

Resolution: 20-21 RS VI

Author(s): Director Lamungkun

Sponsor(s): Chair Johnson, Senator Fridy

To read as follows:

WHEREAS, According to the *California State University, San Bernardino* and their study on 16 of the United States’ largest cities, anti-Asian hate crimes have spiked 149 percent since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. This despite overall hate crimes dropping by 7 percent; and,

WHEREAS, According to a study conducted by the *University of California, San Francisco*, nearly 700 thousand tweets contained more than one million anti-Asian hashtags in the days leading up to and after former President Trump’s initial tweet calling coronavirus the ‘Chinese Virus.’; and,

WHEREAS, on February 19, 2021 - an Asian American woman was assaulted as well as her store, *Mama Venezia’s Pizzeria,* robbed by three suspects in Norristown, PA; and,

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2021 - six Asian American women were shot and killed in Atlanta, GA; and

WHEREAS, *Stop AAPI Hate* reported nearly 3,800 instances of discrimination against Asians in the past year, with the actual number being possibly higher; and

WHEREAS, Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI), and Native Hawaiian students make up 3.98% of The University of West Florida’s enrolled student body population as of Fall 2020

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the University of West Florida Student Government Association condemns and denounces all forms of anti-Asian sentiment, including those related to COVID-19, and all manifestations of expressions of racism, xenophobia, discrimination, anti-Asian sentiment, scapegoating, and ethnic or religious intolerance

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of West Florida Student Government Association brings awareness to the anti-Asian hate crimes in the country, by joining the #StopAsianHate Movement by observing March 26th as an annual #StopAsianHate National Day of Action and Healing for the AAPI community.

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Mr. Ruben Gardner Ms. Sydney Grant

Student Body President Senate Pro Tempore