



## TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GENE WU

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 137

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2023

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### **\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\***

## **State Representative Wu, Mayor Turner to Join ADL and NAACP to Condemn Racist Republican Senate Bill**

*New Republican legislation would bar tens of thousands of “green card” holders and asylum seekers from purchasing property in Texas due to their race*

**HOUSTON, TX** – On Monday, January 23, **Representative Gene Wu (D-Houston)** and **Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner** will join the Anti-Defamation League, the NAACP, and other leaders to hold a press conference at Houston City Hall to denounce the racist Republican Senate Bill 147 filed in the legislature.

SB 147 attempts to ban large swaths of asylum seekers and immigrants from China, North Korea, and other countries – including lawful permanent residents (a.k.a. “green card” holders) – from buying property in the State of Texas. There are approximately half a million “green card” holders from China alone living in the United States.

"After an unprecedented rise in anti-Asian hate around the nation, our communities continue to struggle against not only violence within our society, but with political persecution as well," **Rep. Wu said**. "SB 147 is discriminatory, hateful, and brings back painful reminders of laws passed a hundred years ago that specifically prevented Chinese individuals from owning property, starting businesses, or even marrying the person they love."

If passed, in addition to increasing the already-escalating xenophobia toward hundreds of thousands of Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Houstonians, SB 147 would hamper progress made by Texas and Houston businesses that have spent decades recruiting investors from around the world to open offices and factories in – and bring countless jobs to – our state and region.

As a proud immigrant himself, Rep. Wu remains a committed voice for all immigrants who continue to make Houston a diverse, unique, and welcoming city.

**WHO**

- State Representative Gene Wu
- Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner
- Members of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) Houston Chapter,
- Other community & state leaders

**WHAT**

Press conference denouncing the racist new Republican bill filed in the Texas Senate, SB 147, which would bar “green card” holders and asylum seekers from purchasing property in Texas due to their race

**WHEN**

Monday, January 23, 2023  
12:00 PM

**WHERE**

Steps of City Hall, 901 Bagby St, Houston, Texas 77002

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