

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.61

Reps. Puri, Aiyash, Morse, Manoogian, Rogers, Steckloff, Steenland, Bolden, Pohutsky, Weiss, Rabhi, Camilleri, Cavanagh, Young, Tate, Anthony, Sneller, Cherry, Whitsett, Hammoud, LaGrand, Hertel, O'Neal, Thanedar, Hope, Breen, Scott, Brenda Carter, Cambensy, Brixie, Coleman, Liberati, Garza, Shannon, Tyrone Carter, Sowerby, Clemente, Brabec, Stone, Sabo, Kuppa, Neeley, Koleszar, Bellino, Roth, O'Malley, Berman, Jones, Brann, Damoose, Yancey, Lasinski, Ellison and Peterson offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to condemn hate crimes, hateful rhetoric, and
2 hateful acts against Asian Americans and to encourage Michiganders
3 to report hate crimes to the proper authorities.

4 Whereas, Racism and prejudice toward Asian Americans have
5 always existed. Prominent examples include the "Yellow Peril," the
6 Chinese Exclusion Act, and the internment of Japanese Americans
7 during World War II; and

1 Whereas, Culturally insensitive rhetoric regarding COVID-19
2 has contributed to a spike in discrimination and hate crimes toward
3 Asian Americans. More than 30 percent of Asian Americans have
4 reported being subjected to discrimination since the beginning of
5 the Pandemic. According to Stop AAPI Hate, 3,795 incidents have
6 been reported between March 19, 2020 and February 28, 2021 from all
7 50 states, including 16 in Michigan. Incidents have included
8 physical assault, verbal harassment, shunning, workplace
9 discrimination, refusal of service, and online harassment; and

10 Whereas, Acts of hate and discrimination are antithetical to
11 our values as Michiganders and Americans. As civic leaders, it is
12 our duty to promote respect, inclusion, and a welcoming community
13 for people of all races, national origins, and ethnicities; and

14 Whereas, All Michiganders can play a role in establishing a
15 safe and welcoming community by intervening and reporting instances
16 of hate and discrimination. Reporting these incidents is critical
17 to holding perpetrators accountable and fully addressing the issue;
18 now, therefore, be it

19 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we condemn hate
20 crimes, hateful rhetoric, and hateful acts against Asian Americans;
21 and be it further

22 Resolved, That we encourage Asian Americans and all
23 Michiganders who experience hate crimes to report such incidents to
24 local law enforcement or the Michigan Attorney General's Hate
25 Crimes Unit; and be it further

26 Resolved, That we encourage Asian Americans and all
27 Michiganders who experience discrimination to report such
28 experiences to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights; and be it
29 further

1 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
2 Governor, the Michigan Attorney General, and the Director of the
3 Michigan Department of Civil Rights.