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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION

H. R. No. **1**

1.1 A House resolution

1.2 expressing the sense of the Minnesota House condemning all forms of anti-Asian

1.3 sentiment related to COVID-19.

1.4 WHEREAS, 23 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for seven percent of

1.5 the Nation's population in the United States; and

1.6 WHEREAS, over two million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are working on the

1.7 frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic response in health care, law enforcement, first responders,

1.8 transportation, supermarkets, and other service industries; and

1.9 WHEREAS, the use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to COVID-19, such as

1.10 the "Chinese Virus," "Wuhan Virus," and "Kung-flu," have perpetuated anti-Asian stigma and since

1.11 January 2020, there has been a dramatic increase in reports of hate crimes and incidents against

1.12 people of Asian descent; and

1.13 WHEREAS, the increased use of anti-Asian rhetoric has resulted in Asian Americans being

1.14 harassed, assaulted, and scapegoated for the COVID-19 pandemic and Asian-American businesses

1.15 being targeted for vandalism; and

1.16 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and

1.17 Prevention recognize that naming COVID-19 by its geographic location or linking it to a specific

1.18 ethnicity perpetuates stigma; and

1.19 WHEREAS, the Secretary General of the United Nations called for international solidarity

1.20 and an end to any ill-founded discrimination of the pandemic's victims; NOW, THEREFORE,

1.21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of Minnesota that it calls

1.22 on all public officials to condemn and denounce any and all anti-Asian sentiment in any form;

1.23 recognizes that the health and safety of all Americans, no matter their background, must be of

1.24 utmost priority; condemns all manifestations of expressions of racism, xenophobia, discrimination,

- 2.1 anti-Asian sentiment, and ethnic or religious intolerance; calls on State and local law enforcement
- 2.2 officials to investigate and document all credible reports of hate crimes and incidents and threats
- 2.3 against the Asian-American community in Minnesota; and encourages the leadership of Minnesota
- 2.4 to build more inclusive, diverse, and tolerant societies and to combat misinformation and
- 2.5 discrimination that puts Asian Americans at risk.