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3 Chairman Phil Mendelson
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7 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

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10 Councilmember Elissa Silverman
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14 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie
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18 Councilmember Mary Cheh
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22 Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau
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26 Councilmember Trayon White Sr.
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Councilmember Anita Bonds



Councilmember Charles Allen



Councilmember Vincent C. Gray



Councilmember Robert C. White Jr.



Councilmember Christina Henderson



Councilmember Brooke Pinto

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29 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION
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33 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to declare a sense of the Council of the District of Columbia to condemn and denounce, in the strongest terms, all manifestations of hate crimes against any American regardless of ethnicity, particularly anti-Asian sentiment, racism, discrimination, scapegoating and ethnic or religious intolerance.

RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Sense of the Council Condemning Hate Crimes Against Asian and Pacific Islander Americans Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021”.

Sec. 2. The Council finds that:

(1) 23 million Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for 7 percent of the population of the United States. Asian and Pacific Islander Americans are the fastest growing demographic in the United States and reside in every state and in the District of Columbia: they are our friends, our neighbors, our co-workers, our family members.

(2) Residents of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage have enriched America in countless ways. AAPI communities contribute to American societies in traditional and modern sectors that impact all aspects of our lives.

(3) District of Columbia is home to 34,944 Asian American and Pacific Islander residents.

(4) The use of anti-Asian rhetoric related to COVID-19 such as “Kung-flu” or “Chinese virus” has perpetuated anti-Asian sentiment and stigma.

(5) Since January 2020 amid the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been a dramatic increase in reports of hate crimes against Asian Americans. Many crimes go unreported or are not classified as hate crimes.

(6) Increased use of anti-Asian rhetoric has resulted in Asian-American businesses being targeted for robbery and vandalism.

(7) Since March 2020, 140 hate incidents have been reported against Asian Americans across Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Across America, 3,292 incidents of hate towards the Asian community have occurred in 2020. There have been an additional 503 incidents reported in 2021.

(8) 31% of Asian Americans report having experienced racial slurs since the beginning of the pandemic.

(9) On March 17, 2021, there was another horrific mass shooting, this time in

80 Atlanta, Georgia, killing eight people, six of whom were women of Asian descent. In recent
81 weeks, there was also a murder of an 87-year old Thai immigrant, a brutal assault of a 67-year
82 old man in San Francisco, and the beating of a 27-year old young man in Los Angeles.

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84 (10) The escalating violence against Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI),
85 culminating at nearly 3,800 incidents over the past year, including a disproportionate impact on
86 AAPI women, clearly demonstrate that it is essential for the Council to condemn these heinous
87 actions today.

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89 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that circumstances
90 enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Sense
91 of the Council Condemning Hate Crimes Against Asian and Pacific Islander Americans
92 Emergency Resolution be adopted on an emergency basis.

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94 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.