

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 981

Commemorating the 1-year anniversary of the March 16, 2021, shootings
in Atlanta, Georgia, and denouncing anti-Asian hate.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 2022

Ms. CHU (for herself, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mrs. McBATH, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. DELBENE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BERA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BASS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. TRONE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. KILMER, Ms. MENG, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. NEWMAN, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CASE, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SIRES, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. TITUS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CARSON, Mr. BEYER, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. FLETCHER, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

RESOLUTION

Commemorating the 1-year anniversary of the March 16,

2021, shootings in Atlanta, Georgia, and denouncing anti-Asian hate.

Whereas, on March 16, 2021, a shooter murdered 8 people and injured 1 person in the Atlanta, Georgia, region in 3 separate shootings that took place at Asian-owned spas;

Whereas March 16, 2022, is the 1-year anniversary of those tragic shootings;

Whereas the victims' names were Xiaojie "Emily" Tan, Daoyou Feng, Delaina Ashley Yaun, Paul Andre Michels, Yong Ae Yue, Soon Chung "Julie" Park, Hyun Jung Grant, and Sun Cha Kim;

Whereas, on this anniversary, the people of the United States continue to mourn the loss of 8 innocent lives, 7 of whom were women, 6 of whom were women of Asian descent, and several of whom were immigrants;

Whereas the Georgia shootings occurred amidst an alarming surge in anti-Asian hate crimes and incidents, which has caused many Asians and Asian Americans across the United States to feel fearful and unsafe;

Whereas prosecutors in Georgia's Fulton County, where 1 of the spas was located, are seeking hate crimes penalties against the shooter;

Whereas the shootings that occurred in Atlanta, Georgia, have become an inflection point for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community;

Whereas, in the days and weeks following the shootings, there was an outpouring of support for the Asian American and Pacific Islander community, and actions were taken across the country to address anti-Asian hate;

Whereas March 26, 2021, was designated as a “National Day of Action and Healing”, in response to the rise of anti-Asian hate and the Georgia shootings;

Whereas, on May 20, 2021, President Biden signed the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act into law to make resources available to address anti-Asian hate and improve the hate crime reporting process;

Whereas, in the year since the Atlanta shooting, hate crimes have continued to spike;

Whereas, in 2021, anti-Asian hate crimes increased by 339 percent, and in 2020, they increased by 124 percent;

Whereas over 11,000 hate incidents have been reported to Stop AAPI Hate since the start of the pandemic, and many more have gone unreported;

Whereas nearly 1 in 5 Asian Americans (21.2 percent) and Pacific Islanders (20.0 percent) has experienced a hate incident in 2021;

Whereas Asian American and Pacific Islander women are more likely to be targeted according to Stop AAPI Hate;

Whereas 74 percent of AAPI women overall have reported experiencing racism or discrimination in the past year;

Whereas the majority of East Asian American women report feeling less safe since the start of the pandemic;

Whereas 1 in 3 Asian American parents (30.6 percent) and Pacific Islander parents (31.4 percent) has a child that has experienced a hate incident at school in the past year;

Whereas 42 percent of Asian Americans believe that racial discrimination is the factor in their lives that has had the greatest negative impact on their mental health;

Whereas, before this rise in hate incidents, online hate speech against Asians increased 2,770 percent between 2019 and 2020;

Whereas the use of anti-Asian rhetoric related to COVID–19, such as the “Chinese virus”, “Wuhan virus”, and “kung flu”, has perpetuated anti-Asian stigma that has resulted in Asian Americans being harassed, assaulted, and scapegoated for the COVID–19 pandemic and economic distress in the United States;

Whereas the use of rhetoric that portrays Asian countries, and by extension Asian nationals, as enemies of the United States has further contributed to the scapegoating of Asian Americans and the rise in anti-Asian hate;

Whereas xenophobic rhetoric that paints China as a unique and existential enemy or which seeks to make all of China responsible for the coronavirus, contrary to advice from the World Health Organization, contributes to anti-Asian hate;

Whereas the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act, legislation to address the rise of anti-Asian hate and improve hate crimes reporting, was passed with strong bipartisan support in both the House and Senate; and

Whereas the people of the United States continue to remember the victims of these shootings and stand in solidarity with those affected by this senseless tragedy: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) condemns the heinous and inexcusable acts
3 of gun violence that led to the tragic loss of 8 lives
4 in Georgia on March 16, 2021;

1 (2) condemns the racism and sexism in the
2 choice of the shooter to target Asian-owned busi-
3 nesses and murder 7 women, 6 of whom were of
4 Asian descent;

5 (3) honors the memory of the victims and offers
6 heartfelt condolences to their families;

7 (4) recognizes the irrevocable impact the shoot-
8 ing has on the Asian American and Pacific Islander
9 community and all communities impacted by this
10 tragedy;

11 (5) recognizes that anti-Asian hate continues to
12 impact the Asian American and Pacific Islander
13 community;

14 (6) reaffirms the importance of addressing anti-
15 Asian hate at all levels of government and improving
16 hate crimes reporting infrastructure through the im-
17 plementation of the COVID–19 Hate Crimes Act;
18 and

19 (7) reaffirms the commitment of the Federal
20 Government to combat hate, bigotry, and violence
21 against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and
22 to prevent tragedies like this from ever happening
23 again.

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