



VA AAPI CAUCUS

Virginia Asian American & Pacific Islander Caucus



Virginia Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus Statement on the Federal COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act

May 24, 2021

Virginia Asian American and Pacific Islanders Caucus applauds the passage of the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act, which will provide much needed improvements to how hate crimes are reported to law enforcement and will expand public awareness on the devastating discrimination taking place against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Members of the Virginia state legislature's AAPI Caucus are grateful that President Biden so swiftly signed this federal law last week. VAAPI also applauds New York Representative Grace Meng and Hawaii Senator Mazie Hirono for drafting and pushing through this historic effort and thank those who joined the overwhelming bipartisan majorities in both chambers who supported its passage.

As we enter the last week of this consequential Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month of May, we continue to stand vigilant against acts of racism and discrimination and urge anyone in the Commonwealth of Virginia who is victimized to speak up and to report the incident to local law enforcement.

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Virginia Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus is an official legislative caucus of the Virginia General Assembly consisting of state legislators working to promote the equity and well-being of fellow Asian American and Pacific Islanders in Virginia. Follow @VAAPIcaucus on social media.