

House of Representatives COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

March 17, 2021

Dear Members of Asian-American Pacific Islander Communities:

On Tuesday, March 16, 2021, unspeakable acts of hate and terror were committed in Atlanta when a gunman senselessly took the lives of eight people at three separate massage parlors. Six of these people were Asians, and all but one were women. All were violently shot to death and taken from this world and their families too soon.

Racism and domestic terrorism in America today are much worse than we imagine. Asian-American communities are vitally important to us, and we want to do all we can to ensure our neighbors in these communities feel safe and supported. We must work diligently at all levels of government and activism to pass measures that give AAPI communities, and all vulnerable and underrepresented communities, more resources and tools to counter these hateful acts.

One way we can do this is by passing universal background checks and gun safety laws to help keep people safe and keep guns from falling into the wrong hands. The worst thing we can do is nothing. We are only safe when all of us are safe. We need to continue to fight for justice and safety on behalf of others as we would fight for ourselves, our children, and our loved ones. Feel free to contact us if you would like to discuss ways that we can better support you and your families.

Sincerely,

State Rep. Patty Kim

103rd Legislative District

State Rep. Jennifer O'Mara

Junifo O'Mara

165th Legislative District