

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater N.Y. (CACAGNY)

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Press Release

May 27, 2020

CACAGNY Opposes Return to Racial Spoils in California

CACAGNY strongly supports the fight in California to defeat Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 (ACA-5), which seeks to repeal Proposition 209 (Prop 209).

Prop 209, passed in 1996, banned preferences based on race, color, sex, national origin, and ethnicity for public hiring, contracting, and education. Passing ACA-5 would allow for open season on racial spoils in these key public activities. We all know what this means for Chinese Americans.

California legislators took advantage of the pandemic crisis, which consumed everyone's attention, to sneak ACA-5 into committee with barely 24 hour notice. With 2/3rds Democratic super-majority in both the Assembly and the Senate, and with a progressive Democrat as governor, the sponsors are counting on easy passage of ACA-5 with voting along party lines. That would place Prop 209 on the ballot for voters to decide on its fate.

We must not let these legislators get away with it.

After Prop 209, California prospered from the contributions of people of all types. More non-Caucasians than ever, of varied ethnicities and colors advanced in California these decades. Racial spoils would gravely corrupt this bountiful and diverse meritocratic engine. And despite the Chicken Littles, Black and Hispanic enrollment did not collapse at California universities after Prop 209 ended racial spoils; instead, Black and Hispanic graduation rates improved, and more completed their original majors: **everyone** benefits when they attend programs that match their preparations.

We face a similar fight in New York City, where a racist, toxic, anti-Asian Education Chancellor from California is also exploiting the pandemic to justify multiple new decrees, each to judge students not by their individual accomplishments, but by the color of their skin. After Chancellor Carranza's toxic failed tenure in San Francisco, the NAACP declared California an education disaster zone.

CACAGNY urges you to ask your friends in California to join in this fight. You and your California friends can start by signing this online petition: <https://www.change.org/p/california-state-assembly-members-vote-no-to-aca-5>

(Change.org will ask for a donation; that is not a solicitation by the organizers of the petition, and the money goes to Change.org, not the petition organizers. We recommend you not to donate to Change.org.)

Then, those in California should call or email their legislators using the contact info and templates from: <https://www.svcaf.org/>.

If your California friends are reluctant to participate, please explain that this is a fight of we grassroots people against establishment politicians: if we the people don't step up, **there's no one else** to stop the establishment politicians, We don't have an establishment or an organization behind us. All we have is people power – and that's your friends! People power have won similar racial spoils fights recently in Idaho and Washington – let's win in California and New York too!

For more info and to add you or your organization to support NO to ACA-5: <https://aca5info.org/>.

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Please visit <https://nypost.com/2020/05/24/chinese-american-group-rips-carranza-over-anti-asian-bias-training/> for a follow-up to a recent CACAGNY statement.

Contact: Wai Wah Chin <cacagny.waiwah.chin@gmail.com>



*Founded in 1895 in San Francisco, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance is the oldest Chinese American civil rights organization in the United States.
CACAGNY is its New York Chapter. www.CACAGNY.org*

1895年在舊金山成立之同源會，是美國最古老的民權組織。紐約同源會是這個地區的分會。