



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: April 6, 2021

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California, In
Support Of And Solidarity With The Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Communities,
Denouncing Xenophobia And Anti-Asian Racism And Violence, And Affirming The County's
Commitment To The Well-Being And Safety Of AAPI Communities**

Whereas, diversity, equity, and inclusion are core values of the County of Sonoma (County) and form one of the five pillars of the County's adopted Strategic Plan; and

Whereas, the Board of Supervisors (Board) is committed to advancing racial equity and social justice both within the County's organizational culture and in the delivery of services to the community it serves; and

Whereas, the County's mission to "enrich the quality of life in Sonoma County through superior public services" is founded on an explicit commitment to value the voices and contributions of all persons; and

Whereas, Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) persons comprise five and one-quarter percent (5.25%) of Sonoma County's population and four percent (4%) of the County's employee workforce; and

Whereas, AAPI community members have been part of the rich ethnic diversity of Sonoma County and have contributed greatly to the economic and cultural vibrancy of the region; and

Whereas, the AAPI communities in Sonoma County and across the nation are suffering

acts of discrimination, hate crimes, and violence due to fears related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19); and

Whereas, since the outbreak of COVID-19, harmful and xenophobic rhetoric related to the geographic origins of the disease resulted in a rise in violence and hate crimes against AAPI persons, communities, and businesses throughout Sonoma County and the nation and has further encouraged racism, prejudice, and discrimination against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and

Whereas, such rhetoric is reminiscent of the late 1800s, when Chinese Americans were deemed the “yellow peril” and subject to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 despite living in the United States for years; and

Whereas, such rhetoric is inaccurate and stigmatizing, tends to incite fear and xenophobia, and places AAPI persons at risk of violence; and

Whereas, politically charged and culturally insensitive rhetoric referring to COVID-19 has falsely blamed on AAPI persons for the outbreak and mischaracterized COVID-19 as the “Chinese virus” or “Kung Flu,” further exacerbating racism and violence against AAPI persons, communities, and businesses; and

Whereas, the number of AAPI hate crimes have been steadily increasing in the United States and in local communities in San Francisco, Oakland and the greater Bay Area.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the County denounces and will not tolerate racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and the rhetoric and racist remarks regarding the COVID-19 virus; and

Be It Further Resolved that the County joins cities, counties, and states across the county in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and in combatting hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Supervisors:

Gorin:	Rabbitt:	Coursey:	Gore:	Hopkins:
Ayes:	Noes:	Absent:	Abstain:	

So Ordered.