

## **H. Res. 275**

### ***In the House of Representatives, U. S.,***

*May 19, 2021.*

Whereas, on March 16, 2021, a shooter murdered 8 people and injured 1 in the Atlanta, Georgia, region in 3 separate shootings that took place at Asian-owned spas;

Whereas the people of the United States mourn the 8 innocent lives lost, 7 of whom were women, 6 of whom were women of Asian descent, and several of whom were immigrants;

Whereas the victims included Xiaojie “Emily” Tan, Daoyou Feng, Delaina Ashley Yaun, Paul Andre Michels, Yong Ae Yue, Soon Chung “Julie” Park, Hyun Jung Grant, and Sun Cha Kim;

Whereas 49-year-old Xiaojie “Emily” Tan, a hardworking mother and the owner of 1 of the spas, was a dedicated and caring business owner who is survived by her daughter and husband;

Whereas 44-year-old Daoyou Feng was an employee who recently began working at 1 of the spas;

Whereas 33-year-old Delaina Ashley Yaun, a newlywed and mother of 2, was at 1 of the spas to receive a couple’s massage with her husband when her life was cut short;

Whereas 54-year-old Paul Andre Michels was a caring husband and a United States Army veteran who did maintenance work for 1 of the spas and is survived by his wife;

Whereas 63-year-old Yong Ae Yue was a mother of 2 sons who was known for her kindness and generosity and her love of her pet Shih Tzu;

Whereas 74-year-old Soon Chung “Julie” Park was a mother and grandmother who helped manage 1 of the spas and helped to prepare meals for the employees;

Whereas 51-year-old Hyun Jung Grant was a former elementary school teacher and hardworking single mother who dedicated her whole life to raising her 2 sons;

Whereas 69-year-old Sun Cha Kim was a wife, mother, and grandmother who enjoyed line dancing and had been married for more than 50 years;

Whereas during an interview with the Cherokee County Sheriff’s Office, the suspect stated that the shootings were not “racially motivated”, but the investigation is still ongoing and authorities have not ruled out the possibility of classifying the attacks as a “hate crime”;

Whereas the Georgia shooting came in the midst of an alarming surge in anti-Asian hate crimes and incidents, which has caused many Asian Americans across the United States to feel fearful and unsafe;

Whereas the use of anti-Asian terminology and rhetoric related to COVID–19, such as the “Chinese virus”, “Wuhan virus”, and “kung flu”, has perpetuated anti-Asian stigma that has resulted in Asian Americans being harassed, assaulted, and scapegoated for the COVID–19 pandemic;

Whereas anti-Asian hate crimes increased by nearly 150 percent in major cities throughout the United States in 2020;

Whereas according to a recent report by Stop AAPI Hate, there were nearly 3,800 reported cases of anti-Asian discrimination related to COVID–19 between March 19, 2020, to February 28, 2021;

Whereas 68 percent of reported incidents of anti-Asian hate targeted Asian-American women, a population that has been historically marginalized, sexualized, and fetishized;

Whereas, on March 19, 2021, President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris met with Asian-American leaders in Georgia and reaffirmed their strong commitment to condemn and combat racism, xenophobia, and violence targeting the Asian-American community; and

Whereas the people of the United States will always remember the victims of these shootings and stand in solidarity with those affected by this senseless tragedy: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns the heinous and inexcusable acts of gun violence that led to the tragic loss of 8 lives in Georgia on March 16, 2021;

(2) condemns any racism and sexism in the choice of the shooter to target Asian-owned businesses and murder 7 women, 6 of whom were of Asian descent;

(3) honors the memory of the victims, offers heartfelt condolences to their families, and recognizes that the healing process will be long and difficult for the Asian-

American and Pacific Islander community and all communities impacted by this tragedy; and

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States Federal Government to combat hate, bigotry, and violence against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and to prevent tragedies like this from ever happening again.

Attest:

*Clerk.*