

SPONSOR: Rep. Wilson-Anton & Rep. Briggs King & Sen. Brown & Sen. Hansen & Sen. Townsend Reps. Baumbach, Griffith, K. Johnson, Morrison, Osienski, Phillips; Sens. Huxtable, Mantzavinos, Walsh, Wilson

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 51

RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER MONTH AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND INFLUENCE OF ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS ON THE HISTORY, CULTURE, AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, the Delaware General Assembly recognizes the importance of joining together in May to pay tribute 2 to the contributions of generations of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities who have enriched and 3 strengthened this state and nation; and 4 WHEREAS, the story of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders is one that continues to shape and write the 5 history of this state and nation; and 6 WHEREAS, the Asian American and Pacific Islander community has time and time again demonstrated 7 commendable grit and resilience, from the Chinese laborers that built the first Transcontinental Railroad to the workers in 8 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields that continue to prepare this state and nation for tomorrow; and 9 WHEREAS, the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities continue to make pivotal strides in business, 10 education, the arts, entertainment, and government, such as public servants like our own Dr. Shien Biau Woo and Shailen 11 Bhatt who served as Delaware Lieutenant Governor from 1985 to 1989, and Delaware Secretary of Transportation from 12 2011 to 2014, respectively; and 13 WHEREAS, an estimated 43,000 people of Asian American and Pacific Islander descent are living in Delaware, 14 representing a diverse array of backgrounds, faiths, and occupations; and 15 WHEREAS, by 2060, Delaware is predicted to be one of the most diverse states in the nation, set to become a 16 majority-minority state; and 17 WHEREAS, Asian Americans are the highest-income, best-educated, and fastest-growing racial group in the 18 United States, placing heavy emphasis on the values of parenthood, family, and work ethic; and 19 WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islanders will continue to weave the fabrics of this state and nation and 20 sculpt all facets of our society, culture, and daily life; and

21	WHEREAS, Delaware has been historically enriched by the deep roots of Indian, Chinese, and Filipino residents
22	in this state, apparent in the vibrant Hindu temples and Sikh centers, North Star's Indo-American Community Center,
23	Hockessin's Chinese American Community Center, and Delaware Chinese American Association, and a Filipino cultural
24	school for those from the Philippines; and
25	WHEREAS, we must also recognize the discrimination, prejudice, and outright violence that Asian American and
26	Pacific Islander communities face; and
27	WHEREAS, throughout American history, Asian American and Pacific Islanders have been the target of
28	xenophobic policies at the federal, state, and local levels, including needless violence, eviction, disenfranchisement, and
29	attempts to restrict immigration; and
30	WHEREAS, the shameful increase in Anti-Asian hate across the country during the COVID-19 pandemic has
31	been perpetuated by the spread of misinformation and harmful rhetoric; and
32	WHEREAS, it is imperative we confront past and present racism and dedicate ourselves to uplift our Asian
33	American and Pacific Islander friends and neighbors; and
34	WHEREAS, this General Assembly commits itself as an ally for the Delaware Asian American and Pacific
35	Islander communities, fighting against discrimination, racism, and violence; and
36	WHEREAS, this General Assembly encourages all Delawareans to learn more about the vibrant history and
37	culture of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.
38	NOW, THEREFORE:
39	BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 152nd General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
40	Senate concurring therein, that the celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander month as a month recognizing the
41	contributions and influence of Asian American and Pacific Islanders and Asian American and Pacific Islander residents of
42	this State who daily contribute to the prosperity of this State and Nation be recognized.
43	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 152nd General Assembly encourages all Delawareans to join the General
44	Assembly in celebrating the collective strength, cultures, and resilience of Asian American and Pacific Islanders and
45	learning about their culture and heritage.

- 46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this General Assembly commits itself to the fight for the inclusion, safety, and
- 47 prosperity of our Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

SYNOPSIS

This Concurrent Resolution recognizes Asian American and Pacific Islander Month and celebrates the contributions, culture, and resilience of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in the State of Delaware and the United States.