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President's FY 17 Budget Reflects Growth of Economy and Nation

Washington, DC – President Obama released the budget for fiscal year 2017, aiming to make impactful investments to grow our economy. To progress the momentum for economic growth under his Administration, the President's Budget emphasizes building America's future to find innovative ways for sustainability in the 21st century.

The President's Budget outlines a path for progress in 2017 and beyond through investments in job training and education for in-demand skills, work-life balance initiatives, improvement in early education and child care, evidence-based efforts to reduce poverty, tax reform that includes closing tax loopholes for and reforming tax expenditures, reducing tax benefits for high-income households, access to quality affordable health care, incentivizing criminal justice reform, and expanding educational opportunities for all students at America's Minority Serving Institutions.

APALA National President Johanna Puno Hester said, "We applaud President Obama's budget proposal, particularly programs that invest in mass education, training and employment. APALA also supports the increase in taxes on banks and the wealthy. It's time that the richest in the country--like the Koch Brothers or the Walton family--pay their fair share."

"America needs to continue investing in efforts like the Second Chance Pell program that combats the school to prison pipeline in many communities of color," added Monica Thammarath, APALA National 1st Vice President. "By providing a new pathway to restorative justice that gives incarcerated individuals eligible for release access to Pell grants to pursue postsecondary education, we can reduce recidivism through correctional education efforts and focus on how we can help the successful reentry of formerly incarcerated individuals."

"APALA believes the President's Budget reflects the growth of our nation and provides disadvantaged communities of color access to economic security and prosperity," said Gregory Cendana, APALA National Executive Director. "We urge Congress to work in bipartisanship to consider the President's Budget during the appropriations process and invest in programs that will have a significant positive impact on AAPI workers and their families."

Click [HERE](#) to view The President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2017

Click [HERE](#) to view the Supporting Asian American and Pacific Islanders Fact Sheet

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The **Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance** (APALA), AFL-CIO was founded in 1992 as the first and only national organization for Asian Pacific American union members to advance worker, immigrant and civil rights.

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