

Resolution to Stand in Solidarity with the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Community

WHEREAS, the First Legislative District is home to a diverse community with a large percentage of our population identifying as Asian and Pacific Islander (API), a group that has contributed and continues to contribute to our country's progress, culture and success; and

WHEREAS, there has been a documented regional and nationwide trend of increased discrimination, hate and violence against Asian and Pacific Islanders, from young adults to our most vulnerable elderly, exacerbated by false narratives and xenophobia around the coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, these ongoing and reprehensible displays of hate have often gone unnoticed and unreported, perpetuating a model minority myth that Asian and Pacific Islanders will be complacent and stay silent, even when being targeted and harmed; and

WHEREAS, hate, violence and bias are not accepted in our community especially when targeting or scapegoating individuals based on their race and identity; and

WHEREAS, we are acutely reminded that our diversity is a key strength for the character of our District, and that we are a community where everyone should feel safe and welcome; and

WHEREAS, each of us has a personal responsibility to prevent the spread of misinformation, condemn violent acts in any form, support all fellow community members, and reject stigma, hate and bias in all its forms; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for the community at large to support the API community, stand together against anti-Asian violence, and report incidents of hate and bias, especially as we continue to recover together from the impacts of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, we believe our words matter. Since the issue of discrimination and bias is worldwide, we intentionally use API rather than AAPI since AAPI only includes Asian Americans. We believe in protecting people regardless of citizenship.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the First District Democrats strongly condemn any violence and hate towards the Asian and Pacific Islanders (API) community and do hereby proclaim our renewed and ongoing commitment to be a diverse community free from racism so all those in the District feel safe and welcomed and urge everyone to interrupt instances of racism and intolerance by speaking up and standing up in support of equity, justice and inclusion.

Proposed by Rami Al-Kabra, April 8, 2021.

Recommended DO PASS by the Issues Committee – April 8, 2021

Passed by the 1st District Democrats at the General Meeting on April 19, 2021