

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1217

Supporting the designation of May 10, 2024, as “National Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Mental Health Day”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 10, 2024

Ms. CHU (for herself, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. TITUS, Ms. MENG, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. THANEDAR, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CASE, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BERA, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. LEE of Nevada) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the designation of May 10, 2024, as “National Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Mental Health Day”.

Whereas the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) community is among the fastest growing population groups in the United States and has made significant economic, cultural, and social contributions;

Whereas the AANHPI community is extremely diverse in terms of socioeconomic levels, education, employment,

language, cultures of origin, acculturation, migrant, and colonization status;

Whereas AANHPIs have among the lowest rates of utilization of mental health services and 63.7 percent of the estimated 2,600,000 AANHPIs who meet criteria for a mental health problem do not receive treatment;

Whereas, from 2018–2020, AANHPI youth ages 10–24 years old in the United States were the only racial or ethnic population in this age category whose leading cause of death was suicide;

Whereas it is imperative to disaggregate AANHPI population data to get an accurate representation of the depth and breadth of the mental health issues for each subpopulation so that specific culturally and linguistically appropriate solutions can be developed;

Whereas language access continues to be a critical issue whether due to the limited number of providers with the necessary language skills to provide in-language services or the significant language loss faced by NHPI communities due to colonization;

Whereas there is a need to significantly increase the number of providers, including paraprofessionals, representing AANHPI communities and providing them with the necessary training and ongoing support;

Whereas historical discrimination and current racial violence toward AANHPIs increases trauma and stress, underlying precursors to mental health problems;

Whereas there is a critical need to raise awareness about and improve mental health literacy among the AANHPI community to reduce the stigma associated with mental health issues; and

Whereas May is both National Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, an opportunity to celebrate the vast contributions of this population to American society, and National Mental Health Awareness Month, recognizing the importance of mental health to the well-being and health of families and communities and connecting the importance of one's cultural heritage to good mental health: Now, therefore be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of “National Asian
3 American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander
4 Mental Health Day”;

5 (2) recognizes the importance of mental health
6 to the well-being and health of families and commu-
7 nities;

8 (3) acknowledges the importance of raising
9 awareness about mental health and improving the
10 quality of care for Asian American, Native Hawai-
11 ian, and Pacific Islander communities;

12 (4) recognizes that celebrating one's cultural
13 and linguistic heritage is beneficial to mental health;
14 and

15 (5) encourages Federal, State, and local health
16 agencies to adopt laws, policies, and guidance to im-
17 prove help-seeking rates for mental health services
18 for the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pa-

- 1 specific Islander community and other communities of
- 2 color.

