

## NEWS

# Organization of Chinese Americans Thrilled with New Congresswoman

## Judy Chu's Historic Election to US Congress

By Sarah Smith Nester

**O**n July 14, California State Board of Equalization member Dr. Judy Chu made history by becoming the first Chinese American congresswoman in the United States.

OCA, a national, nonpartisan organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans, applauds Chu for her election to represent the 32<sup>nd</sup> district in California. Chu is a long-time member of the OCA Greater Los Angeles Chapter.

The seat was left vacant after Hilda Solis became President Barack Obama's labor secretary.

"We are thrilled to note such a historic occasion for one of our members and one of the APA community's great leaders", said OCA National President Ken Lee. "Our National Center in Washington, DC looks forward to working with her and her staff and we are excited for her to address our entire membership at our upcoming National Convention."

Chu has recently said her priority in Congress will be the economy. But she said she also will push forward immigration reform. Chu and many other leaders on issues like the economy and immigration reform will be featured at the 2009 OCA National Convention to be held Aug. 6-9 in San Francisco.



Dr. Chu has been dedicated to education throughout her career. She started her career in public service as a board member of the Garvey School District from 1985 to 1988. She graduated with a B.A. in math from UCLA and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology and served as a faculty member in the psychology department in the Los Angeles Community College District for twenty years, with the last 13 years at East Los Angeles College.

Judy Chu became a crossover candidate in the 32<sup>nd</sup> congressional district traditionally represented by a Latino by building a multiethnic coalition and winning the backing of organized labor.

The Editor