

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21-012

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL AND SNOHOMISH COUNTY EXECUTIVE RECOGNIZING MAY 2021 AS ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month is a time to celebrate the many rich contributions Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) have made to our nation and local community; and

WHEREAS, the AAPI community consists of approximately 50 ethnic groups, speaking over 100 languages with 1,000 different dialects; and

WHEREAS, according to the Pew Research Center, the AAPI community is the fastest-growing racial group in the country, projected to represent 14% of the US population by 2065; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 American Community Survey indicates that 105,495 people in Snohomish County identify as members of the AAPI community, representing 13.2% of our population; and

WHEREAS, members of the AAPI community in the Pacific Northwest have made rich contributions to agriculture, medicine, scientific research, business, aerospace, civics, education, culture, and more; and

WHEREAS, despite the contributions of the AAPI community, hate crimes against the community have increased by 150 percent since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The organization Stop AAPI Hate has documented 3,195 attacks against members of the AAPI community from March 2020 through February 2021. Since not all attacks are reported or documented, these represent a fraction of all hate crimes against AAPI individuals. These attacks included physical assaults, verbal harassment, shunning, civil rights violations in workplaces, service being refused in businesses, and online harassment; and

WHEREAS, there are many actions Snohomish County residents and businesses can take to ensure our friends and neighbors in the AAPI community know that they are supported and protected. Some meaningful ways to contribute and show support are donating to local organizations that provide resources to AAPI community members, speak up and file a report with law enforcement if you witness a hate crime or incident, attend a training, contact your elected officials, learn about AAPI history and discrimination against the AAPI community, and advocate for changes in policies that adversely impact the AAPI community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council and the Snohomish County Executive celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by members of the AAPI community in Snohomish County, condemn all acts of hate against members of the AAPI community, and pledge our continued support for the AAPI community in Snohomish County.

APPROVED this 26th day of April, 2021.

phance Stephanie Wright

Council Chair

Megan Dunn Council Vice-Chair

Nate Nehring Councilmember

ATTEST: Debbie Eco, CMC Clerk of the Council

Dave Somers County Executive

Sam Low

Councilmember

Jared Mead

Councilmember