TEXAS DEMOCRATIC PARTY TALKING POINTS Senate Bill 147

- Today in Houston, State Representative Gene Wu, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Congressman Al Green, Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner, and others -- joined by the ADL, the NAACP, and others -- rallied against the racist Republican Senate Bill 147 filed in the legislature.
- If passed as it stands, this Republican legislation would bar tens of thousands of "green card" holders and asylum seekers from purchasing property in Texas due to their race.
- SB 147 attempts to ban asylum seekers and immigrants from China, North Korea, and other countries -- including lawful permanent residents ("green card" holders) -- from buying property in the State of Texas. There are approximately half-a million "green card" holders from China alone living in the United States.
- As Rep. Wu said, after an unprecedented rise in anti-Asian hate around the nation, Texas's Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities continue to struggle against not only violence within our society, but with political persecution as well. SB 147 is discriminatory, hateful, and brings back painful reminders of laws passed a hundred years ago that specifically prevented Chinese individuals from owning property, starting businesses, or even marrying the person they love.

If passed, in addition to increasing the already-escalating xenophobia toward hundreds of thousands of AAPI Texans, SB 147 would hamper progress made by Texas businesses that have spent decades recruiting investors from around the world to open offices and factories in -- and bring countless jobs to -- our state.