
THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 96
Author: Wahab (D), et al.
Amended: 8/19/25
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Southeast Asian Americans: resettlement

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution commemorates 50 years since Southeast Asian refugees began resettling in the United States, honors their sacrifices, recognizes their contributions, uplifts the principles of second chances, rehabilitation, and intergenerational healing for Southeast Asian Americans who resettled in the United States and California, and resolves the Legislature's continued pursuit of comprehensive policies for Southeast Asian American communities.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/19/25 to make minor, technical changes.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) 2025 commemorates the 50th year of the beginning of the resettlement of Southeast Asian refugees to the United States.
- 2) Southeast Asian Americans comprise more than 3 million individuals in the United States and include, but are not limited to, the Cham, Hmong, Khmer, Khmer Kampuchea Krom, Khmer Loeu, Khmu, Lahu, Lao, Iu Mien, Montagnards, Phutai, Pnong, Tai Dam, Tai Deng, Tai Lue, Vietnamese, and ethnic Chinese with Southeast Asian heritage.
- 3) California is home to the largest share of Southeast Asian Americans in the country, with 35% of the Vietnamese American population, 34% of the Cambodian population, 25% of the Laotian American population, 33% of the Hmong American population, and 71% of the Iu Mien American population.
- 4) The resettlement of Southeast Asian refugees in the United States typically placed many individuals and families in communities with inadequate resources

and resettlement support, and many of these individuals and their children experienced health and economic disparities.

- 5) As survivors of war and genocide, Southeast Asian Americans still face disparate health outcomes, including higher rates of physical, mental, and chronic health challenges, including 60% of Cambodians and a significant number of other Southeast Asian Americans who continue to experience post-traumatic stress disorder.
- 6) As children of the survivors of war and genocide, first and second generation Southeast Asian Americans have intergenerational, compounded trauma that has created poor mental health conditions and educational barriers.

This resolution recognizes the contributions of Southeast Asian Americans to the economic, educational, military, political, and social culture of California and the United States.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/15/25)

AAPI Data

AAPI Equity Alliance

AAPIs for Civic Empowerment

Alliance for Boys and Men of Color

Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California

Asian Health Services

Asian Pacific Islander Reentry through Inclusion Support & Empowerment

Asian Prisoner Support Committee

California Coalition for Women Prisoners

CA Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative

California Immigrant Policy Center

Center for Asian Americans in Action

Chinese for Affirmative Action

Courage California

Contra Costa Asian American Pacific Islander Coalition

Department of Ethnic Studies, California State University Sacramento

Empowering Marginalized Asian Communities

Families in Good Health at St. Mary Medical Center

Hmong Cultural Center of Butte County

Hmong Innovation Politics

Hmong Youth and Parents United

Iu-Mien Community Services
Khmer Girls in Action
Laotian American Community of Fresno
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
Legal Aid at Work
Little Tokyo Service Center
New Breath Foundation
New Light Wellness
Pacific Asian Counseling Services
Racial and Ethnic Mental Health Disparities Coalition
Regional Pacific Islander Task Force
Richmond Area Multi-services
Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network
South Asian Network
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
Stop AAPI Hate
The Cambodian Family
The Progressive Vietnamese American Organization
United Khmer Cultural Preservation

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/15/25)

None received

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