

My name is Jeanice Chieng and I am the Policy Manager at APANO, the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon. APANO is a statewide grassroots advocacy organization, representing the 250,000+ Asian Pacific Islanders (APIs) in the state of Oregon. We fight for and envision a just Oregon where API families have the rights, recognition, and resources to thrive. Our work is focused on community organizing, policy advocacy, leadership development, and cultural work.

Statewide policies such as SB 828 have a tangible impact on our API communities and their ability to create and sustain healthy and secure families. Most, if not all, of the API immigrant and refugee adults/parents that are part of APANO's organizing program work in the hospitality, restaurant, retail, and service industries where they receive minimum, hourly wages. Many have unpredictable work schedules that fluctuate from week to week. There is undue hardship when work schedules are not predictable, most notably for the families that have minor children. Often times, those parents struggle to find childcare for their children. Even when they don't have children, many of the adults in our programs have other family responsibilities such as elderly parents, who rely on them for care. Oregon must address this inequity and SB 828 is a huge step toward leveling the playing field between businesses and its employees. APANO fully supports SB 828, the Fair Work Week bill.