

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION denouncing anti-Asian and Pacific Islander racism and any form of bias crime in Indiana resulting from the coronavirus.

FORD J.D.

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



SENATE RESOLUTION ____

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION denouncing anti-Asian and
2 Pacific Islander racism and any form of bias crime in Indiana
3 resulting from the coronavirus.

4 *Whereas, The 2019 coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic was*
5 *first reported in the city of Wuhan, Hubei, China, in December*
6 *2019;*

7 *Whereas, Worldwide, the spread of COVID-19 has led to*
8 *increased prejudice, xenophobia, discrimination, violence, and*
9 *racism, often directed to people of Asian and Pacific Islander*
10 *descent and appearance;*

11 *Whereas, On January 30, 2020, the World Health*
12 *Organization's (WHO) Emergency Committee issued a*
13 *statement advising all countries to be mindful of the "principles*
14 *of Article 3 of the International Health Regulations," which the*
15 *WHO says is a caution against "actions that promote stigma or*
16 *discrimination," when conducting national response measures*
17 *to the outbreak;*

18 *Whereas, According to the Pew Research Center, more*
19 *than 20.4 million people living in the United States are of Asian*



1 *descent;*

2 *Whereas, The United States Centers for Disease Control*
3 *and Prevention has appealed to the public to remain calm while*
4 *trying to quell misinformation;*

5 *Whereas, On March 14, 2020, more than 200 civil rights*
6 *groups in the United States demanded that the House of*
7 *Representatives and Senate leadership publicly denounce the*
8 *growing amount of anti-Asian racism related to the pandemic*
9 *and take "tangible steps to counter the hysteria" around*
10 *COVID-19;*

11 *Whereas, The Federal Bureau of Investigation defines a*
12 *hate crime as a "criminal offense against a person or property*
13 *motivated in whole or in part by an offender's bias against a*
14 *race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender,*
15 *or gender identity";*

16 *Whereas, Since March 2020, over 3,000 hate incidents*
17 *involving physical and verbal harassment and abuse have been*
18 *directed at Asian Americans, resulting in skyrocketing numbers*
19 *of hate and bias crimes against Asian Americans and putting*
20 *Asian individuals, communities, and businesses at risk; and*

21 *Whereas, It is in the public interest of the citizens of the*
22 *State of Indiana and this great nation to denounce, in the*
23 *strongest terms, any hate crimes or any other form of conduct*
24 *that constitutes racism, religious or ethnic bias, discrimination*
25 *based on ethnicity, including incitement to violence resulting*
26 *from COVID-19, and to encourage positive social behaviors:*
27 *Therefore,*

28 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
29 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

30 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate strongly denounces



1 any form of racism, ethnic bias, discrimination, incitement to
2 violence, or animus targeting minorities in Indiana resulting
3 from COVID-19.

4 SECTION 2. That the Indiana Senate encourages the
5 Governor and the Attorney General to provide state assistance
6 to victims of hate crimes, to enhance security measures and
7 improve preparedness at institutions that have been targeted
8 because of their affiliation with any particular race or ethnicity
9 resulting from COVID-19, and to encourage positive social
10 behaviors among Hoosiers during this difficult time.

