

# U.S. Sen. Baldwin: Joins colleagues to introduce Senate resolution condemning anti-Asian hatred, discrimination related to COVID-19 pandemic

Posted on Thursday, Mar 25, 2021

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) has joined Senators Mazie Hirono (D-HI) and Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) in the introduction of a resolution to condemn all forms of anti-Asian sentiment, racism, and discrimination, and call on federal officials, in collaboration with state and local agencies and Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community organizations to address the rise in COVID-19-related hate crimes.

The Senate resolution was introduced in the wake of the Atlanta shooting—where eight people were killed, including six women of Asian descent, and following a new report that AAPIs were targeted in nearly 3,800 hate incidents across the country since last March.

“We must stand together in support of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community and stand together against the rise in COVID-19-related racism, hate crimes and violence. I am thankful for the leadership Senators Hirono and Duckworth are providing because it is clear we have a great deal of work to do in our country to combat racism, discrimination and violence targeted against the AAPI community,” **said Senator Baldwin.** “I am proud to stand in support of this Senate resolution and the AAPI community. I also look forward to working with my Senate

colleagues to take action and provide the Department of Justice and local law enforcement more tools to combat hate crimes, especially in the Asian-American community.”

“Our country’s AAPI community has experienced escalating verbal attacks and physical violence since the coronavirus pandemic began, including the devastating killings last week in Atlanta. We must reject all forms of xenophobia and address the harm to our AAPI communities. Passing this resolution would send a clear message, that hate, bigotry, and anti-Asian sentiment have no place in our country,” **Senator Hirono said.**

“After a year of hateful, offensive rhetoric being used in an attempt to racialize the COVID-19 pandemic against Asian Americans, we’ve seen a spike in hate crimes, violent assaults and discrimination targeting the AAPI community,” **said Senator Duckworth.** “As the AAPI community continues to be attacked, I’m proud to introduce this important resolution with Senator Hirono to condemn all forms of anti-Asian sentiment, including those made worse by the COVID-19 outbreak.”

In addition to Senators Baldwin, Hirono and Duckworth, the resolution is cosponsored by Senators Michael Bennet (D-CO), Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Cory Booker (D-NJ), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Maria Cantwell (D-WA), Ben Cardin (D-MD), Tom Carper (D-DE), Bob Casey (D-PA), Chris Coons (D-DE), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Ed Markey (D-MA), Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Chris Murphy (D-CT), Patty Murray (D-WA), Alex Padilla (D-CA), Jack Reed (D-RI), Jacky Rosen (D-NV), Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Brian Schatz (D-HI), Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Tina Smith (D-MN), Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), Mark Warner (D-VA), Raphael Warnock (D-GA), Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), and Ron Wyden (D-OR).

The resolution:

- Condemns all forms of anti-Asian sentiment, including racism, xenophobia, discrimination, and scapegoating, related to COVID-19;
- Recognizes that the health and safety of all people of the United States, regardless of background, must be the utmost priority;

- Calls on federal law enforcement officials, working with state and local agencies to
  - expeditiously investigate and document all credible reports of hate crimes, harassment, bullying, and threats against AAPI communities;
  - expand data collection and reporting to document the rise in incidences of hate crimes relating to COVID-19; and
  - hold the perpetrators of those crimes, incidents, or threats accountable and bring such perpetrators to justice;
- Calls on the Attorney General to work with state and local agencies and AAPI community-based organizations to prevent discrimination, and expand culturally appropriate education campaigns on public reporting of hate crimes;
- Calls on the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in coordination with the COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force and AAPI community-based organizations, to issue guidance to mitigate racially discriminatory language in describing the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Recommits the United States to serve as a model in building a more inclusive, diverse, and tolerant society.

The full resolution text is available [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).