



## KNIGHTS of RIZAL SACRAMENTO LANDMARK CHAPTER



# CONSULAR OUTREACH PROGRAM 2025

BY IRVIN ISRAEL I. NOVAL

Through the effort of the knights of Rizal-Sacramento Landmark Chapter with their hardworking members headed by Sir Cesar SottoKCR - in collaboration with the local organizations: The Pray & Play group headed by Egay Flores and their Parish Priest Fr. Julitio Orpilla and the FALEO, headed by Amante Abero, the PHILIPPINE CONSULATE OUTREACH TEAM OF SAN FRANCISCO, came back again for the "CONSULAR OUTREACH PROGRAM 2025".

It was conducted in the St. Joseph Parish Church Gym, Elk Grove last October 4, 2025, and a total of 265 services were delivered to the underserved community members including passports, notaries, and dual citizenship petitions under RA 9225. It was a successful event brought by the Filipino bayanihan spirit and a big thanks to everyone! We look forward to bringing this event back again next year!



The Knights of Rizal- Sacramento Landmark Chapter



## Filipinos Should Support The Affordable California 2025 Bill Package



The South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN) is a multi-issue and multi-strategy organisation that uplifts the lives of youth, families, individuals, and workers.

The 438-year history of Filipinos in California that predates the United States began when Filipinos first landed in Morro Bay in 1587. Ceded by Spain to the United States in 1898 for \$20 million, the Philippines became an American colony and eventually a source of cheap labor for building and maintaining the American empire starting in the early 20th century. Filipinos have been and continue to be an integral part of what makes America great.

Despite decades of significant contributions in all sectors, Filipinos still struggle for equal rights and opportunities in America. Racism, anti-miscegenation laws, and being banned from owning property are some of the challenges that Filipinos historically faced. Progress has been made but systemic inequalities persist that disproportionately affects low-income Filipinos.

In California, affordable housing and tenant protections remain to be a major problem not just for Filipino renters but for all Californian renters. Over half of renters are rent-burdened and housing costs have far outpaced wages—displacing working-class families and disproportionately impacting communities of color.

There are proven solutions that are currently in place to deal with the

affordable housing crisis in California. We just need our legislators to have the courage to act.

The Affordable California 2025 Bill Package offers immediate protections and relief for rising housing costs, invests in deeply affordable housing, calls for a dramatic increase in new revenue and is a critical opportunity for California to lead with policies that center housing as a human right so that all Californians have a dignified, stable, and affordable place to call home.

### This bill package includes the following:

- AB 1157 (proposed by Assemblymember Ash Kalra) known as the “Affordable Rent Act” further limits allowable annual rent increases, includes more families who rent their homes under California’s Tenant Protection Act, and makes these protections permanent. Next Vote: January 2026.
- SB 436 (proposed by Senator Aisha Wahab) known as “14 Day Pay or Quit” protects from avoidable evictions by extending the time renters have to pay back late rent—from 3 to 14 business days—before an eviction case can be filed in court. Next Vote: July 2026
- AB 1248 (proposed by Assemblymember Matt Haney) known as “Junk Fees” prohibits landlords from charging hidden and excessive fees—such as inflated application charges and “convenience” fees. These unfair costs often add hundreds of dollars to families’ expenses. Next Vote: January 2026.
- AB 736 (proposed by Assemblymember Buffy Wicks) and SB 417 (proposed by Senator Christopher

Cabaldon) known as the “CA Housing Bond” places a \$10 billion bond on next year’s ballot that will allow voters to support the production and preservation of affordable housing for lower-income households, including supportive housing. Next Vote: January 2026.

- AB 1165 (proposed by Assemblymember Mike Gipson) known as the “Housing Justice Act” declares California’s intent to require ongoing state investments in proven housing solutions that match the scale of the need and requires California to create finance plans to solve our affordable housing and homelessness crisis and invest the resources needed on an ongoing basis. Next Vote: January 2026.
- AB 801 (proposed by Assemblymember Mialisa Bonta) known as the “California Community Reinvestment Act” ensures that state-chartered banks, credit unions (with more than \$75 million in deposits), independent mortgage companies, and money transmitter financial technology companies, actively invest in under-resourced, low and moderate income communities—mirroring the obligations of the federal CRA, and unlocking more than \$13 billion in corporate capital annually for housing solutions and other community economic development. Next Vote: April 2026.

California has the largest Filipino population in the United States. Filipinos have come a long way with a history of resilience and fighting against oppression. The 1965 Delano Grape Strike brought on by Filipino labor leaders secured victories and benefits for farmworkers. We can do the same for the affordable housing and tenant protection crisis in California. We have the power and resources to make California affordable for everyone.

Let’s use it!

For more information, to get involved, and to schedule a presentation about the Affordable California 2025 Bill Package with your organization, please contact Angelica Cabande at [acabande@somcan.org](mailto:acabande@somcan.org)

SOMCAN has launched Ugnay Filipino, an expansion of its existing direct and referral services, now focused on serving the Filipino community in Sacramento County. Ugnay Filipino provides culturally competent services and interventions by connecting community members to free and low-cost resources in tenant counseling and housing search; immigration; health, food, and wellness; and jobs and workers rights. Do you need help or want to know about services available to you in Sacramento County? Call Ugnay Filipino at (916) 250-1449.

*Established in 2000, the South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN) is a multi-issue and multi-strategy organisation that uplifts the lives of youth, families, individuals, and workers. We work on a wide range of issues—from tenant rights to community planning to Filipino language access to workers’ rights—and provide culturally competent direct services ranging from tenant counselling, family support, youth empowerment, employment, and health and wellness activities. SOMCAN believes in uplifting the voices of immigrant, people-of-color, and low-income communities so that they will be heard in local policy-making decisions and so that government officials are accountable to their needs.*