



February 1, 2011

In response to Florida Federal Judge Roger Vinson's ruling that provisions within the Affordable Care Act are unconstitutional, the National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians issues the following statement:

NCAPIP stands behind the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and its promoting of access to quality health care, patient protection, language that calls for increased health data collection, initiatives to improve the health care workforce in the future, and other provisions that are and will be of great benefit to our Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities, as well as all Americans. NCAPIP echoes the sentiment of President Obama and his support of this landmark legislation, one that has already made health insurance coverage more attainable for persons and families with pre-existing conditions, and provided small businesses with the opportunity to provide their employees with coverage.

Making health insurance affordable and accessible to everyone is a basic principle of maintaining the health of our communities. It is important that for those that can afford it, personal and social responsibility includes the responsibility to insure oneself against unanticipated illness and injury. Without the participation of as many individuals as possible in our health care insurance system, we will not be able to address comprehensive access and quality in health care. Notwithstanding judicial rulings, this is important for Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities.