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PRESS RELEASE

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APALC WILL JOIN THOUSANDS TO DEMAND IMMIGRATION REFORM

LOS ANGELES – Yesterday, President Obama released a statement applauding the call for bi-partisan reform of our immigration system by Senators Schumer (D-NY) and Graham (R-SC) in a *Washington Post* opinion piece. While the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California (APALC) is encouraged by these initial steps taken by President Obama and Senators Schumer and Graham, the outlined blueprint of reform falls short of the kinds of the workable solutions needed to fix America’s broken immigration system.

“Unfortunately, the Schumer-Graham framework seems to ignore family ties,” said Sara Sadhwani, project director at APALC. “Reuniting with family members is a major reason why people come to the United States, particularly for Asian Americans. Reform efforts will likely fail without a mechanism to ensure that close family members can be reunited.”

The President’s and Senators’ statements come just days before a massive march and rally in Washington DC to call for immigration reform. “The Asian American and Pacific Islander community must mobilize alongside others and let Congress know we demand comprehensive immigration reform this year,” said Connie Choi, policy advocate at APALC, who will be present at the Sunday march. Organizers have planned an AAPI pre-rally at 12 noon in Franklin Park.

“We look forward to engaging in a dialogue with our elected officials and the administration to find a solution to our immigration system that upholds our values as nation, strengthens our economy, and allow communities to prosper,” said Stewart Kwoh, executive director of APALC.

To learn more about Sunday’s march, please visit: www.WeMarchForAmerica.org

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