

Dear Senator/s

I am Krishnamurthy Woonnmani, an Oregonian and one of the active community members associated with many Asian Indian socio-cultural organizations. I am also part of the Beaverton city Housing Technology Advisory group and member of the Cultural Coalition of Washington County. (CCWC).

I am writing this to voice a community concern regarding recommended names to the Governor to appoint vacant positions on OCAPIA.

First of all, OCAPIA should represent the entire Asian and Pacific Islander community, which consists of about 40 Asian countries and 15 Pacific Islander nations. As it has only 5 commissioners as of now, logically there shouldn't be 3 people who have the same national origin and OCAPIA should be looking for people from different diverse nations to maintain diverse voices on this forum.

Our minority community is concerned about two recommended names - Aparna Rajagopal and Padma Akkaraju - as they have presented themselves as the voice of our minority Hindu/South Asian community. However, both of them are placed by an organization called Hindu for Human Rights, which is an anti-democracy, anti-national, and anti-Hindu organization. HfHR has always been focused on issues that are either international or anti-Hindu and mainly related to India-Pakistan politics. We believe that OCAPIA is a place to raise voice for local community issues that are related to Oregon state and not to serve any particular group's political agenda.

I also want to mention that both HfHR present themselves as Hindu advocacy group but have been historically involved in anti-Hindu activities such as

- Opposing refugee settlement act presented in India, which was to resettle oppressed minority communities - Hindu, Christian, Sikh, Jain, Buddha - in neighboring countries.
- Supporting anti-Hindu seminar called Dismantling Global Hindutva
- Supporting campaigns like Holi Against Hindutva, which is maligning and attacking Hindu festivals
- Opposing appointments of minority Hindu leaders throughout the USA

I believe both of the candidates and HfHR are propaganda driven and will mis-use taxpayer money using this position to propagate their biased political agenda, which should not be entertained.

Thanks & regards
Krishnamurthy

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*"It is a privilege to serve mankind, for this is the worship of God. God is here, in all these human souls"*

**- Swamy Vivekanand."**

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