



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

*Milwaukee County*

John F. Weishan, Jr.  
Supervisor, 16th District



Honorable Members of the West Allis Common Council,

As Milwaukee County Supervisor representing the residents of District 16, I am writing to you to encourage you to unanimously support the Resolution Condemning Anti-Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) Violence. The United States has a long and painful history of racism and xenophobia. Throughout history, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have been the target of xenophobic immigration policies, labor exploitation, hate crimes, and systematic racism across the United States and here in Wisconsin.

Over the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, Asian Americans have been increasingly harassed, assaulted and scapegoated for the COVID-19 outbreak. Hate crimes against Asian Americans increased by nearly 150 percent in major US cities in 2020, even as hate crimes overall dropped by roughly 7 percent. The danger is especially acute for Asian American women, with 68 percent of the 3,800 hate incidents reported to the Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center between February 2020 and March 2021 coming from women. The evidence is clear: the ugliest chapters of our history are repeating themselves.

No one in this country should live in fear because of how they look or who they are. As elected leaders, we have a responsibility to speak out against this violence and take action to ensure our communities are safe for everyone.

Supporting this resolution and continuing to condemn all acts of discrimination is the first of many steps we must take as leaders to make Wisconsin, and our nation a better place for everyone.

Sincerely,

John F. Weishan, Jr.  
Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors  
District 16