

**National Asian American Coalition Letter Led By Asian American Scholar Forum, Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC, Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) & Stop AAPI Hate**

*Re: Coalition of 63 Asian American and Allied Organizations Opposes Short-Term Reauthorization of Section 702*

*To: All Members of the U.S. Congress*

*Date: November 14, 2023*

We, the undersigned coalition of 63 Asian American and allied organizations, write to express our strong opposition to including a short-term reauthorization of Section 702 in a continuing resolution or any other "must-pass" legislation. Just as we recently urged comprehensive reforms in our [previous communication](#), we now stress the importance of avoiding a short-term extension that would not serve the American public's best interests.

Section 702 and related surveillance authorities have been misused to spy on Americans, including but not limited to protesters, journalists, campaign donors, and members of Congress. The consequences of such misuse have had a profound impact on our Asian American community, resulting in wrongful targeting, unjust surveillance, and devastating tolls on careers, livelihoods, and reputations. This disproportionate targeting has fostered a climate of fear among Asian Americans and their families, causing anxiety about being stopped, monitored, or investigated while engaging in everyday activities. These issues not only raise significant concerns about civil liberties and civil rights, but also underscore the need for substantial reform.

If Section 702 requires reauthorization, it must be pursued through standalone legislation, subject to open debate and amendment. Numerous members of Congress, including committee chairs, firmly oppose reauthorizing the law in its current form. In essence, a straight reauthorization of Section 702 would not pass Congress if subjected to an up-or-down vote. Meanwhile, privacy champions have recently offered the only existing path forward in the form of the Government Surveillance Reform Act of 2023, which members of Congress deserve the opportunity to vote for on the floor.

The inclusion of a short-term reauthorization in larger "must-pass" bills would undermine the democratic process, run counter to the will of Congress, and disregard the concerns of the American people. Such an approach could also imperil the long-term viability of Section 702 by alienating members who are willing to engage in constructive negotiations for meaningful reforms.

In light of our recent call for comprehensive reforms, we urge you to consider these concerns seriously and to reject any short-term reauthorization of Section 702. Failure to do so would

perpetuate a system that unjustly targets Asian Americans and subjects them to unwarranted surveillance.

Sincerely,

AAPI Equity Alliance  
AAPI Victory Alliance  
Action Against Hate  
API Equality-LA  
ASATA – Alliance of South Asians Taking Action  
Asian American Academy of Science and Engineering (AAASE)  
Asian American Federal Employees for Nondiscrimination  
Asian American for Civil Rights and Equality  
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)  
Asian American Scholar Forum  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – AAJC  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Asian Law Caucus  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Atlanta  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California  
Asian Americans Leadership Council  
Asian Law Alliance  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA), AFL-CIO  
Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL)  
Asian Student Alliance  
Asian Texans for Justice  
Association of Chinese Americans  
Aurora Commons  
Center for Leadership Equity and Research (CLEAR)  
Chinese American Citizens Alliance Portland Lodge  
Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco  
Chinese for Affirmative Action  
Coalition of AAPI Churches Los Angeles  
Communities United for Status & Protection (CUSP)  
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)  
Empowering Marginalized Asian Communities  
Ethnic Media Services  
Grassroots Asians Rising  
Hmong Innovating Politics  
Muslim Advocates  
Muslims for Just Futures  
National Asian Pacific American Families Against Substance Abuse (NAPAFASA)  
National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum  
National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA)  
National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC)

OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates  
National Pacific Islander Education Network  
OCA Asian Pacific Advocates – San Diego  
OCA Asian Pacific Advocates of Greater Seattle  
OCA Asian Pacific American Advocates—Pittsburgh Chapter  
OCA Columbus  
OCA Greater Chicago  
OCA Greater Cleveland – Asian Pacific American Advocates  
OCA Silicon Valley  
OCA-Central Virginia Chapter  
OCA-Greater Houston  
Pacific Asian Counseling Services  
Restore The Fourth  
Rising Voices  
Sikh Coalition  
South Asian American Policy and Research Institute (SAAPRI)  
South Asian Public Health Association  
South Asian Network  
Stop AAPI Hate  
Thai Community Development Center (Thai CDC)  
Tulane Association of Chinese Professionals  
Vietlead  
Vincent Chin Institute  
Woori Juntos