

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 586

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/
AIDS Awareness Day.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2014

Ms. BORDALLO (for herself, Ms. CHU, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HONDA, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. MOORE, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Asian and
Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

Whereas Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders are the largest growing group in the United States and constitute diverse communities including over 50 different ethnic sub-groups speaking over 100 languages and dialects;

Whereas from 2010 to 2011 the number of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders who have been diagnosed with HIV has increased at least 20 percent;

Whereas Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders have the highest percentage of individuals who have never been tested for HIV;

Whereas in 2012, 7 in 10 Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander adults have never been tested for HIV;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that in 2011, 1 in 4 Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders living with HIV/AIDS are unaware they are infected with HIV;

Whereas the proportion of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders with late HIV diagnoses (AIDS diagnoses within one year of HIV diagnosis) in 2010 was the highest of all races and ethnicities in the United States and dependent areas, 45 percent of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders developed AIDS within 12 months after a diagnosis of HIV infection, compared with 38 percent of American Indians/Alaska Natives diagnosed with HIV, 36 percent of Hispanics/Latinos, 35 percent of Asians, 32 percent of Whites, and 31 percent of Blacks/African-Americans;

Whereas the CDC estimates that over 9,672 AIDS cases have been diagnosed among Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders through 2011;

Whereas significant barriers remain for accessing culturally and linguistically competent services, especially HIV testing;

Whereas HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination continues to be a growing problem in all communities, including the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community;

Whereas HIV/AIDS stigma and discrimination increases risk-taking behavior and prevents people from accessing the HIV/AIDS services and support they need;

Whereas the National HIV/AIDS Strategy released in July 2010 established the three primary goals of reducing HIV incidence, increasing access to care, and optimizing health outcomes and reducing HIV-related health disparities, including specific strategies focused on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander populations, such as targeted and disaggregated surveillance and stigma prevention efforts and interventions targeted to the men who have sex with men community;

Whereas the development of the Minority AIDS Initiative in 1998 to coordinate funding, capacity building, and prevention, care, and treatment services within African-American, Hispanic, Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Native American communities has assisted with the development of leadership in minority community-based organizations, provided culturally and linguistically competent HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment services, developed community capacity and infrastructure, promoted technical assistance and resources, and raised awareness among Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities; and

Whereas, on May 19, 2014, community members from all ethnic groups will come together in recognition of the ninth annual National Asian and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—
- 2 (1) supports the observance of National Asian
- 3 American and Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Aware-

1 ness Day in order to honor the memory of the 3,488
2 Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Is-
3 landers with AIDS in the United States who have
4 died, as well as the estimated 10,583 Asian Ameri-
5 cans and Pacific Islanders who are still living with
6 HIV/AIDS;

7 (2) recognizes the importance of culturally and
8 linguistically competent services as a core element in
9 reducing HIV/AIDS rates in Asian American, Native
10 Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities;

11 (3) recognizes the importance of addressing the
12 gaps in research and data in order to fully under-
13 stand the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Asian American,
14 Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities;
15 and

16 (4) recognizes the people across the United
17 States infected and affected by HIV/AIDS who are
18 commemorating this day with community-wide ac-
19 tivities and who work to reduce the impact of HIV/
20 AIDS on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pa-
21 cific Islander communities across the United States
22 and the United States affiliated Pacific Island juris-
23 dictions.

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