



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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## **Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Announces Partnership with California's Leading Asian American Organizations to Encourage Voter Participation**

SACRAMENTO, CA – As part of the Secretary of State Bruce McPherson's effort to reach out to ethnic organizations, Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced a partnership with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, the Korean American Coalition and the Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment to encourage Asian Americans to register and vote in the November 7, 2006 General Election.

"Participating in the electoral process is one of the most basic rights of a U.S. citizen. As California's Secretary of State, it is my job to ensure that voting is easy and convenient for everyone," said Secretary of State McPherson. "That is why I am partnering with California's Asian American organizations to ensure that the members of the Asian community can fully participate in the election tomorrow."

Charlie Woo, Chair, Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment said, "The growing Asian community needs to participate in the decision making process because in general, communities with higher voter turnout rates receive more attention to their issues."

Grace Yoo, Executive Director of the Korean American Coalition said, "We were delighted to have worked with the Secretary of State prior to the registration deadline by providing bilingual voter registration forms to the Korean American community by way of inserts in the Korean newspapers. The Korean American Coalition understands the importance of voting and is pleased to coordinate with the Secretary of State in reaching out to eligible Korean Americans."

Secretary McPherson is working with thousands of public and private sector partners to provide voters with the resources to encourage voter participation in the upcoming November 7 General Election. Partners include: multi-lingual and minority organizations, small businesses, large corporations, industry trade associations, education/youth groups, labor groups and more.

For more information about voter registration and voting, please visit the Secretary of State's web site at: [www.ss.ca.gov](http://www.ss.ca.gov), or call 1-800-345-VOTE (8683).