

COPY ALL
DPC STAFF

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS ASIAN AND PACIFIC AMERICANS

ECONOMY

12.3 Million New Jobs. For the first time ever, over 11 million jobs were created during a single Presidential term.

More small business assistance. The Small Business Administration has approved more than 15,000 loans, totaling \$4.7 billion, for Asian and Pacific American business owners, and has helped over 126,000 Asian and Pacific Americans to receive management training and counseling from a national network of business education and assistance programs.

Opening doors to trade. Secured commitments from Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders to eliminate barriers to open trade in the Asian Pacific region in 2020.

Increasing trade and jobs. Helped increase exports to Asia by more than 44% since taking office. Our exports to Asia account for over 2 million jobs in the United States.

EDUCATION

Foreign language. Restructured Foreign Language Assistance Programs to assist local schools in establishing programs in Chinese, Japanese and Korean. Strongly opposed legislation to make English the official language of the United States which would have jeopardized services and programs for non-English speakers and jeopardized assistance to the tens of thousands of new immigrants and others seeking to learn adult English.

Addressing minority needs. Hosted two Asian Pacific American Education Forums to address the needs of Asian Pacific American students and their teachers.

Opposed Gallegly Amendment. The Administration opposed the Gallegly Amendment which would have ended the guarantee of public education for all children. It would have shifted immigration enforcement from the borders and work sites to classrooms and made children susceptible to gangs and violence.

PROMOTING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Diverse Administration. Appointed the most diverse Cabinet and Administration in history. The Clinton Administration has more than twice as many Asian and Pacific American appointees as the previous Administration.

Judicial appointments. Nominated more Asian and Pacific Americans to the federal bench than any other Administration.

Opposed California Prop 209. Filed *amicus* briefs opposing California Proposition 209 which would prohibit state affirmative action programs.

Election fairness. Prevented election day discrimination against minority voters and voter intimidation and harassment by monitoring polling place activities in a record number of states and counties. Continued enforcement efforts to ensure that citizens who rely on Asian languages have the same opportunities to participate in voting-related activities as English-speaking voters.

Focused health efforts. Established the Office of the Minority Health Research and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health. Helped communities develop culturally-competent systems of care for children with serious emotional disturbances through the Comprehensive Mental Health Services for Children and Families program. Negotiated agreements with hospitals and nursing homes to eliminate barriers to equal access for minorities based on language.

FIGHTING CRIME

White House Conference on Hate Crimes. President Clinton announced the first White House Conference on Hate Crimes, which will examine laws and remedies that can make a difference in preventing hate crimes, highlight solutions that are working in communities across the country, and continue the frank and open dialogue needed to build One America.

Action against hate crimes. Filed 38 hate crime cases in FY96, involving 65 defendants.

SAFE AND CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Environmental justice and redevelopment. Issued an Executive Order on Environmental Justice, ensuring that low income citizens and minorities do not suffer a disproportionate burden of industrial pollution. Identified pilot projects to be undertaken across the country to redevelop contaminated sites in low-income communities and turn them into useable space, creating jobs and enhancing community development.

IMMIGRATION

Naturalization. Made naturalization a top priority of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in order to continue fostering legal immigration while combating illegal immigration. Naturalized over one million individuals in 1996. The Administration continues to work to streamline and improve the naturalization process so that eligible individuals who have played by the rules can become full partners in America.

Responsible immigration reform. Worked to enact responsible immigration reform legislation by properly focusing on immigration enforcement and opposing severe reductions in legal immigration which were not consistent with pro-family, pro-worker and pro-naturalization principles.

Defended immigrant rights. The Administration defeated legislative efforts which would have significantly eroded health care for immigrants. The bipartisan agreement strengthened the sponsorship requirement while preserving the basic ability of families to reunify.