



**Name in English:** Gary Faye Locke  
**Name in Chinese:** 駱家輝 [骆家辉]  
**Name in Pinyin:** Luò Jiāhuī  
**Gender:** Male  
**Birth Year:** 1950  
**Birth Place:** Seattle, Washington  
**Current location:** Washington DC

## **US Ambassador to China, Secretary of Commerce, Governor of Washington State**

**Profession (s):** Ambassador, Secretary of Commerce, Politician, Lawyer

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, 1972, Yale University; Juris Doctor, 1975, Boston University School of Law

**Awards:** 2006, “500 New Stars, New Worlds,” Lawdragon.com; 1997, Distinguished Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America; Asian American Living Pioneer Award, Northwest Asian Weekly Foundation

**Contribution (s):** Governor Gary Locke worked in his father’s grocery store as a boy, became an Eagle Scout, and graduated with honors from high school. With a combination of part-time jobs, scholarships, and financial aid he made it through college and law school and then worked as deputy prosecutor for King County, Washington from 1976 to 1980.

In 1982, he was elected to the Washington State House of Representatives and spent his final five years there as Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. In 1993 he was elected as Seattle’s Chief Executive, the first Chinese American to hold the position. In 1996 he was elected the 21<sup>st</sup> Governor of Washington State, and the first Chinese American governor in US history. His efforts to control spending, run a more efficient government, and attract business investments during difficult economic times earned Washington State the highest ranking awarded by the Government Performance Project funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts. Washington was also recognized by Governing Magazine as one of America’s five best managed states, as a finalist in the Harvard Innovations in Government program, and as the most Digital State Government. Locke easily won reelection for governor in 2000. Seen as a rising star in the Democratic Party and a possible vice-presidential pick, he was selected to deliver the Democratic response to the 2003 State of the Union speech by President George W. Bush. To the surprise of many people he announced in July 2003 that he would not seek a third term, saying, “Despite my deep love of our state, I want to devote more time to my family.”

Governor Locke joined the Seattle office of the international law firm, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP specializing in China Practice, Energy, Governmental Relations, and Corporate Diversity Counseling. He is a Board Member of the Seattle Art Museum and a

Member of the Committee of 100. He was the Washington co-chairman of the presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton in 2008.

In March 2009, Locke was confirmed as the US Secretary of Commerce by the Senate after his nomination by President Obama. Along with encouraging American trade and commerce to create jobs his most important task was running the 2010 US Census that determines representation in Congress.

On July 27, 2011, Gary Locke received unanimous consent from the United States Senate confirming his appointment as the United States Ambassador to the People's Republic of China. Ambassador Locke is the first Chinese American to hold the appointment.

**External Links:**

<http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/governorlocke/default.asp>

[http://www.pbs.org/searching/gov\\_main.html](http://www.pbs.org/searching/gov_main.html)

<http://www.dwt.com/lawdir/attorneys/LockeGary.cfm>