

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

HOUSE

RESOLUTION 1015

By: Munson

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution related to the discriminatory treatment of Asian American persons and Pacific Islanders; and condemning discriminatory treatment.

WHEREAS, racism and prejudice toward the Asian American and Pacific Islander community have always existed. Prominent examples include the "Yellow Peril", the Chinese Exclusion Act, and the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II; and

WHEREAS, since the COVID-19 pandemic began, there has been a spike in discrimination and hate crimes toward the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. More than thirty percent (30%) of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have reported being subjected to discrimination since the beginning of the pandemic. According to "Stop AAPI Hate", 3,795 incidents have been reported between March 19, 2020, and February 28, 2021, from all 50 states. Incidents have included physical assault, verbal harassment, shunning, workplace discrimination, refusal of service, and online harassment; and

1       WHEREAS, acts of hate and discrimination are antithetical to our  
2 values as Oklahomans and Americans. As civic leaders, it is our  
3 duty to promote respect, inclusion, and a welcoming community for  
4 people of all races, national origins, and ethnicities; and

5       WHEREAS, all Oklahomans can play a role in establishing a safe  
6 and welcoming community by intervening and reporting instances of  
7 hate and discrimination. Reporting these incidents is critical to  
8 holding perpetrators accountable and fully addressing the issue; and

9       WHEREAS, the Oklahoma House of Representatives condemns hate  
10 crimes, hateful rhetoric, and hateful acts against the Asian  
11 American and Pacific Islander community; and

12       WHEREAS, we encourage the Asian American and Pacific Islander  
13 community and all Oklahomans who experience or witness hate crimes  
14 or discrimination to report such incidents to local law enforcement  
15 or to report the experiences to the Oklahoma Attorney General's  
16 Office of Civil Rights Enforcement.

17       NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
18 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

19       THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives condemns  
20 discriminatory treatment of the Asian American and Pacific Islander  
21 community and supports efforts to end such discriminatory treatment.

22       THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives supports and  
23 encourages its residents to report instances of discriminatory  
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1 treatment and specifically actions constituting possible hate crimes  
2 to the appropriate state or local authorities.

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