



2015 Legislative Priorities

The Council was created to advise the Legislature and the Governor on issues of importance to Asian Pacific Minnesotans (APM), advocate on behalf of the community on these issues, and serve as a bridge for and between APMs and non-APMs.

Major Initiatives

The Council will introduce two bills during the 2015 legislative session:

A Study Group Bill: Requesting the legislature to fund a 2 year study on the nature, scope, and prevalence of violence against Asian women and children in Minnesota. A multi-disciplinary advisory group will oversee the study.

A Rental Voucher Pilot Program: Requesting the creation of a 2-year transitional rental voucher pilot program that serves Asian women and children who are victims of domestic violence (and other forms of violence against women) and are at risk of being homeless.

Targeted Issues

The Council will actively follow and support legislation in the following areas:

- 1) **Employment and Training Programs**
- 2) **The Achievement Gap**
- 3) **Linguistically and Culturally Responsive Services**
- 4) **Affordable Housing (Rental and Home-ownership)**
- 5) **Violence Against Women and Children**

On-going Positions

The Council advocates for:

- Linguistically and culturally responsive services to ensure access to services and resources for all Minnesotans, including Asian Pacific Minnesotans.
- The collection of disaggregated data to better inform policy-making.
- **Option #1 of the four options the Office of the Legislative Auditor identified in its 2014 Report on the Councils on Asian Pacific Minnesotans, Black Minnesotans, Chicano/Latino People, and Indian Affairs.**