

1.1 A Senate concurrent resolution
1.2 condemning acts of violence, racism, and hate against Minnesotans of Asian descent.

1.3 WHEREAS, America is not defined by race, ethnicity, social status, religious beliefs, partisan
1.4 politics, class, or creed. America is a nation of immigrants and people of the first nation. Our
1.5 constitution of "We the People" guarantees inalienable rights and equality for all under the law;
1.6 and

1.7 WHEREAS, Minnesota, as said by our Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan, is the land of
1.8 Dakota and Ojibwe people and is welcomed to all; and

1.9 WHEREAS, dating back to the 1800s, a record number of Asians became Americans and
1.10 Minnesotans, creating deep roots in our country, much like the many people who came from
1.11 European countries or other places around the world. Their hopes and dreams were the same as
1.12 any group escaping persecution or coming to start a new life. However, many Americans still see
1.13 Asian-Americans as foreigners to this country. This is not acceptable and must change; and

1.14 WHEREAS, for over 200 years, Asian-Americans have had the collective experience of
1.15 being the subject of harassment, bullying in schools, public racial assaults, scapegoating and racial
1.16 mocking at workplaces, victims of employment bias, hate, xenophobia, and more, despite their
1.17 worthy and comparable contributions to the growth of America and Minnesota; and

1.18 WHEREAS, since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Asian American/Pacific Islander
1.19 (AAPI) community has experienced increased discrimination, harassment, and racialized attacks
1.20 in every public sphere; and

1.21 WHEREAS, as of the end of February, Stop AAPI Hate has received 3,800 reports of hate
1.22 incidents stemming back to March 2020, which is only a fraction of the number of hate incidents
1.23 that actually occur; and

WHEREAS, reported harm experienced by the AAPI community includes verbal harassment, shunning, physical assault, online harassment, and civil rights violations, including workplace discrimination, refusal of service, and being barred from transportation; and

WHEREAS, AAPI women are twice as likely to be targeted and have reported hate incidents 2.3 times more than men; and

WHEREAS, historical hate crimes against Asian-Americans included the Chinese Exclusion Act, the Japanese-American internment camps, organized attacks on Texas Vietnamese-Americans' shrimp businesses, countless beatings and killing of Asians without cause, wrongful violence against people of South-Asian descent after 9/11, derogatory COVID-19 association to people of Asian descent, and the recent mass shooting of Asian women, among many other racist incidents; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota is known for welcoming victims of the Chinese Exclusion Act, resettling Japanese-Americans after World War II, having a high number of Korean adoptees and becoming home to Hmong and other Southeast-Asian refugees; and

WHEREAS, Asian-Minnesotans are estimated to be over 300,000 in population, working as small business owners in northern Minnesota to meat processing plants in the southern part of our state, as well as building thriving cultural communities in the Twin Cities metropolitan area; and

WHEREAS, from the first settlement of Asian Americans within Minnesota to now, there have been countless xenophobic incidents toward the community, and many go unreported. The recent hate crimes against the Asian-American community surged during the COVID-19 pandemic and we must do something to address this unacceptable behavior; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that we condemn any act of violence, racism, and hate against Minnesotans of Asian descent and denounces racial epithets of any form.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all senators in the Minnesota State Senate do hereby recognize, celebrate, and honor the rich cultures and contributions of our AAPI families, friends, and neighbors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the surge of anti-Asian assault and violence is unacceptable. We must do our part in combating racism and hate crimes against Asian-Americans through our collective action in workplaces, schools, and public areas.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of Minnesota, the House of Representatives concurring: that addressing hate, violence, and racism requires education by all of us and civil rights protections to our most vulnerable members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by his signature and those of the Senate Majority

- 3.1 Leader, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Chief Clerk of the House of
- 3.2 Representatives.