

From: [Joseph Lachman](#)
To: [Commission-Public-Records](#)
Cc: [Michael Byun](#); [Shomya Tripathy](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] ACRS Comment in Support of Healthcare for Airport Workers
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To the Port of Seattle Commission:

Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS) is writing to submit public comment to the Port of Seattle in support of airport workers impacted by COVID-19. These workers include many Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) who have been laid off as a result of the pandemic outbreak, and are furthermore at risk of losing health insurance, which is now more critically needed than ever.

We write to urge the Port of Seattle to ensure that AAPIs and others employed at the airport do not lose their health insurance as a result of layoffs and are also guaranteed the right to return to their jobs when they become available again. Airport workers' access to healthcare and rehiring is critical to the long-term well-being of the workers themselves, their families, and our communities.

ACRS promotes social justice and the well-being and empowerment of AAPIs and other underserved communities – including immigrants, refugees, and American-born – by developing, providing and advocating for innovative, effective and efficient community-based multilingual and multicultural services. We serve over 30,000 community members each year in over 40 languages and dialects.

Thank you for taking time to consider the critical needs of vulnerable working communities during this public health crisis.

Sincerely,

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