



Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges
Board of Presidents

**Resolution Denouncing Anti-Asian Discrimination Caused by
COVID-19 Pandemic in support of Asian American and
Pacific Islander Students, Faculty, Staff, and Communities**

WHEREAS, the Washington Association of Community Technical Colleges represent a group of Presidents and Chancellors of Washington community and technical colleges with a mission of serving a diverse student body;

WHEREAS, the State Board for Community and Technical College Board has committed to leading with racial equity and advancing racial, social and economic justice in service to our diverse communities;

WHEREAS, there have been 5 federally designated Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions in SBCTC system since the establishment of this U.S. Department of Education Minority Serving Institution designation in 2006;

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander communities make up 12% of our students across the state and 9% of our faculty and staff;

WHEREAS, the Asian American and Pacific Islander population is more heterogeneous than any other racial group in the U.S., with more than 48 ethnicities, over 300 spoken languages, various socioeconomic statuses, immigration histories, cultures, and religions;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Global Pandemic has greatly magnified the many economic, health, and racial inequities in our society, and stoked increasing incidents of xenophobia and racially motivated hate crimes against Asian Americans across the United States since the outbreak began;

WHEREAS, in the harassment and overt attacks of Asian Americans in particular since the outbreak, we see signs of racist ideologies like The Yellow Peril. In the lack of condemnation of these acts, we hear the official sanction of discrimination reminiscent of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882;

WHEREAS, as Presidents we are concerned for our students and colleagues who are at risk of being targeted in this environment in our communities and in their daily lives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington Association of Community and Technical Colleges denounces racism against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in any form; joins communities, cities, counties, and states across the country in affirming its commitment to the safety and well-being of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and in combating acts of aggression and hate crimes targeting these communities. We commit our system to the development of an action plan to dismantle systematic injustices against historically marginalized groups. We commit our campuses to working collectively with allies to combat and disrupt instances of racism and intolerance against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders people in our communities.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED on June 5, 2020.