

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 347

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need to pass legislation to increase penalties on perpetrators of hate crimes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. CARSON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. WYNN, Ms. LEE, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. LAMPSON, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. ROTHMAN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. BONIOR) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the need to pass legislation to increase penalties on perpetrators of hate crimes.

Whereas diversity and tolerance are essential principles of an open and free society;

Whereas all people deserve to be safe within their communities, free to live, work, and worship without fear of violence and bigotry;

Whereas crimes motivated by hatred against persons because of their race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sex-

ual orientation, or disability undermine the fundamental values of our Nation;

Whereas hate crimes tear at the fabric of American society, leave scars on victims and their families, and weaken our sense of community and purpose; and

Whereas individuals who commit crimes based on hate and bigotry must be held responsible for their actions and must be stopped from spreading violence: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of the Congress that the  
3 Congress—

4            (1) needs to pass legislation that amends the  
5        Federal criminal code to set penalties for persons  
6        who commit acts of violence against other persons  
7        because of the actual or perceived race, color, reli-  
8        gion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or  
9        disability of any person;

10           (2) condemns the culture of hate and the hate  
11        groups that foster such violent acts;

12           (3) commends the communities throughout our  
13        Nation that are united in condemning such acts of  
14        hate in their neighborhoods;

15           (4) commends the efforts of Federal, State, and  
16        local law enforcement officials; and

17           (5) reaffirms its commitment to a society that  
18        fully respects and protects all people, regardless of

- 1 race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual
- 2 orientation, or disability.

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