Staff Report

March 20, 2021
Prepared by Project Manager Rosa Mai

March Public Board Meeting: ZOOM

Improving the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans by examining issues, advancing advocacy, and ensuring access to government.
Staff report to the Commission covering activities, progress, and updates from January 16, 2021 to March 12, 2021.

1. STAFF AND COMMISSION ACTIVITY

**Staff Update**
Executive Director Hasegawa began maternity leave on December 22, 2020, and will be gradually transitioning back into her role.

**Commissioner Activity**
Commissioners submitted activity reports for the time period of January 16, 2021 – March 12, 2021. Total events reported = 99; Activity Report response rate = 100% (12/12 respondents). Details of Commissioner Activity can be found in Appendix I.

**Appointments:**
The following is a list of notable updates regarding CAPAA appointments:
- Commr. Wada has stepped down from the COFA Health Care Advisory Committee; Commr. Faitalia, who was CAPAA’s representative for the COFA Dental Advisory Committee, will take over as CAPAA’s representative on the consolidated COFA Advisory Council
- Julie Kang has stepped down as the Frieda Takamura’s alternate on the EOGOAC; Erin Okuno will take over as the alternate
- Commr. Faitalia was appointed to the Washington Kindergarten Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) Review Subcommittee of the EOGOAC

Applications to serve upon the Commission will open on Thursday, April 1st. Per CAPAA’s rules, 1st Vice Chair Lydia Faitalia will convene a nominations committee, which will work inclusively to establish a process to review and recommend applicants for appointment.

- Commissioner Wada’s 3rd term expires 6/30/2021
- Commissioner Dinh’s 2nd term expires 6/30/2021
- Commissioner Cho’s 1st term expires 6/30/2021
- Commissioner Huie-Pascua’s 1st term expires 6/30/2021
- Commissioner Uppala’s 1st term expires 6/30/2021

2. COMMUNICATIONS

**Newsletter:** CAPAA’s newsletter is sent to an e-mail listserv of 2,403 contacts (-216 from the January Staff Report). The decrease is primarily attributable to a change in email newsletter sending services.

**Facebook:**
2,056 Likes (+55)
2,275 Follows (+66)

**Social Media Content:**
- Anti-Asian Hate and Bias
  - Resources for reporting
  - Governor Inslee statement on rise in hate crimes
- Lunar New Year
3. EVENTS

Lunar New Year
CAPAA staff worked with Rep. My-Linh Thai and Sen. Joe Nguyen’s offices to coordinate a Lunar New Year celebration, including a video greeting from CAPAA’s Chair Nam Nguyen to be included in the main program. The video celebration and the reading of resolutions honoring Lunar New Year in the Washington State Senate and House of Representatives, were shared to CAPAA’s social media. Additionally, original translated graphics and news articles on Lunar New Year were shared to social media, with encouragements for people to support small Asian-owned and Chinatown/International District businesses for the New Year.

CAPAA also bought space in several local newspapers for communities who celebrate the holiday: International Examiner, Northwest Asian Weekly, NW Vietnamese News, Seattle Chinese Times, SeattleN, Media Hankook, and JoySeattle. The ad buys contained translated messages wishing the community a happy Lunar New Year, and links to the state COVID-19 resource hub and the community hate incident reporting page StopTheHate.community.

API Legislative Week
The Asian Pacific Islander Coalition (APIC)’s annual API Legislative Week took place from February 1st through February 5th via ZOOM, and was attended by both CAPAA Commissioners and staff. Over 250 attendees from around the state met with 58 elected officials to advocate for issues important to our communities.

Electeds of Color Reception
CAPAA partnered with OneAmerica, the Senate Members of Color Caucus, the House Members of Color Caucus, and the Black Members Caucus for the annual Electeds of Color Reception on Monday, March 15th. Elected and appointed officials from throughout the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches attended the event.

4. COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution
Washington State has begun distributing COVID-19 vaccines. The distribution is happening in phases. We are currently in Phase 1B, Tier 2, meaning that the vaccine is available to:

- Anyone 65 and older
- People 50 and older who also live in a multigenerational household
- Health care workers at high risk for COVID-19 infection
- First responders
- People who live or work in long-term care facilities
- All other workers in health settings who are at risk of COVID-19
• Educators and staff for pre-K through 12th grade
• Child care providers
• High-risk critical workers who work in certain congregate settings: Agriculture; fishing vessel crews; food processing; grocery stores; corrections; prisons, jails or detention centers; public transit; remaining first responders
• People 16 years or older who are pregnant or have a disability that puts them at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness.

The next phases are:

Phase 1B, Tier 3 & 4 (March 31):
• People 16 years or older with 2 or more comorbidities or underlying conditions
• People 60 years and older
• People, staff and volunteers in certain congregate living settings – specifically, correctional facilities, congregate settings where people experiencing homelessness live or access services, group homes for people with disabilities
• Other at-risk critical workers in certain congregate settings – specifically, restaurants/food services; manufacturing; construction

Phase 2 (Est. April 19 or 26; TBD):
• Critical workers who are unable to perform roles remotely not already covered
• People 16 years or older with 1 or more comorbidity or underlying condition

Phase 3 (May 1):
• All people 16 years and older not already covered

Phase 4 (TBD):
• People under 16 if the vaccine becomes recommended for this group

CAPAA Executive Director Hasegawa and Project Manager Mai, along with the Executive Directors of the Commission on Hispanic Affairs and Commission on African American Affairs, met with Secretary of Health Dr. Umair Shah on Friday, March 12th to discuss the issue of vaccine equity. We hope to set up quarterly meetings with Dr. Shah to continue our work in addressing health inequities for our communities by having a regular line of communication.

5. HATE CRIMES & BIAS INCIDENTS

Definitions:
• Hate crime: A criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender’s bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity.
• Hate incident: An act or statement motivated in whole or in part by an offender’s bias against the above protected categories, but the act does not necessarily rise to the level of a crime.
• Bias aggravator: A designation that can be added to cases where there is a suspected bias element; an aggravating circumstance would allow the judge to impose a sentence above the standard range for a crime.

Timeline of Developments (this is a non-exhaustive list of CAPAA activities regarding hate incidents during COVID-19):
2/3/2020 – E.D. Hasegawa co-produced blog post with then-Secretary of Health John Wiesman, *It Takes All of us to Reduce Stigma During Disease Outbreaks*

2/25/2020 – City of Seattle announces 30 - 60% decline in CID restaurant revenues in light of COVID-19. CAPAA continually receives updates from CID-based partners and the City of Seattle Office of Economic Development regarding reports of the economic impact upon AAPI businesses & opportunities serving them. CAPAA also made two inquiries to OMWBE, Employment Security Division, as well as the Department of Commerce about support opportunities for businesses and workers in need. CAPAA continually works on language access to documents offered in English by various departments.

2/26/2020 – CAPAA participates in multi-agency coordination meeting. Recommends making anti-stigma resources available in multiple languages and that all COVID-19 health updates be coupled with anti-stigma and anti-racism messaging.

3/4/2020 – CAPAA sends COVID-19 translated materials via listserv, including anti-stigma resources and organizations to report discrimination. CAPAA requested that the anti-stigma and discrimination information be translated into traditional and simplified Chinese.

3/23/2020 – CAPAA issues statement: [CAPAA Rejects Race and Location-Specific Labels to Describe COVID-19](#)

3/31/2020 – CAPAA issues press statement: Amid stories of hate, CAPAA urges victims to report. Launches “Reporting Hate/Discrimination” page on website. One of the reporting resources, StopTheHate.Community, was created by CAPAA, the AGO, and community leaders to create a non-governmental reporting tool for victims of hate and bias incidents, as well as a map to track bias incidents reported through the tool.


5/2020 – CAPAA sponsors RISE APA Town Hall Series for APA Heritage Month.

2/2021 – CAPAA buys ad space in local ethnic media outlets (International Examiner, Northwest Asian Weekly, NW Vietnamese News, Seattle Chinese Times, SeattleN, Media Hankook, and JoySeattle) during Lunar New Year. The ad has a Lunar New Year message along with links to coronavirus.wa.gov and StopTheHate.community.

2/2021 – Commr. Upala flagged community concerns about HB 1071, regarding hate crimes. CAPAA staff, Chair Nguyen, and Commr. Upala meet with community members on their concerns with the bill. These concerns were relayed to the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee, who unanimously voted to oppose the bill. The prime sponsor of the bill, after meetings with community, agrees not to move forward with the bill this session.

3/9/2021 – Governor Inslee issues statement on the rising cases of anti-Asian hate crimes.

3/13/2021 – Several CAPAA staff and Commissioners attended the AAPI Against Hate rally in Hing Hay Park. Executive Director Hasegawa and Commissioner Cho made remarks at the event.

3/17/2021 – Governor Inslee issues statement on Georgia spa shootings.
3/18/2021 – CAPAA posts social media graphics with information on resources for reporting hate incidents to Facebook. The information is currently pinned to the top of CAPAA’s social media page for easy access. The post also links to bystander intervention trainings and CAPAA’s webpage on reporting.

3/19/2021 – CAPAA releases statement on Georgia spa shootings via newsletter, along with the Governor’s statement, resources for reporting, bystander intervention, and self-defense training.

Additional notes:
On social media, CAPAA regularly sources for reporting hate incidents, first created in March 2020 and updating as more resources become available. CAPAA has also shared bystander intervention training events, and articles on the historical context behind anti-Asian violence in the country. When sharing articles on anti-Asian hate incidents, posts are coupled with historical context and/or resources for reporting.

Staff are currently reviewing the recommendations from the Attorney General’s Hate Crimes Work Group, which were released in July 2020, and will discuss this further with the Civil Rights & Immigration Committee and others as needed.

6. 2021 LEGISLATIVE & BUDGET PRIORITIES

2021 Legislative Session
The legislative session convened Monday, January 11th, and will end on Sunday, April 25th. Session will take place almost exclusively online. Legislative buildings will be closed to lobbyists and the public.

Fewer bills will be passed this Session compared to previous years. We are anticipating that committees will be meeting for fewer days, while floor action will take longer.

2021 Budget
Rep. Drew Stokesbary released a proposed budget on February 16th that called for combining the ethnic commissions into one agency and keeping only one FTE each. The proposed budgets from the House and Senate Majority Caucuses are expected early next week. We will be tracking the budgets as they are released to see how they affect CAPAA and our communities.

Legislative Tracking & Advocacy
CAPAA Project Manager Rosa Mai established an electronic bill tracking system using the online platform Trello. Priorities tracked in the Trello board were identified by CAPAA staff, Commissioners, APIC-WA, the NHPI COVID-19 Report, and recommendations from task forces and work groups where CAPAA was a member.

The following bills were adopted as legislative priorities for the 2021 Legislative Session by the Commission at our January Board Meeting:

Civil Rights & Immigration Committee

HB 1264 (Thai): Establishing an equity impact statement for legislative proposals.
- Requires legislation with a fiscal impact statement to also conduct racial/equity impact assessments
- Assessments will also be at request of legislators, regardless of fiscal impact.
Status: died in House Appropriations Committee.
HB 1082 (Goodman)/SB 5051 (Pedersen): Concerning state oversight and accountability of peace officers and corrections officers.
- Modifies the priorities and composition of the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC).
- Expands the background investigation requirements for persons applying for peace officer, reserve officer, and corrections officer positions.
- Expands the conduct for which the certification of a peace officer or a corrections officer may be revoked.
- Requires employing agencies to report all separation and disciplinary matters regarding a certified officer to the CJTC.
- Removes confidentiality of complaints, investigations, and disciplinary actions for certified officers and requires information be maintained on a publicly searchable database.
Status: Executive action taken in House Public Safety Committee. Will move to the House Appropriations Committee.

HB 1054 (Johnson): Establishing requirements for tactics and equipment used by peace officers.
- Prohibits peace officers from using chokeholds and neck restraints.
- Prohibits peace officers from using unleashed police dogs to arrest or apprehend persons.
- Prohibits law enforcement agencies from acquiring or using tear gas and certain types of military equipment.
- Prohibits uniformed peace officers from intentionally covering, concealing, or obscuring the number or other identifying information on their badges.
- Prohibits a peace officer from seeking, and a court from issuing, a search or arrest warrant granting an express exception to the "knock and announce" rule.
- Establishes restrictions on vehicular pursuits.
Status: Executive action taken in Senate Law & Justice Committee. Will move to Senate Rules Committee.

SB 5055 (Nguyen): Concerning law enforcement personnel collective bargaining.
- Establishes an arbitrator selection procedure for grievance arbitrations for law enforcement personnel that applies to all disciplinary grievance arbitrations heard on or after January 1, 2022.
- Requires the Public Employment Relations Commission to appoint a roster of nine arbitrators who hear disciplinary grievances for law enforcement personnel on a rotating basis.
- Prohibits a public employer of law enforcement personnel from entering into a collective bargaining agreement that prevents implementation of, alters, or suppresses a city or county ordinance or charter that establishes civilian review of the discipline of law enforcement personnel.
Status: Executive action taken in House Labor & Workplace Standards Committee on March 17; will likely move to House Rules Committee shortly.

HB 1267 (Entenman): Concerning investigation of potential criminal conduct arising from police use of force, including custodial injuries, and other officer-involved incidents.
- Creates the Office of Independent Investigations
Status: Executive action taken in Senate Law & Justice Committee. Will move to Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Supporting community-based organizations
- Fund community practices across the state that will advance racial equity in the state's funding decisions and further investments
- Department of Commerce will work directly with community leaders and orgs to support these robust strategies and fund community capacity building assistance

**Economic Development Committee**
HB 5010 (Das): Prohibiting the use of credit scores to determine rates for personal lines of insurance.

- Prohibits the use of credit history in determining rates or premiums for personal insurance (auto, homeowner, renter, and boat insurance)

Status: Pulled from Rules Committee, but was not heard before cut-off; died in Senate Rules Committee.

Note: *This bill was significantly amended in the Senate Business, Financial Services, and Trade Committee. A news release from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, who had originally requested the bill, condemned the changes made to the bill.*

SB 5188 (Kuderer): Concerning the creation of the Washington state public bank.

- Authorizes a public financial cooperative as a membership organization to lend to local and tribal governmental entities.

Status: Public hearing held in the House Consumer Protection and Business Committee on March 17. No executive action has been scheduled yet.

HB 1297 (Thai)/SB 5387 (Nguyen): Concerning working families tax exemption.

- Expands the Working Families’ Tax Exemption (WFTE) to include those with individual taxpayer identification numbers who would otherwise be eligible for the federal earned income tax credit.
- Restructures the WFTE program, including remittance calculations.
- Eliminates the requirement that the Legislature provide an appropriation in the state omnibus appropriations act before a person may claim the WFTE

Status: Executive action taken in Senate Human Services, Reentry, and Rehabilitation Committee. Will move to Senate Ways & Means Committee.

Maintain the Washington COVID-19 Immigrant Relief Fund

- Fund the Washington Immigrant Relief Fund
- ESD & DSHS will conduct a feasibility study on how to replicate the state's unemployment insurance program and other social safety nets to individuals regardless of citizenship status

Increase minority contractors

- Fund the Business Diversity Management System, which measures and tracks the state’s progress toward equity in public spending and state contractors
- OMWBE will launch the Washington State Toolkit for Equity in Public Spending to support state agencies and educational institutions

Support financial literacy

- The Department of Financial Institutions will create a diversity, equity and inclusion staff position dedicated to working with financial institutions; federal, state and local government agencies; and community partners

Support career development

- Continue and expand WSDOT's pre-apprenticeship program
  - Awards groups that provide outreach, pre-apprenticeship training and supportive services to underrepresented populations in the construction trades
  - Pre-apprenticeship training in one or more highway construction trades
  - Support services that may include assistance with transportation, child care, basic tools and housing. Typically, women, minorities, veterans, and other disadvantaged individuals need these barrier-reducing supports to enter and succeed in apprenticeships
  - Mentorship and retention training
  - Cultural competency training to foster and encourage a safe and welcoming worksite for every person working Department of Transportation construction projects
Education Committee

SB 5044 (Das): Concerning professional learning, equity, cultural competency, and dismantling institutional racism in the public school system.
  - Adds equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism to existing cultural competency training for school board directors, district staff, and school staff.
  - Directs school districts to prioritize one of three professional learning days to focus first on these topics.
Status: Public hearing held in House Education Committee on March 11. No executive action scheduled yet.

HB 1153 (Orwall): Increase language access in public schools.
  - Requires school districts to implement a language access program that includes:
    o Administer a self-assessment
    o Develop and implement a language access policy, procedures and plan
    o Districts with at least 50 percent English Language Learners or greater than 75 languages spoken by students or families, must have either a full-time language access coordinator OR annually report to OSPI the total number of hours district staff spent performing the language access coordinator duties
Status: Died in House Appropriations Committee.

Invest to close the digital divide
  - Fund residential broadband connections for families who cannot afford connection services in their area
  - Contract with a nonprofit entity to support a digital navigator program in 10 regions across the state, with two navigators in each region, to provide 1-1 digital skills to support individual seeking work, families with students in K-12, ELL individuals, and older Washingtonians
  - The Governor’s budget proposed more than $3 million (operating) to expand the Washington State Broadband Office. This would go toward increasing broadband access throughout the state, enhancing digital inclusion and equity, and fostering regional broadband advisory team efforts.
  - The Governor’s budget also proposed $45 million (capital) for additional broadband infrastructure projects, with some of those funds potentially unlocking federal broadband funding.

Remove barriers to financial aid
  - Fund the Aim Higher Free Application for Federal Student Aid initiative

Advance equity on college campuses
  - Establish a new center for diversity, equity, and inclusion that sets up collaborative reviews of the curriculum, and removes equity barriers to student success
  - Fund technology grants and faculty stipends to conduct curriculum changes on college campuses
  - Convert technical and laboratory-based instructions to an interactive online format
  - Fund Eastern Washington University, Central Washington University, The Evergreen State College, and Western Washington University DEI efforts
  - Expand recruitment and outreach efforts to historically underserved students and faculty, increase student supports and mental health counseling, establish a new Native pathways Program and Ethnic Studies Program, and establish a new student center

Improve equity outcomes for foster and homeless students
  - Provide grants, mentorship, and student support services to college students or apprentices who experienced foster care or homelessness
• Fund Passport to Careers Program, which serves students who lack family and financial support to complete their educational pathway

Expand outdoor recreation equity
• Statewide outdoor school
  o $90,000 for Western Washington University to explore the possibility and benefits of expanding outdoor residential school programs
  o Explore the COVID-19 impacts on institutions that provide participants with outdoor learning
  o Recommendations will center on using physical activity and exposure to natural settings to improve health disparities and accelerate learning for historically underserved populations
• Access outdoor recreation
  o State Parks and Recreation Commission will facilitate a work group with CAAA to identify inclusion barriers
• Physical Activity and School Facilities Task Force
  o $175,000 for the Recreation and Conservation Office to lead a task force that consider ways the state can improve equitable access to K-12 schools’ fields and athletic facilities, and local parks’ agency facilities
  o The task force will consider joint use agreements, partnerships, scheduling practices with local parks agencies including facility rental fees, and other strategies.
  o The goal is to increase physical activity for youth and families.

Health & Human Services Committee

SB 5105 (Hasegawa): Implementing the recommendations of the office of equity task force.
• Requires the Governor appoint the director of the Office of Equity (Office) based on recommendations provided by the Community Advisory Board (Board).
• Requires the Office report on barriers for community participation on boards and commissions in its October 31, 2022 report.
• Provides the Office with certain rulemaking authority.
• Creates the Board to advise the Office on its priorities and timelines.
• Requires state agencies to: designate a diversity, equity, and inclusion liaison; apply an equity lens to agency decision-making; develop plans for diversity, equity, and inclusion and for language access; provide data and information to the Office; and collaborate with the Office to develop performance measures.
• Requires the Washington State Institute for Public Policy evaluate the implementation of the Office and report to the Governor and Legislature by October 31, 2025.
Status: Executive action scheduled, but no action was taken in the Senate Ways & Means Committee. Died in Committee.

HB 1182 (Orwall)/SB 5209 (Dhingra): Enhancing and expanding behavioral health and suicide prevention crisis response services.
• Directs the Department of Health to designate crisis hotline centers that meet standards related to technology and the ability to identify and deploy community crisis resources for persons experiencing a behavioral health crisis.
• Requires behavioral health administrative services organizations to have community-based rapid crisis response services for persons who contact the 988 Crisis Hotline in need of stabilization services.
• Establishes a 988 Crisis Hotline System Director to provide direction and oversight in the implementation and administration of the 988 Crisis Hotline and behavioral health crisis system.
• Creates an implementation coalition to monitor the implementation of the 988 Crisis Hotline System and the improvements to behavioral health crisis services.
• Establishes the Statewide 988 Behavioral Health Crisis Response Line Tax on phone lines to fund the crisis hotline centers and response services.
Status: Executive action scheduled, but no action was taken in the House Health Care and Wellness Committee. Died in Committee.

**HB 1191 (Thai): Ensuring equity in health coverage.**
• Creates a state-only Medicaid lookalike program available to all state residents, regardless of immigration status.
Status: Died in House Health Care and Wellness Committee.

**SB 5141 (Saldaña): Implementing the recommendations of the environmental justice task force.**
• Requires the Puget Sound Partnership and the departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Ecology, Health, Natural Resources, and Transportation (covered agencies) to complete environmental justice assessments when considering significant agency actions and to incorporate environmental justice principles into agency budget and fiscal processes.
• Encourages other state agencies to apply the principles of environmental justice in the implementation of their agency functions, and authorizes other state agencies to opt in to the environmental justice requirements applicable to covered agencies.
• Requires covered agencies to create and adopt a community engagement plan for engaging with overburdened communities and vulnerable populations in the evaluation of existing and new programs and activities. • Requires covered agencies to offer consultation with Indian tribes on decisions that affect tribes' rights and interests in tribal lands.
• Establishes an environmental justice council with specified membership, staffed by the Department of Health, and which is assigned specified advisory and oversight responsibilities for covered agencies' implementation of environmental justice activities.
• Requires the Department of Health to continue to develop and maintain an environmental health disparities map.
Status: Scheduled for executive session in House Environment and Energy Committee on March 19.

**Invest in environmental justice**
• Improve air quality and climate resilience in the most impacted communities by putting a cap on greenhouse gas emissions and supporting project investments that make communities more resilient to climate change impacts.
• Ensure that the benefits of the clean energy transition are equitably distributed so that vulnerable populations aren’t left behind.
• Give overburdened communities a voice with a formal advisory role in climate governance by creating a permanent Environmental Justice and Equity Advisory Panel.
• Incorporate environmental justice into environmental and economic development agency staffing and programs, and require that investments in climate change projects, programs and activities undergo an environmental justice analysis.

**Invest in communities most impacted by climate change**
• Any investment from the newly created climate investment account should undergo an environmental justice analysis
• Ensure that funds are directed toward eliminating environmental harm and economic and health disparities for vulnerable populations and overburdened communities

**Misc.**
Asia Pacific Cultural Center capital budget request for Commerce Building Communities Fund allowance.

The following are additional bills that have been voted on by the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee as priorities for CAPAA:

HB 1090 (Ortiz-Self): Concerning private, for-profit detention facilities.
- Prohibits a person, business, or state or local government from operating or using contracts with private detention facilities, except as provided.
Status: In Senate Rules Committee.

HB 1092 (Lovick)/SB 5259 (Nobles): Concerning law enforcement data collection.
- Requires the Office of the Attorney General to establish an advisory group to make recommendations for the design, development, and implementation of a statewide program for collecting, reporting, and publishing use of force data by April 1, 2022.
- Requires the Office of the Attorney General to engage in a competitive procurement process to select a Washington private or public institution of higher education to implement the statewide use of force data program.
- Requires law enforcement agencies to report all instances of the use of force by no later than three months after the Office of the Attorney General determines the statewide use of force data program can accept reports.
Status: Scheduled for executive session in House Public Safety Committee on March 23.

SB 5405 (Hasegawa): Instructing the joint legislative audit and review committee to perform racial equity analyses.
- Requires the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) to incorporate a racial equity analysis into its performance audits, sunset reviews, and other evaluations conducted by the JLARC, with exceptions.
- Requires the JLARC to provide a racial equity analysis by December 21, 2021, on the impact of in-person restrictions within the K-12 education system since the proclaimed state of emergency issued in response to COVID-19.
Status: Scheduled for executive session in House State Government and Tribal Relations Committee on March 22.

HB 1318 (Pollet)/SB 5194 (Liias): Providing for equity and access in the community and technical colleges.
- Requires development of a diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic plan.
- Defines required elements of Guided Pathways implementation and requires a WSIPP evaluation.
- Provides for hiring 200 full-time faculty over three years.
- Creates a grant program for additional mental health counselors.
- Modifies residency requirements.
Status: Scheduled for executive session in House College & Workforce Development Committee on March 22.

HB 1129 (Valdez): Concerning the licensure of international medical graduates.
- Authorizes the Washington Medical Commission to issue limited licenses to international medical graduates.
- Authorizes the Washington Medical Commission to issue limited licenses to persons who have been accepted for employment as physicians by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.
Status: Scheduled for executive session in Senate Health & Long Term Care Committee on March 19.
HB 1091 (Fitzgibbon): Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the carbon intensity of transportation fuel.

- Directs the Department of Ecology (Ecology) to adopt rules establishing a Clean Fuels Program (CFP) to limit the aggregate, overall greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions per unit of transportation fuel energy to 10 percent below 2017 levels by 2028, and 20 percent below 2017 levels by 2035.
- Directs Ecology to update, prior to 2032, CFP rules to further reduce GHG emissions from each unit of transportation fuel for each year through 2050, consistent with statutory state emission reduction limits.
- Excludes exported fuel, fuel used by vessels, railroad locomotives, and aircraft, and certain other categories of transportation fuel from the CFP’s GHG emission intensity reduction requirements.
- Requires the CFP to include processes for registering, reporting, and tracking compliance obligations and to establish bankable, tradeable credits used to satisfy compliance obligations.
- Retains the current distribution of revenue under the 2015 Transportation Revenue Package, eliminating changes that would have been triggered as a result of the establishment of a CFP.

Status: In Senate Ways & Means Committee.

HB 1460: Closing the digital divide by establishing excise taxes on telecommunications services to fund the expansion of the universal service programs in Washington.

- Establishes the Digital Equity Opportunity Grant Program and the Digital Equity Planning Grant Program.
- Creates the Digital Equity Forum.

Status: Died in House Rules Committee.

SB 5438 (Saldaña): Providing unemployment benefits to workers who are unemployed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and not eligible for unemployment benefits due to immigration status.

- Establishes the Washington income replacement for immigrant workers program, which provides certain unemployment benefits to workers excluded from state unemployment insurance benefits due to immigration status and as a result of COVID-19.
- Creates the unemployment benefits for undocumented workers account.
- Directs the Department of Labor and Industries to develop proposals for certain permanent and interim programs.

Status: Died in Senate Labor, Commerce, and Tribal Affairs Committee.

The following bill was voted on by Ad Hoc Legislative Committee as one we should oppose:

HB 1071 (Valdez): Concerning bias-based criminal offenses.

- Includes Hate Crime Offense in the list of crimes against persons.
- Creates a new statutory aggravating circumstance applicable when an offense other than a Hate Crime Offense was motivated by the defendant's perception of the victim's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, or mental, physical, or sensory disability.

Status: Died in House Rules Committee.

The following were identified during the January Board Meeting as issues we will oppose, but have not had legislation introduced as of yet:

- WASPC police reform bill naming CAPAA
- Cuts to funding for COFA Health Care & Dental

7. WORK GROUPS & TASK FORCES
The Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee (EOGOAC) released its annual report in January 2021. The report is titled, “Two Pandemics: Addressing the Experience of Racial Violence and the COVID-19 Pandemic for Students and Families of Color”: the report was sent out to CAPAA’s newsletter listserv per the request of Sili Savusa and Frieda Takamura, CAPAA’s representatives on the EOGOAC.

The School Safety and Student Well-Being Advisory Committee, where Brianne Ramos represented CAPAA, has been moved to Completed Task Forces.

8. **2021 API DATA PROJECT (NEEDS ASSESSMENT PART III)**

In early December, CAPAA finalized a contract with KAYA Strategik to capture API community demographical information based on data from the 2020 Census. This is the third installation of a quadrennial needs assessment of the API community as funded by the state. However, due to news from the U.S. Census Bureau that 2020 Census data would not be released until September 2021. Because of this delay, the contract was amended to draw from Census data not limited to just the 2020 Census, which will allow KAYA Strategik to draw from data from the American Community Survey, which is conducted every month.

The project will focus on data analysis and a summary report interpreting the data. Areas of analysis include ANHPI demographic information, including median household income, poverty, languages, and LEP households; the pay gap between ANHPI subgroups and genders, and compared to white communities; and education outcomes of ANHPI subgroups, percentage who go to college, and percentage eligibility for free lunch.

Additionally, CAPAA is in conversation about a secondary project focused specifically on redistricting when the 2020 Census data is made available in the Fall.

9. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**June Public Board Meeting – Virtual**
Saturday, June 26, 2021
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

**September Public Board Meeting – Yakima County (Elections)**
Saturday, September 18, 2021
10:00 – 2:00
Fil-Am Yakima
211 W 2nd St. Wapato, WA 98951

**November Public Board Meeting – Snohomish County**
Saturday, November 20, 2021
10:00 – 2:00
Everett Community College (Exact Room TBD)