

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. RES. 785

Condemning the discrimination, hate crimes, racism, bigotry, bullying and brutal violence perpetrated against Sikh-Americans, and all acts of vandalism against Sikh Gurdwaras in the United States.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2012

Mr. CROWLEY (for himself, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. CHU, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. STARK, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. HONDA, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. FARR, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. FILNER, Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. HOLT, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BASS of California, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. COSTA, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. CLARKE of Michigan, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. OLVER, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. WELCH, Ms. HAHN, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. KIND, Mr. RUSH, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SIRES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. ESHOO, and Mr. MCNERNEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## RESOLUTION

Condemning the discrimination, hate crimes, racism, bigotry,

bullying and brutal violence perpetrated against Sikh-Americans, and all acts of vandalism against Sikh Gurdwaras in the United States.

Whereas Sikh-Americans have frequently been stereotyped solely because of their appearance, practices and traditions;

Whereas numerous Sikh temples have been defaced and Sikh-Americans attacked out of ignorance and hatred, including instances in Michigan, New York, and California;

Whereas some incidents against Sikh-Americans appear to be erroneous attempts to place blame or exact retribution for the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks;

Whereas Sikh-Americans have been murdered, including the heinous attack and killing of six persons and wounding of others in the Sikh Gurdwara of Wisconsin on August 5, 2012;

Whereas Sikh-Americans are often targeted solely because of their unique dress and religious practices;

Whereas surveys have found that up to three out of every four Sikh boys in the United States are bullied due to their appearance;

Whereas the Sikh faith is the world's fifth largest religion, with more than 25 million practitioners worldwide, upwards of 500,000 of whom reside in the United States;

Whereas Sikh-Americans have lived in the United States for at least 100 years as pillars of American society, making invaluable contributions in business, politics, science and education;

Whereas Sikh-Americans serve in all roles of American life, including as family members, business owners, elected leaders, and members of the United States military;

Whereas Dalip Singh Saund served as a Sikh-American member of the U.S. House of Representatives in the late 1950s and early 1960s; and

Whereas under successive Administrations, the Department of Justice has rightfully reached out to the Sikh community to prevent discrimination and protect its civil liberties: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) condemns the commission of hate crimes  
3       against all Americans, including Sikh-Americans;

4               (2) condemns acts of violence, bigotry and dis-  
5       crimination against Sikh-Americans;

6               (3) urges educators, counselors and others to  
7       support educational efforts to prevent the epidemic  
8       bullying of Sikh-American children and families;

9               (4) supports outreach efforts by Federal and  
10       local law enforcement leaders to prevent violence and  
11       hate crimes against Sikh-Americans;

12              (5) urges the U.S. Department of Justice to  
13       begin documenting and quantifying hate crimes and  
14       other acts of violence perpetrated against Sikh-  
15       Americans; and

16              (6) expresses its strong support for the right of  
17       the Sikh-American community to live in peace and

- 1 free from discrimination, hate crimes, bullying and
- 2 all forms of violence.

