from Monica Thammarath, APALA 1st Vice President and Co-Chair for the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA) Education Committee, in response to the Justice Department's announcement to investigate affirmative action programs that allegedly discriminate against white applicants:

"We are deeply disturbed that affirmative action is under attack again. APALA has long held that inclusivity and cross-racial, cross-cultural understanding in our schools is key to preparing our students for an increasingly globalized society. Our education system continues to endure structural flaws of racism that disproportionately impact communities of color, including the diverse Asian American and Pacific Islander community. This move is a very real threat to our education system and democracy in general as it directly inserts the administration's white supremacist agenda of 'America First' on the education and development of students across the country. Alongside our labor and community partners like the National Education Association, American Federation of Teachers, and the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans, APALA will continue to advocate for racial justice in education for all communities of color."

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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.

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