

Written by Dr. S. B. Woo

Thursday, 26 February 2009 07:06 - Last Updated Friday, 20 March 2009 20:14

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Gary Locke, former Governor of Washington and a Chinese American, will be nominated as Commerce Secretary. He will be the third Asian American to serve in President Obama's Cabinet -- a historic high. We thank President Obama and his Transition Team for a most-positive response to the main theme of 80-20's colored, full page ad in the *Washington Post* -- "Asian Americans yearn to make greater contributions to America."

If one has enough to live on, what is money for, EXCEPT to donate to such a worthy cause in order to change history for the betterment of America and million of one's fellow citizens. At times, we must dream to achieve highly!

However, **our major job is NOT done** -- winning equal opportunity for millions of Asian-American workers. Happily, there is good news on that front as well.

Representative **Hilda Solis** was confirmed as **Labor Secretary** yesterday. Labor Department is what will enforce Executive Order 11246 so that Asian Americans will, like all other Americans before us, ALSO enjoy equal opportunity in workplaces.

Secretary Solis was born to immigrant parents who worked in America and were Union members. Her former Congressional district includes Monterey Park, CA, and has about 29% Asian-American voters. We trust that she will be very different from Elaine Chao, the Labor Secretary under President Bush. Elaine Chao publicly stated that the reason that Asian Americans were lacking in the managerial level was because Asian Americans lacked-cocktail party skills. Ms. Chao, wife of Senator McConnell of Kentucky, has of course ample cocktail skills. She refused to enforce Exec. Order 11246 for Asian Amsericans.

## Exciting News on Governor Locke's and Rep. Solis' Appointments - MabuhayRadio

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The 80-20 will soon be in contact with Secretary Solis regarding 1) EEOC's recent finding that Asian Americans were discriminated against as federal employees, and 2) President Obama's written promise to 80-20 regarding the enforcement of E.O. 11246.

Be vigilant. We are now fighting the biggest battle for our community's future. Please do your share.

Do you have enough to live on and send your kids to colleges? If you do, please consider **joining 80-20**. Go <http://www.80-20initiative.net> .

We make progress because people like YOU care and are willing to sacrifice a little. See the ad stating "**Asian Americans yearn to make greater contributions to America.**" # # #

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