

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION CONDEMNING AND COMBATING RACISM,
XENOPHOBIA, AND INTOLERANCE AGAINST ASIAN AMERICANS
AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS**

WHEREAS, Sacramento County is committed to inclusion and advancing equity and justice for people of all races, national origins, and ethnicities; and

WHEREAS, Unincorporated Sacramento County is home to an estimated 513,620 residents, of which Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) comprise 20.6%, and home to over 6,000 AAPI small businesses; and

WHEREAS, AAPI communities are immensely diverse, consisting of multiple ethnicities, hundreds of languages and dialects, wide-ranging socioeconomic characteristics, and distinct immigration patterns; and

WHEREAS, the belief that AAPIs are a monolithic group and achieve universal success, also known as the “model minority myth,” perpetuates stereotypes, and masks the disparities within these communities, particularly among Southeast Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and

WHEREAS, racism and scapegoating toward AAPIs have persisted since the 19th century and contributed toward policies like the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, which prohibited immigration of Chinese laborers, and introduction of the term “yellow peril,” which represented native born Asians immigrants as dangerous and threatening to the United States; and

WHEREAS, racist policies continued into the 20th century with the Immigration Act of 1924, effectively banning all immigration from Asia; Executive Order 9066 in 1942

authorizing the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II; and other official acts that have impacted Southeast Asian Americans, South Asians, Muslims, and Sikhs, among others; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, the Asian American community mobilized for justice after Vincent Chin was murdered in Detroit, Michigan by two individuals who perceived him as Japanese and reportedly blamed him for the declining auto industry, making this one of the first widely known cases of a crime targeting an Asian American based on race; and

WHEREAS, since the outbreak of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in California in March 2020, harmful and xenophobic rhetoric related to the geographic origins of this disease resulted in a rise in reported hate incidents and crimes against AAPI individuals, communities, and businesses throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Stop AAPI Hate, a national coalition aimed at addressing anti-Asian discrimination through the pandemic and founded by the Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council, Chinese for Affirmative Action, and San Francisco State University's Asian American Studies Department, documented over 2,800 hate incidents targeting AAPIs in the United States since March 2020; and

WHEREAS, from March to June 2020, Stop AAPI Hate received reports of over 800 hate incidents in California against AAPIs related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the highest in the country; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2021, a video of a Sacramento high school teacher making offensive gestures to depict Asians during class was filmed and circulated on social media; and

WHEREAS, in history and at this moment in time, we acknowledge the multiple harms and trauma that have existed and converged simultaneously in marginalized communities of all backgrounds in Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, AAPIs in Sacramento are increasingly concerned about their safety and well-being, given the rise of racially motivated attacks and hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, despite these increasing acts of hate and bigotry, AAPIs have made Sacramento County and our nation more secure throughout its history and during the COVID-19 pandemic, with an estimated 2 million AAPIs serving on the front lines of this crisis as healthcare providers, as first responders, and in other essential roles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED

SECTION 1. Sacramento County's Board of Supervisors hereby condemns and will combat racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against AAPIs.

SECTION 2. Sacramento County will work to ensure that all members of AAPI communities — no matter their background, the language they speak, or their religious beliefs — are treated with dignity and equity.

SECTION 3. Sacramento County's Board of Supervisors and staff will work with AAPI community partners in support of data-gathering that is culturally appropriate and to acknowledge the systemic barriers to reporting hate crimes impacting AAPIs.

SECTION 4. Sacramento County's Board of Supervisors will work jointly with members of the AAPI community to develop tangible, community-led solutions through

the County's racial equity initiative that acknowledge the experiences of AAPI residents, root out systemic racism, and uplift racial solidarity.

On a motion by Supervisor Kennedy, seconded by Supervisor _____, the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sacramento, State of California this 23rd day of March 2021, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors,

NOES: Supervisors,

ABSENT: Supervisors,

ABSTAIN: Supervisors,

RECUSAL: Supervisors,

(PER POLITICAL REFORM ACT (§ 18702.5.))

Chair of the Board of Supervisors
of Sacramento County, California

(SEAL)

ATTEST: _____
Clerk, Board of Supervisors