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## **Sen. Chuck Grassley to keynote Asian American Hotel Owners Association advocacy conference**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Hundreds of hotel owners gather in Washington today as the Asian American Hotel Owners Association holds its fall advocacy conference at the Renaissance Downtown. Sen. Chuck Grassley (R, Iowa), chair of the Judiciary Committee, is the conference’s keynote speaker today.

“We’re honored to have one of the most distinguished members of the Senate to speak at our advocacy conference,” said Chip Rogers, president and CEO of AAHOA, which has more than 15,000 members nationwide. “Sen. Grassley is a champion for common sense in Congress, something that our members appreciate.”

On Wednesday, attendees will be dispatched to Capitol Hill to tell their stories to lawmakers and their staff.

“AAHOA members will emphasize their personal journey in creating and growing their business and the challenges they face,” said AAHOA chair Bruce Patel. “We want Congress to better understand the real, personal impact of the policies we’re talking about.”

“Showing lawmakers how issues are affecting their constituents will make the case for why the solutions need to be passed,” added Patel, who together with his brother oversees about a dozen hotels in the Dallas, Texas, area.

Rogers said small business owners face many challenges but there are solutions that Congress can enact.

“Whether it’s curbing abuse of lawsuits under the Americans with Disabilities Act or reversing the harmful overtime rule, AAHOA members have a lot to talk about with lawmakers,” said Rogers. “With every story of a challenge faced we’ll also talk about the solutions.”

Attendees are also highlighting how the expanded joint employer standard will affect their hotels, most of which are franchised properties. Lawmakers will also hear stories of how the like-kind exchange tax provision helps small businesses grow and create new jobs.

Founded in 1989, AAHOA is the largest association of hotel owners in the United States. Its members own nearly one in two hotels in the country.

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