

RESOLUTION

SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 18, 2020

Denouncing Xenophobia and Anti-Asian Sentiment Arising Due to Fears of the Covid-19 Pandemic and Affirming SOCCCD's Commitment to the Well-being and Safety of Asian American Communities

WHEREAS, Asian American communities are suffering acts of discrimination, hate crimes, and microaggressions due to fears of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, since the December 2019 outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in Wuhan, China, the infection has grown to more than 3.5 million confirmed cases and more than 250,000 confirmed deaths worldwide; and

WHEREAS, scientists have confirmed that the COVID-19 disease does not respect borders and is not caused by ethnicity, and using geographic descriptors can fuel ethnic discrimination; and

WHEREAS, as the COVID-19 virus has spread, numerous Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have reported experiencing microaggressions, racial profiling, hate incidents and, in some cases, hate violence; and

WHEREAS, in Orange County, Asians reported as the third largest racial group in Orange County since the 2010 census making up nearly 20 percent of the county's population; and

WHEREAS, the South Orange County Community College District Board of Trustees wishes to affirm its commitment to the well-being and safety of Asian American community members and ensure they know they are not alone and that they can speak out to help stop the spread of bigotry; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the South Orange County Community College District denounces xenophobia and anti-Asian sentiments. The District joins cities, counties, and states across the country in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of Asian Americans and in combating hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

T.J. Prendergast III, President

Kathleen F. Burke, Chancellor

