

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMM. PRINT 117–31
OFFERED BY MS. MENG OF NEW YORK

Page 1241, beginning line 21, strike section 30313
and insert the following:

1 **SEC. ____ SENSE OF CONGRESS CONDEMNING ANTI-ASIAN**
2 **RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION.**

3 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-
4 ings:

5 (1) Since the onset of the COVID–19 pan-
6 demic, crimes and discrimination against Asians and
7 those of Asian descent have risen dramatically
8 worldwide. In May 2020, United Nations Secretary
9 General Antonio Guterres said “the pandemic con-
10 tinues to unleash a tsunami of hate and xenophobia,
11 scapegoating and scare-mongering” and urged gov-
12 ernments to “act now to strengthen the immunity of
13 our societies against the virus of hate”.

14 (2) Over 2 million Asian Americans and Pacific
15 Islanders are working on the front lines of the
16 COVID-19 pandemic in healthcare, law enforcement,
17 first responders, transportation, supermarkets, and
18 other service industries. AAPI workers also make up

1 a large share—between 6 percent and 12 percent
2 based on sector—of the bio medical field.

3 (3) The United States Census Bureau notes
4 that Americans of Asian descent made up 7.2 per-
5 cent of the population according to the 2020 decen-
6 nial census, and that Asian Americans are the fast-
7 est-growing racial group in the United States, pro-
8 jected to represent 14 percent of the United States
9 population by 2065.

10 (4) Since January 2020, there has been a dra-
11 matic increase in reports of hate crimes and inci-
12 dents against those of Asian descent;

13 (5) According to reports, there are over 10,000
14 reported cases of anti-Asian American hate incidents
15 and discrimination related to COVID-19 between
16 March 19, 2020 and September 30, 2021;

17 (6) Local police departments are reporting an
18 exponential increase in anti-Asian hate incidents and
19 crimes. The New York Police Department reported
20 a 343 percent spike in anti-Asian crime in 2021
21 from 2020, and the San Francisco Police Depart-
22 ment reported anti-AAPI hate crimes increased by
23 567 percent from 2020 to 2021;

24 (7) Multiple incidents of anti-Asian violence oc-
25 curred since March 2020, including a woman wear-

1 ing a mask who was kicked and punched at a New
2 York City subway station, two children and two
3 adults were stabbed at a wholesale grocery store in
4 Midland, Texas, a couple was assaulted and robbed
5 by a group of attackers in Philadelphia, and a 16-
6 year-old boy was sent to the hospital after being at-
7 tacked by bullies in Los Angeles, California;

8 (8) Anti-Asian discrimination and hate since
9 the start of the COVID-19 outbreak has continued
10 throughout the pandemic;

11 (9) Since the start of 2021, there has been a
12 surge in anti-Asian attacks targeting predominately
13 elderly Asian Americans;

14 (10) On January 30, 2021, an 84-year-old Thai
15 man, Vicha Ratanapakdee, died from injuries sus-
16 tained from an unprovoked assault while on his rou-
17 tine morning walk in San Francisco, California;

18 (11) In January 2021, a series of attacks oc-
19 curred in Oakland's Chinatown targeting Asian
20 American seniors, the victims included a 91-year-old
21 man, a 60-year-old man, and a 55-year-old woman,
22 who were all violently shoved to the ground in three
23 separate incidents;

24 (12) In February 2021, victims of anti-Asian
25 violence included a 61-year-old Filipino man who

1 was attacked and slashed across his face on a New
2 York City subway, a Filipino woman in her 80s who
3 was punched in an unprovoked attack while riding a
4 trolley in San Diego, and a 52-year-old Asian
5 woman who was attacked and forcefully shoved while
6 waiting in line outside of a bakery in Flushing, New
7 York;

8 (13) In December 2021, a 61-year-old Chinese
9 man, Yao Pan Ma, died from injuries sustained from
10 an unprovoked assault in April of 2021 in New York
11 City;

12 (14) Anti-Asian racism has also resulted in
13 Asian American businesses being targeted for van-
14 dalism;

15 (15) There are approximately 2 million Asian
16 American-owned businesses that generate over \$700
17 billion in annual revenue and employ millions of
18 workers;

19 (16) More than 1,900,000 Asian American and
20 Pacific Islander older adults, particularly those older
21 adults who are recent immigrants or have limited
22 English proficiency, may face even greater chal-
23 lenges in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, in-
24 cluding discrimination, economic insecurity, and lan-
25 guage isolation;

1 (17) The World Health Organization (WHO)
2 and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
3 (CDC) recognize that naming COVID–19 by its geo-
4 graphic location or linking it to a specific ethnicity
5 perpetuates stigma;

6 (18) In 2015, the WHO issued guidance calling
7 on media outlets, scientists, and national authorities
8 to avoid naming infectious diseases for locations to
9 avoid stigmatizing groups of people;

10 (19) On February 27, 2020, the Secretary of
11 Health and Human Services stated, “ethnicity is not
12 what causes the novel coronavirus” and that it is in-
13 appropriate and inaccurate to call COVID–19 the
14 “Chinese virus”;

15 (20) On February 28, 2020, Dr. Mitch Wolfe,
16 the Chief Medical Officer of the CDC, said, “Stigma
17 is the enemy of public health”;

18 (21) On March 10, 2020, Dr. Robert Redfield,
19 the Director of the CDC, testified that use of the
20 term “Chinese coronavirus” is wrong and inappro-
21 priate;

22 (22) On January 26, 2021, President Biden
23 issued a Presidential Memorandum “Condemning
24 and Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and Intoler-

1 ance Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders
2 in the United States”.

3 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
4 gress as follows:

5 (1) The use of anti-Asian terminology and rhet-
6 oric related to COVID-19, such as the “Chinese
7 Virus”, “Wuhan Virus”, and “Kung-flu”, has per-
8 petuated anti-Asian stigma.

9 (2) The use of anti-Asian rhetoric has resulted
10 in Asian Americans being harassed, assaulted, and
11 scapegoated for the COVID–19 pandemic.

12 (3) The reprehensible attacks on people of
13 Asian descent and the concerning increase in anti-
14 Asian sentiment and racism in the United States
15 and around the world have no place in a peaceful,
16 civilized, and tolerant world.

17 (4) The United States is a diverse country with
18 a proud tradition of immigration, and the strength
19 and vibrancy of the United States is enhanced by
20 the diverse ethnic backgrounds and tolerance of its
21 citizens, including Asian Americans and Pacific Is-
22 landers.

23 (5) The United States Government should en-
24 courage foreign governments to use the official and
25 scientific names for the COVID–19 pandemic, as

1 recommended by the World Health Organization and
2 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

3 (6) The United States Government and other
4 governments around the world must actively oppose
5 racism and intolerance, and use all available and ap-
6 propriate tools to combat the spread of anti-Asian
7 racism and discrimination.

