

Asian American Presidential Poll in San Diego: Two to One for McCain

SAN Diego—Very few polls have been taken regarding the presidential preferences of our nation's 15 million Asian Americans, one-third of whom are located in California. Like the Latino vote, it is growing to a combination of above average population and voter registration growth.

On Saturday evening, October 18th, a nonpartisan Pan Asian American nonprofit group, Mabuhay Alliance, conducted an informal written poll of Asian Americans attending its Annual Economic Development and Foreclosure Moratorium Conference.

Three hundred and forty-six of the 600 persons attending who were Asian American and registered voters submitted presidential preferences via an anonymous written ballot. The vote was 200 (58 percent) for Senator McCain,

94 (27 percent) for Senator Obama, and 52 (15 percent) are undecided.

This poll is just one indication of the preferences of the highly fluid and "up-for-grabs" Asian American electorate. The caveats that the nonpartisan organization offer are as follows: overwhelmingly, the Asian American vote in the polls was Filipino American; the vote took place in San Diego, whose voting patterns do not necessarily reflect voting patterns in other parts of urban California; a larger than



average number of the voters have ties to the military; and Senator McCain has one of his homes in San Diego.

It is the expectation of the Mabuhay Alliance and other Asian American groups that the media will in the future consider the Asian American vote as a routine thought for all polling nationally and in states with large concentrations of Asian Americans. ■

Study: California energy efficiency pays off

Polices to curb consumption have economic stimulus, UC Berkeley prof says

SAN FRANCISCO—California has saved about \$56 billion in electricity costs and created 1.5 million jobs over 35 years by using energy more efficiently than other states, according to a new study. The report released October 20 by an economist at the University of California at Berkeley found that state policies that boost energy efficiency aren't just good for the environment, they're also good for the economy.

"Energy efficiency is very good for real incomes, purchasing power and job creation," said the study's author, UC Berkeley economics professor David Roland-Holst. "Energy efficiency has really helped us stimulate the economy."

Roland-Holst analyzed the economic impacts of government policies enacted since the early 1970s that have made California the country's most energy-efficient state. California was among the first states to create energy-efficiency standards for new homes, buildings and household appliances such as refrigerators and washing machines.

The average Californian now uses about 40

percent less electricity than the average American. That means the \$56 billion that Californians would have spent on electricity between 1972 and 2006 could be spent on goods and services that create more jobs than energy, most of which is imported from other states and countries, according to the study.

The report, entitled "Energy Efficiency, Innovation, and Job Creation in California," also analyzed the economic impacts of a recently proposed plan to reduce California's greenhouse gas emissions over the next 12 years to achieve aggressive targets set by the California Global Warming Solutions Act.

The UC Berkeley study estimated the state's plan to reduce the greenhouse gases, which include measures to cap emissions and increase energy efficiency standards, could create 400,000 new jobs and increase household incomes by up to \$48 billion annually by 2020.

"If the country can follow California's example, it will have a dramatic effect on our future emissions and energy independence," Roland-Holst said. (AP)

API Legislative Caucus Chair recognizes Filipino-American History Month

SACRAMENTO—Assemblymember Ted Lieu (D-Torrance), chair of the Asian and Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, issued the following statement commemorating

Filipino American History Month, which is recognized in the month of October:

"As Chair of the Asian and Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus, I invite all of you to celebrate Filipino American History Month and recognize the significant accomplishments this community has made in our great State. From the first Filipinos who arrived in Morro Bay, California on Spanish galleons in 1587, to those who assisted in establishing the California mission system, to Filipino farm workers that gave birth to heroes like Philip Vera Cruz and Larry Itliong who led the way in coalitions during the 1965 Delano Grape Strike, and community organizers who stood

for affordable housing in their fight to protect the International Hotel in San Francisco during the 1960's, Filipino Americans have a long standing history here in California. As one of the fastest growing communities—reaching over a million members strong in California—I look forward to the continued contributions this community will make in the coming years."

This past legislative session, Assemblymember Fiona Ma (D-San Francisco) served as principle co-author to Assembly Bill 3084 with Assemblymember Paul Cook (R -Yucca Valley).

In addition, Assemblymember Warrant Furutani (D- Long Beach) pushed Assembly Joint Resolution 65, which recognizes the critical role that Filipinos have played in the social, economic, and political development of California. ■



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