

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1786

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 19 2021

RE: H.C.R. No. 154
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 154 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ALL FORMS OF ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT AS RELATED TO COVID-19 AND URGING GREATER INVESTMENT IN FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL RESOURCES TO DEVELOP AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY-WIDE SOLUTIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to condemn all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19 and urge greater investment in federal, state, and local resources to develop and support community-wide solutions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission, Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center, Common Cause Hawai'i, Rainbow Family 808, Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates, Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights, Imua Alliance, Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus, and fourteen individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee finds that a long and well-documented history of anti-Asian sentiment, going back to the nineteenth century, exists in the United States. Your Committee further finds that a spike in anti-Asian sentiment has occurred since the beginning of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. Anti-Asian



terminology and rhetoric related to COVID-19 has perpetuated stigmas and resulted in Asian Americans being harassed, assaulted, and scapegoated. Your Committee additionally finds that anti-Pacific Islander sentiment also has a long history in the State, and that discriminatory incidents against Pacific-Islanders have also increased.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requesting the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice to identify and analyze incidents based on anti-Asian and anti-Pacific Islander sentiments, including disproportionate numbers of homicides of Pacific Islanders by law enforcement, and inform the Legislature of the Division's findings at the earliest opportunity;
- (2) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose;
- (3) Providing for certified copies to be sent to the United States Attorney General, United States Attorney assigned to Hawai'i, members of Hawai'i's congressional delegation, and Chairperson of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 154, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 154, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-First Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HCR 154	JDC	4/14/2021

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312 Pass, with amendments 2311 Hold 2310 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)	✓			
ACASIO, Laura	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado				✓
LEE, Chris				✓
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	2

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: *Karl Rhoads*

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes