

CRS Report for Congress

Asian Pacific Americans in the United States Congress

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Summary

Nine Asian Pacific Americans serve in the 110th Congress; two Senators, six Representatives, and one Delegate. Of the 36 Asian Pacific Americans who have served in the United States Congress from 1903 to the present, there have been five Senators (three have also served in the House), 15 Representatives, six territorial Delegates, and 13 Resident Commissioners from the Philippine Islands. Resident Commissioners served from 1907-1946 while the Philippines was a U.S. territory and commonwealth (all were Philippine born). The ancestry of these Asian Pacific Americans has included Chinese, Chamorro, Filipino, Asian Indian, Japanese, Korean, Native Hawaiian, and Samoan. Of the 23 Asian Pacific Americans, 16 were Democrats and 7 were Republicans.

Asian Pacific Americans have served in both houses of Congress representing California, Hawaii, Louisiana, Oregon, Virginia, American Samoa, and Guam. They have served in leadership positions, including committee and subcommittee chairmanships. This report presents information on Senators, Representatives, and Delegates, including party affiliations, length and dates of service, and committee assignments. It will be updated in each new Congress when information becomes available, or as events warrant.

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Asian Pacific Americans in the United States Congress

Introduction

Nine Asian Pacific Americans serve in the 110th Congress: two Senators, six Representatives, and one Delegate. Standard sources identify a total of 36 Asian Pacific Americans elected to Congress from 1903 to the present.¹ Their ancestry has included Chinese, Chamorro, Filipino, Asian Indian, Japanese, Korean, Native Hawaiian, and Samoan.² There have been five Senators (three who also served in the House), 15 Representatives, and six Delegates. Eighteen Asian Pacific Americans have served only in the House, and two have served only in the Senate. Three have served in both houses: Daniel Ken Inouye (D-HI), Spark Masayuki Matsunaga (D-HI), and Daniel Kahikina Akaka (D-HI). Sixteen Asian Pacific Americans have been Democrats, and seven have been Republicans. Nine is the highest number of Asian Pacific Americans who have served at any one time. These Asian Pacific Americans have represented California, Hawaii, Louisiana, Oregon, Virginia, American Samoa, and Guam. Eight Asian Pacific Americans have represented Hawaii, and seven have represented California. There were also 13 Resident Commissioners from the Philippine Islands elected to the United States Congress from 1907 to 1946 (all were born in the Philippines).³

¹ The designation “Asian Pacific American” is commonly used to identify a person having origins in East Asia, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, Vietnam, and the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands. It is also the term used for the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, founded in May 1994, and refers to those who have self-identified themselves as such. In this report, the “Asian Pacific American” designation encompasses a wide range of ethnic and national identities, rather than a purely geographic designation. Thus, it does not include those of Australian or New Zealand ancestry, for example. Included in this total number is one Member who is African American with Filipino heritage. As promulgated by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, the official terms to be used in designating these Americans for federal reporting purposes are “Asians” and “Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders.” U.S. Office of Management and Budget, “Revisions to the Standards for the Classification of Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity,” *Federal Register*, vol. 62, no. 210, October 30, 1997, pp. 58782-58790.

² Sen. Daniel K. Akaka is Native Hawaiian and also Chinese American; Representative Robert Scott (D-VA) is African American with Filipino heritage; Delegate Robert Underwood (D-Guam) is Chamorro and also Hispanic.

³ The Philippine Islands were part of territory ceded to the United States by Spain under the Treaty of Paris of December 10, 1898. The Act of July 1902 granted the Philippine Islands the right to elect two Resident Commissioners to the United States Congress. Historically, U.S. territories were granted nonvoting Delegates to the Congress prior to statehood.

(continued...)

The first Asian Pacific American Member of Congress was Representative Dalip Singh Saund (D-CA), an immigrant from India who served in the House from 1957 to 1963. The first Asian Pacific American Senator elected to Congress was Hiram Leong Fong (R-HI), who was seated on August 24, 1959, as one of Hawaii's first two Senators after it was admitted to the Union. Senator Fong also was the first American of Chinese ancestry elected to Congress. Early in the 20th century, Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole represented the territory of Hawaii from 1903 to 1922 as a non-voting Delegate to the House. He was related to the Hawaiian royal family, and also held the title of prince.

Senator Inouye, a Member of the 110th Congress, is the Asian Pacific American with the longest congressional service. He was the first American of Japanese ancestry to be elected to Congress, and he was Hawaii's first Member of the House after it was admitted to the Union. He began his service on August 24, 1959, and was subsequently elected in 1962 to the Senate where he has served since January 3, 1963.

There have been only four Asian Pacific American women who have served in Congress. Representative Mazie Hirono (D-HI), a freshman Member, joins Representative Doris O. Matsui⁴ (D-CA) in the 110th Congress. The other two were Representative Patsy T. Mink (D-HI), the first Asian Pacific American woman to be elected to Congress, and Representative Patricia Fukuda Saiki (R-HI).

Background and Previous Occupations

Many of the Asian Pacific Americans have had similar educational and professional backgrounds. Eight have been educators, including two high school principals, two college professors, and two presidents of a state college and a university system. Nine have held law degrees or practiced law; two have also been judges. Many have held elected state or local offices before seeking a congressional seat: nine have served in state legislatures, two were lieutenant governors, and two have been mayors.

³ (...continued)

Congress distinguished between the territories acquired after the Spanish-American War and those bound for statehood. Thus, Congress provided for "resident commissioners" to the United States from Puerto Rico and the Philippines. Resident Commissioners were not accorded the same status as nonvoting Delegates, although, it should be noted, the rights of Delegates have changed over time. Resident Commissioners from the Philippines were granted floor privileges in the House with the right of debate on February 4, 1908. However, they did not have the right to vote or to serve on standing committees. When the Philippine Islands became a self-governing commonwealth, in transition to full sovereignty in 1935, the number of Resident Commissioners was reduced from two to one. On July 14, 1946, the Philippines became fully independent and the office of Resident Commissioner was terminated (P.L. 73-127). For the purposes of this study, a separate table listing Resident Commissioners from the Philippines is included at the end of the report.

⁴ Rep. Doris Matsui won a special election on March 8, 2005, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband Rep. Robert T. Matsui (D-CA), who had been elected to the 109th Congress, on January 1, 2005.

Ten Asian Pacific Americans have military experience, including two who served in other than the U.S. armed forces. One was a brigadier general. Some were decorated war veterans, including one Medal of Honor recipient.

Leadership in Committees and Subcommittees

Three Asian Pacific Americans have chaired committees — Senators Inouye⁵ and Akaka⁶ and Representative Norman Y. Mineta.⁷ Eight Asian Pacific Americans have chaired subcommittees — Senators Inouye, Akaka, and Matsunaga;⁸ Representatives Jay C. Kim,⁹ Norman Y. Mineta, Robert C. Scott, David Wu; and Delegate Eni F. H. Faleomavaega. In addition, Representative Robert T. Matsui served as acting chair of a subcommittee.

In the 110th Congress, several Asian Pacific Americans chair committees and subcommittees. In the Senate, Senator Inouye is chair of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee and the chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense. Senator Akaka chairs the Veterans' Affairs Committee and also chairs three subcommittees: the Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support; the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia; and the Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks.

⁵ In the 107th Congress, when the Democrats gained the majority in the Senate in June 2001, Senator Inouye became chair of the Committee on Indian Affairs. He also assumed the chair of the Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, and the chair of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Communications. Senator Inouye was the first chair of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence from 1976 to 1977, and was the Senate chair of the Secret Military Assistance to Iran and Nicaragua Opposition Select Committee (Iran-Contra Committee) from 1987 to 1988. From 1987 to 1994, he was chairman of the Select Committee on Indian Affairs. Senator Inouye has also chaired the following Senate subcommittees: the Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on the District of Columbia (1971-1972), Foreign Operations (1973-1980, 1987-1988), and Defense (1989-1994); the Senate Commerce Subcommittees on Foreign Commerce and Tourism (1971-1976), Merchant Marine and Tourism (1977-1980), and Communications (1987-1994); and the Intelligence Subcommittee on Budget Authorization (1979-1980).

⁶ Also in June of 2001, Sen. Akaka became chairman of three subcommittees: the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support, the Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation, and the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services.

⁷ Rep. Mineta was chair of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee (1993-1994). Prior to chairing the full committee, he chaired the Subcommittees on Public Buildings and Grounds (1977-1978), Oversight and Review (1979-1980), Aviation (1980-1989), and Surface Transportation (1990-1992).

⁸ Sen. Matsunaga was chair of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Tourism and Sugar (1977-1980).

⁹ In the 105th Congress, Representative Jay C. Kim (R-CA), the first Korean American to be elected to Congress, chaired the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development.

In the House, Representative Scott is chair of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. Representative Wu¹⁰ is chair of the House Science and Technology Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation, and Delegate Faleomavaega is chair of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment.

Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus

The bicameral and bipartisan Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC) was established on May 16, 1994. The goals of the caucus are to work on policies and legislation of concern to the Asian Pacific American community; to educate other Members about the history, contributions, and concerns of Asian Pacific Americans; and to protect and advance the civil and constitutional rights of all Americans. Representative Mineta, one of the founders of the caucus, served as the first chair. Upon Representative Mineta's resignation from the House, Representative Mink became chair of the caucus and served in that position through the 105th Congress. In both the 104th and 105th Congresses, Delegate Robert Underwood was vice chair of the caucus, and Senator Akaka served as secretary of the caucus. In the 106th Congress, Delegate Underwood chaired the caucus, Representative Wu served as vice chair, and Senator Inouye served as secretary. In the 107th Congress, Representative Wu served as caucus chair, Representative Michael M. Honda served as vice chair, and Senator Inouye continued as secretary. In the first session of the 108th Congress, Representatives Wu and Honda continued as chair and vice chair, respectively. In the second session, Representative Honda became chair, Delegate Faleomavaega became vice chair, Delegate Madeleine Bordallo became secretary, and Representative Ed Case became whip. In the 109th Congress, Representatives Honda and Case and Delegates Faleomavaega and Bordallo were all re-elected to the same positions.

In the 110th Congress, Representative Honda and Delegates Faleomavaega and Bordallo continue in their 109th Congress positions. The CAPAC Executive Board members are: Senators Akaka and Inouye, and Representatives Neil Abercrombie, Xavier Becerra, Doris Matsui, Mazie Hirono, Al Green, Robert Scott, and David Wu. CAPAC formed seven task forces: Civil Rights, Education, Health, Housing and Economic Development Priorities, Hurricane Katrina and Rita: Disaster Preparedness and Relief, Immigration, and Women's Issues. Membership to the caucus is not restricted to those of Asian Pacific heritage; the caucus is open to all Members of Congress.¹¹

¹⁰ Rep. Wu is the first Chinese American to represent a district on the U.S. mainland.

¹¹ For more information on CAPAC, see [<http://www.honda.house.gov/capac>].

Tables and Data

This report also provides a list of selected biographical information about 23 Asian Pacific American Members and Delegates, and their committee assignments during their tenure. Four tables summarize information about the 36 Asian Pacific Americans who have served in Congress. **Table 1** shows the Congress, the dates, and the name of the Members and Delegates who served in the House and Senate. **Table 2** shows the state or territory, the number of Members and Delegates elected from the state or territory, and their names. **Table 3** reflects the Congress, years, total number of Members and Delegates, and the number of Members and Delegates in the House and Senate. Finally, **Table 4** lists Resident Commissioners from the Philippine Islands, the Congresses in which they served, and the dates of their service.

Sources for the information on Asian Pacific Americans presented in this report included the *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774-present* available at [<http://bioguide.congress.gov/biosearch/biosearch.asp>]; *The Almanac of American Politics 2000*; *Politics in America 2000*; and various editions of the *Congressional Directory*. Information on heritage and ancestry was provided to these source books by the Members. Information on committee assignments and leadership positions was obtained from various editions of the *Congressional Directory*, various editions of the *Official Alphabetical List of the House of Representatives of the United States*, various editions of the *Congressional Yellow Book* (a publication of Leadership Directories, Inc.), information on Member websites, and telephone calls to Member offices.

For an overview of Asian Pacific American political participation in the United States, see CRS Report RS20206, *Asian Pacific American Political Participation and Representation in Elective Office*, by Kevin Coleman.

Alphabetical Listing of Asian Pacific American Members and Delegates, Selected Biographical Information, and Committee Assignments During Their Tenure in Office¹²

AKAKA, DANIEL KAHIKINA. Democrat; a Representative and Senator from Hawaii. Born on September 11, 1924. Elected to the House of Representatives for the 95th-101st Congresses; served from January 3, 1977, to May 15, 1990. Appointed to the Senate in 1990 to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Spark Matsunaga and subsequently elected by special election to the Senate in November 1990. Re-elected in 1994, 2000, and 2006; has served in the Senate since May 16, 1990.

Committee Assignments

- H. Agriculture
- H. Appropriations
- H. Merchant Marine and Fisheries
- * S. Armed Services
- S. Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
- * S. Energy and Natural Resources
- * S. Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
- * S. Indian Affairs
- * S. Veterans' Affairs, Chair
- S. Select Committee on Ethics

BLAZ, BEN GARRIDO. Republican; a Delegate from Guam. Born on February 14, 1928. Elected to the 99th-102nd Congresses; served from January 3, 1985, to January 3, 1993.

Committee Assignments

- H. Armed Services
- H. Interior and Insular Affairs

FALEOMAVAEGA, ENI F. H. Democrat; a Delegate from American Samoa. Born August 15, 1943. Elected to the 100th-110th Congresses; has served since January 3, 1989.

Committee Assignments

- H. Interior and Insular Affairs
- H. Education and Labor
- * H. Foreign Affairs
- * H. Natural Resources
- * H. Small Business

¹² Asterisks indicate current committee assignments.

FONG, HIRAM LEONG. Republican; a Senator from Hawaii. Born on October 15, 1906; died on August 18, 2004. First Asian Pacific American elected to the Senate and first American of Chinese ancestry elected to Congress. Elected to the Senate in 1959 upon the admission of Hawaii to the Union, reelected in 1964 and 1970; served from August 21, 1959, to January 3, 1977.

Committee Assignments

- S. Appropriations
- S. Interior and Insular Affairs
- S. Judiciary
- S. Post Office and Civil Service
- S. Public Works

HAYAKAWA, SAMUEL ICHIYE. Republican; a Senator from California. Born on July 18, 1906; died on February 26, 1992. Elected to the Senate in 1976; served from January 3, 1977, to January 3, 1983.

Committee Assignments

- S. Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
- S. Budget
- S. Labor and Human Resources
- S. Interior and Insular Affairs
- S. Foreign Relations

HIRONO, MAZIE KEIKO. Democrat; a Representative from Hawaii. Born on November 3, 1947. Elected to the 110th Congress; has served since January 3, 2007.

Committee Assignments

- * H. Education and Labor
- * H. Transportation and Infrastructure

HONDA, MICHAEL M. Democrat; a Representative from California. Born on June 27, 1941. Elected to the 107th - 110th Congresses; has served since January 3, 2001. He served as regional whip for the 107th and 108th Congresses. In the 110th Congress, he was named Democratic senior whip.

Committee Assignments

- * H. Appropriations
- H. Budget
- * H. Science and Technology
- H. Transportation and Infrastructure

INOUE, DANIEL KEN. Democrat; a Representative and Senator from Hawaii. Born on September 7, 1924. First American of Japanese ancestry elected to Congress. Elected to the House for the 86th and 87th Congresses; served from August 21, 1959, to January 3, 1963. Elected to the Senate in 1962, reelected in 1968, 1974,

1980, 1986, 1992, 1998, and 2004; has served in the Senate since January 3, 1963. He served as assistant majority whip from 1975 to 1976 and deputy Democratic whip from 1981 to 1986. From 1977 to 1988, he was secretary of the Senate Democratic Conference. From 1989 to 1994, he chaired the Democratic Steering Committee.

Committee Assignments

- H. Agriculture
- H. Banking and Currency
- S. Armed Services
- S. District of Columbia
- S. Public Works
- Joint Committee on the Library
- * Joint Committee on Printing
- * S. Appropriations
- * S. Commerce, Science, and Transportation, chair
- * S. Indian Affairs, chair in previous Congresses
- * S. Rules and Administration
- S. Select Committee on Intelligence, chair
- Select Committee on Secret Military Assistance to Iran and Nicaragua Opposition (Iran-Contra Committee), Senate chair

JINDAL, Bobby. Republican; a Representative from Louisiana. Born on June 10, 1971. Elected to the 109th and 110th Congresses; has served since January 3, 2005. In the 109th Congress, he was elected Republican freshman class president. He served as assistant majority whip in the 109th Congress, and is an assistant minority whip in the 110th Congress.

Committee Assignments

- H. Education and the Workforce
- * H. Homeland Security
- * H. Natural Resources

KALANIANAOLE, JONAH KUHIO. Republican; a Delegate from the Territory of Hawaii. Born on March 26, 1871; died on January 7, 1922. Elected to the 58th-67th Congresses; served from March 4, 1903, to January 7, 1922.

Committee Assignments

- H. Agriculture
- H. Coinage, Weights and Measures
- H. Post Office and Post-Roads
- H. Private Land Claims
- H. Territories

KIM, JAY C. Republican; a Representative from California. Born on March 27, 1939. First American of Korean ancestry elected to Congress. Elected to the 103rd-105th Congresses; served from January 3, 1993, to January 3, 1999. He was Republican sophomore class whip in the 104th Congress.

Committee Assignments

H. Small Business
 H. International Relations
 H. Transportation and Infrastructure

MATSUI, Doris Okada. Democrat; a Representative from California. Born on September 25, 1944. Elected to the 109th Congress in a special election on March 8, 2005, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, Representative Robert T. Matsui; re-elected to the 110th Congress; has served since March 8, 2005.

Committee Assignments

- * H. Rules
- H. Science and Technology
- * H. Transportation and Infrastructure

MATSUI, ROBERT TAKEO. Democrat; a Representative from California. Born on September 17, 1941; died on January 1, 2005. Elected to the 96th-109th Congresses; served from January 3, 1979, to January 1, 2005. He served and was majority whip at large from 1987 to 1994 and served as minority whip at large from 1995 to 2003, and as minority whip at large in the 108th Congress.

Committee Assignments

H. Budget
 H. Government Operations
 H. Interstate and Foreign Commerce
 H. Judiciary
 H. Ways and Means

MATSUNAGA, SPARK MASAYUKI. Democrat; Representative and Senator from Hawaii. Born October 8, 1916; died on April 15, 1990. Elected to the House of Representatives for the 88th-94th Congresses; served from January 3, 1963, to January 3, 1977. Elected to the Senate in 1976, reelected in 1982 and 1988; served from January 3, 1977, to April 15, 1990. He served as chief deputy majority whip from 1979 to 1980 and chief deputy minority whip from 1981 to 1986, and from 1987 to 1988 he was chief deputy majority whip.

Committee Assignments

H. Agriculture
 H. Post Office and Civil Service
 H. Rules
 S. Commerce
 S. Energy
 S. Finance
 S. Foreign Relations
 S. Labor and Human Resources
 S. Veterans' Affairs

MINETA, NORMAN YOSHIO. Democrat; a Representative from California. Born November 12, 1931. Elected to the House for the 94th-104th Congresses. Served from January 3, 1975, until his resignation on October 10, 1995. Confirmed by the Senate on July 20, 2000, and sworn in as U.S. Secretary of Commerce on July 21, 2000. Confirmed by the Senate on January 24, 2001, sworn in as U.S. Secretary of Transportation on January 25, 2001, served until July 7, 2006. He was a majority whip at large from 1977 to 1981, deputy majority whip from 1982 to 1994, and deputy minority whip in 1995. He became the first Asian Pacific American to serve in a Cabinet position when he was sworn in as U.S. Secretary of Commerce on July 21, 2000. He was nominated to a second Cabinet post and was sworn in as U.S. Secretary of Transportation on January 25, 2001, and continued in that post in the second term until July 7, 2006. He has the distinction of being the longest serving secretary in the history of the Department of Transportation.

Committee Assignments

- H. Budget
- H. Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
- H. Post Office and Civil Service
- H. Public Works and Transportation, chair
- H. Science and Technology

MINK, PATSY TAKEMOTO. Democrat; a Representative from Hawaii. Born December 6, 1927; died on September 28, 2002. First Asian Pacific American woman to be elected to Congress. Elected to the 89th-94th Congresses; served from January 3, 1965, to January 3, 1977. Appointed Assistant Secretary for the Office of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, Department of State. Elected again in 1990 in a special election to the 101st Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the appointment of Daniel Akaka to the Senate. Re-elected to 102nd-107th Congresses; served until her death on September 28, 2002; posthumously elected to the 108th Congress on November 5, 2002. She served as secretary of the Democratic Caucus from 1975 to 1977, minority regional whip from 1997 to 1998, and served as minority whip at large from 2001 until her death in September 2002.

Committee Assignments

- H. Budget
- H. Interior and Insular Affairs
- H. Natural Resources
- H. Education and the Workforce
- H. Government Reform

SAIKI, PATRICIA FUKUDA. Republican; a Representative from Hawaii. Born on May 28, 1930. Elected to the 100th-101st Congresses; served from January 3, 1987, to January 3, 1991. Appointed, and confirmed by the Senate on March 21, 1991, to be administrator of the Small Business Administration after leaving Congress.

Committee Assignments

H. Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs
H. Merchant Marines and Fisheries

SAUND, DALIP SINGH. Democrat; a Representative from California. Born on September 20, 1899; died August 22, 1973. First American of Indian ancestry to be elected to Congress. Elected to the 85th-87th Congresses; served from January 3, 1957, to January 3, 1963.

Committee Assignments

H. Interior and Insular Affairs
H. Foreign Affairs

SCOTT, ROBERT CORTEZ. Democrat; a Representative from Virginia. Born on April 30, 1947. An African American with Filipino heritage. Elected to the 103rd - 110th Congresses; has served since January 3, 1993.

Committee Assignments

H. Budget
* H. Education and the Workforce
* H. Judiciary
H. Science, Space, and Technology
H. U.S. National Security and Military Commercial
Concerns with the People's Republic of China

SUNIA, FOFÓ IOSEFA FITI. Democrat; elected as first Delegate from American Samoa. Born on March 13, 1937. Elected to the 97th -100th Congresses; served from January 3, 1981, until his resignation on September 6, 1988.

Committee Assignments

H. Interior and Insular Affairs
H. Merchant Marines and Fisheries
H. Public Works and Transportation

UNDERWOOD, ROBERT ANACLETUS. Democrat; a Delegate from Guam. Born July 13, 1948. Elected to the 103rd-107th Congresses; was not a candidate for the 108th Congress; served from January 3, 1993, to January 3, 1993; unsuccessful candidate for governor of Guam. In the 105th Congress, he served as a deputy whip for the Democratic Study Group of the House Democratic Caucus, and also served as Democratic Caucus whip at large for the 105th and 106th Congresses.

Committee Assignments

H. Education and Labor
H. Armed Services
H. Resources

WON PAT, ANTONIO BORJA. Democrat; the first Delegate from Guam. Born on December 10, 1908; died on May 1, 1987. Elected to the 93rd-98th Congresses; served from January 3, 1973, to January 3, 1985.

Committee Assignments

H. Armed Services
H. Interior and Insular Affairs

WU, DAVID. Democrat; Representative from Oregon.¹³ Born on April 8, 1955. Elected to the 106th -110th Congresses; has served since January 3, 1999. In the 106th Congress, he served as Democratic freshman class president for the period July-December 2000.

Committee Assignments

- * H. Education and the Workforce
- * H. Science and Technology
- * H. Foreign Affairs

¹³ Rep. Wu is the first Chinese American to represent a district on the U.S. mainland.

**Table 1. Asian Pacific American Members
and Delegates in the 58th-110th Congresses
(1903-2009)**

Congress	Dates	House	Senate
58 th -67 th	1903-1923	Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole ^a	—
68 th -84 th	1923-1957	—	—
85 th	1957-1959	Dalip Singh Saund	—
86 th	1959-1961	Daniel Ken Inouye Dalip Singh Saund	Hiram Leong Fong
87 th	1961-1963	Daniel Ken Inouye Dalip Singh Saund	Hiram Leong Fong
88 th	1963-1965	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga	Hiram Leong Fong Daniel Ken Inouye
89 th	1965-1967	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong Daniel Ken Inouye
90 th	1967-1969	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong Daniel Ken Inouye
91 st	1969-1971	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong Daniel Ken Inouye
92 nd	1971-1973	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink	Hiram Leong Fong Daniel Ken Inouye
93 rd	1973-1975	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink Antonio Borja Won Pat	Hiram Leong Fong Daniel Ken Inouye
94 th	1975-1977	Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Norman Yoshio Mineta Patsy Takemoto Mink Antonio Borja Won Pat	Hiram Leong Fong Daniel Ken Inouye
95 th	1977-1979	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Norman Yoshio Mineta Antonio Borja Won Pat	Samuel Ichiye Hayakawa Daniel Ken Inouye Spark Masayuki Matsunaga
96 th	1979-1981	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Antonio Borja Won Pat	Samuel Ichiye Hayakawa Daniel Ken Inouye Spark Masayuki Matsunaga

Congress	Dates	House	Senate
97 th	1981-1983	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Fofó Iosefa Fiti Sunia Antonio Borja Won Pat	Samuel Ichiye Hayakawa Daniel Ken Inouye Spark Masayuki Matsunaga
98 th	1983-1985	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Fofó Iosefa Fiti Sunia Antonio Borja Won Pat	Daniel Ken Inouye Spark Masayuki Matsunaga
99 th	1985-1987	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Ben Garrido Blaz Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Fofó Iosefa Fiti Sunia	Daniel Ken Inouye Spark Masayuki Matsunaga
100 th	1987-1989	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Ben Garrido Blaz Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Patricia Fukuda Saiki Fofó Iosefa Fiti Sunia ^b	Daniel Ken Inouye Spark Masayuki Matsunaga
101 st	1989-1991	Ben Garrido Blaz Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Patsy Takemoto Mink Patricia Fukuda Saiki	Daniel Kahikina Akaka ^c Daniel Ken Inouye Spark Masayuki Matsunaga
102 nd	1991-1993	Ben Garrido Blaz Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Patsy Takemoto Mink	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye
103 rd	1993-1995	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Jay C. Kim Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert Cortez Scott ^d Robert Anacletus Underwood	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye

Congress	Dates	House	Senate
104 th	1995-1997	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Jay C. Kim Robert Takeo Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta ^e Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert Cortez Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye
105 th	1997-1999	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Jay C. Kim Robert Takeo Matsui Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert Cortez Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye
106 th	1999-2001	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Robert Takeo Matsui Patsy Takemoto Mink Robert Cortez Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood David Wu	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye
107 th	2001-2003	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Michael M. Honda Robert Takeo Matsui Patsy Takemoto Mink ^f Robert Cortez Scott Robert Anacleto Underwood David Wu	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye
108 th	2003-2005	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Michael M. Honda Robert Takeo Matsui ^g Robert Cortez Scott David Wu	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye
109 th	2005-2007	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Michael M. Honda Bobby Jindal Doris Okada Matsui ^h Robert Cortez Scott David Wu	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye
110 th	2007-2009	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Mazie Hirono Michael M. Honda Bobby Jindal Doris Okada Matsui ^h Robert Cortez Scott David Wu	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Daniel Ken Inouye

a. Del. Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole died on Jan. 7, 1922.

- b. Del. Fofó Iosefa Fiti Sunia resigned on Sept. 6, 1988.
- c. Sen. Daniel Kahikina Akaka also served in the House in the 101st Congress until May 15, 1990. However, he was appointed to the Senate and was sworn in on May 16, 1990, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Sen. Spark Masayuki Matsunaga on Apr. 15, 1990. Subsequently, he was elected to the Senate in Nov. 1990.
- d. Rep. Robert C. Scott is African American with Filipino heritage.
- e. Rep. Norman Yoshio Mineta resigned on Oct. 10, 1995.
- f. Rep. Patsy Takemoto Mink died on Sept. 28, 2002.
- g. Rep. Robert Takeo Matsui died on January 1, 2005.
- h. Rep. Doris Okada Matsui won a special election on March 8, 2005, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, Rep. Robert Matsui, and was sworn in on March 10, 2005. Although Rep. Robert Matsui was elected to the 109th Congress, he died on Jan.1, 2005.

**Table 2. Number of Asian Pacific American
Members and Delegates by State and Territory,
58th-110th Congresses (1903-2009)**

State or Territory	Number Elected	Name
California	7	Samuel Ichiye Hayakawa Michael M. Honda Jay C. Kim Robert Takeo Matsui Doris Okada Matsui Norman Yoshio Mineta Dalip Singh Saund
Hawaii	8	Daniel Kahikina Akaka Mazie Keiko Hirono Daniel Ken Inouye Hiram Leong Fong Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Spark Masayuki Matsunaga Patsy Takemoto Mink Patricia Fukuda Saiki
Louisiana	1	Bobby Jindal
Oregon	1	David Wu
Virginia	1	Robert Cortez Scott ^a
American Samoa	2	Eni F.H. Faleomavaega Fofó Iosefa Fifi Sunia
Guam	3	Ben Garrido Blaz Robert Anacletus Underwood Antonio Borja Won Pat

a. Rep. Robert C. Scott is African American with Filipino heritage.

Table 3. Number of Asian Pacific American Members and Delegates in the U.S. Congress, 58th-110th Congresses (1903-2009)

Congress	Years	Total in Congress	House	Senate
58 th	1903-1905	1	1	-
59 th	1905-1907	1	1	-
60 th	1907-1909	1	1	-
61 st	1909-1911	1	1	-
62 nd	1911-1913	1	1	-
63 rd	1913-1915	1	1	-
64 th	1915-1917	1	1	-
65 th	1917-1919	1	1	-
66 th	1919-1921	1	1	-
67 th	1921-1923	1	1	-
68 th -84 th	1923-1957	-	-	-
85 th	1957-1961	1	1	-
86 th	1959-1961	3	2	1
87 th	1961-1963	3	2	1
88 th	1963-1965	3	1	2
89 th	1965-1967	4	2	2
90 th	1967-1969	4	2	2
91 st	1969-1971	4	2	2
92 nd	1971-1973	4	2	2
93 rd	1973-1975	5	3	2
94 th	1975-1977	6	4	2
95 th	1977-1979	6	3	3
96 th	1979-1981	7	4	3
97 th	1981-1983	8	5	3
98 th	1983-1985	7	5	2
99 th	1985-1987	7	5	2
100 th	1987-1989	8	6 ^a	2

Congress	Years	Total in Congress	House	Senate
101 st	1989-1991	9	6 ^b	3
102 nd	1991-1993	7	5	2
103 rd	1993-1995	9	7 ^c	2
104 th	1995-1997	9	7 ^d	2
105 th	1997-1999	8	6	2
106 th	1999-2001	8	6	2
107 th	2001-2003	9	7 ^e	2
108 th	2003-2005	7	5	2
109 th	2005-2007	8	6 ^f	2
110 th	2007-2009	9	7	2

- a. Del. Fofó Iosefa Fiti Sunia resigned on Sept. 6, 1988.
- b. Although six Asian Pacific Americans were elected to the House in the 101st Congress, only five served at any one time. Representative Patsy Mink (who had previously served in the 89th-94th Congresses) did not become a member of the House again until Sept. 1990, when she was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Daniel K. Akaka. Senator Akaka had been appointed to the Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Spark Matsunaga.
- c. Rep. Robert C. Scott is African American with Filipino heritage.
- d. Rep. Norman Yoshio Mineta resigned on Oct. 10, 1995.
- e. Rep. Patsy Takemoto Mink died on Sept. 28, 2002. She was posthumously elected to the 108th Congress on Nov. 5, 2002.
- f. Rep. Doris Okada Matsui won a special election on March 8, 2005, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, Rep. Robert Matsui, and was sworn in on March 10, 2005. Although Rep. Robert Matsui was elected to the 109th Congress, he died on Jan. 1, 2005.

**Table 4. Resident Commissioners from the Philippine Islands,
60th-79th Congresses (1907-1946)**

Congress	Dates	Resident Commissioners
60 th	1907-1909	Benito Y Tuason Legarda ^a Pablo Ocampo ^a
61 st	1909-1911	Benito Y Tuason Legarda Pablo Ocampo ^b Manuel Luis Quezon ^c
62 nd	1911-1913	Benito Y Tuason Legarda Manuel Luis Quezon
63 rd	1913-1915	Manuel Luis Quezon Manuel Earnshaw
64 th	1915-1917	Manuel Luis Quezon ^d Manuel Earnshaw
65 th	1917-1919	Jaime Carlos de Veyra Teodoro Rafael Yangco
66 th	1919-1921	Jaime Carlos de Veyra Teodoro Rafael Yangco ^e Isauro Gabaldon ^f
67 th	1921-1923	Jaime Carlos de Veyra Isauro Gabaldon
68 th	1923-1925	Isauro Gabaldon Pedro Guevara
69 th	1925-1927	Isauro Gabaldon Pedro Guevara
70 th	1927-1929	Isauro Gabaldon ^g Pedro Guevara
71 st	1929-1931	Pedro Guevara Camilo Osias
72 nd	1931-1933	Pedro Guevara Camilo Osias
73 rd	1933-1935	Pedro Guevara Camilo Osias
74 th	1935-1937	Pedro Guevara ^h Francisco Aan Delgado ^h Quintin Parades ⁱ
75 th	1937-1939	Quintin Parades ^j Joaquin Miguel Elizalde ^k
76 th	1939-1941	Joaquin Miguel Elizalde
77 th	1941-1943	Joaquin Miguel Elizalde

Congress	Dates	Resident Commissioners
78 th	1943-1945	Joaquin Miguel Elizalde ^l Carlos Pena Romulo ^m
79 th	1945-1947	Carlos Pena Romulo ⁿ

Note: The Philippine Islands were part of territory ceded to the United States by Spain under the Treaty of Paris of December 10, 1898. The Act of July 1902 granted the Philippine Islands the right to elect two Resident Commissioners to the United States. In 1935, the Philippine Islands became the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the number of Resident Commissioners was reduced from two to one. In 1946, the Philippines became fully independent, and the office of the Resident Commissioner was terminated.

- a. Elected Nov. 22, 1907, for a term of two years; granted the privileges of the floor of the House of Representatives, with the right of debate, Feb. 4, 1908.
- b. Term expired Nov. 22, 1909.
- c. Elected for a term of two years beginning Nov. 23, 1909.
- d. Resigned Oct. 15, 1916; vacancy throughout the remainder of 64th Congress.
- e. Term expired Mar. 3, 1920.
- f. Elected for a term of three years beginning Mar. 4, 1920.
- g. Resigned July 16, 1928, having been nominated for election to the Philippine House of Representatives; vacancy throughout the remainder of the 70th Congress.
- h. When the new government of the Commonwealth of the Philippine Islands was inaugurated, the terms of office of the Resident Commissioners of the Philippine Islands expired. Both Resident Commissioners served until Feb. 14, 1936, when a selected successor qualified (48 Stat. 456). Under this law, the number of Resident Commissioners was reduced from two to one.
- i. Appointed Dec. 21, 1935, to fill vacancy caused by the expiration of the terms of Pedro Guevara and Francisco A. Delgado, due to the new form of government, and took his seat on Feb. 14, 1936.
- j. Resigned Sept. 29, 1938.
- k. Appointed Sept. 29, 1938, to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Quintin Paredes; service began on Jan. 3, 1939, upon convening of 76th Congress.
- l. Resigned Aug. 9, 1944.
- m. Appointed to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Joaquin M. Elizalde, and succeeded him on Aug. 21, 1944.
- n. Office of Resident Commissioner terminated on July 4, 1946.