

House Resolution 384

By: Representatives Park of the 101st, Lopez of the 99th, Marin of the 96th, Holcomb of the 81st, and Glanton of the 75th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the contributions of Georgia's Asian Americans and Pacific
2 Islanders (AAPIs) and recognizing February 22, 2017, as Georgia Asian American
3 Legislative Summit and Lobby Day at the state capitol; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is fortunate to be home to more than 423,000 residents of
5 Asian American and Pacific Islander descent; and

6 WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau in 2016 verified that AAPIs are the fastest
7 growing racial and ethnic population in this state and the nation, numbering more than 17.5
8 million nationwide and comprising 5.4 percent of the U.S. population, and is projected to
9 grow to comprise 9.3 percent of the population by 2060; and

10 WHEREAS, the AAPI community is also the most diverse population in the United States,
11 comprising of over 50 distinct ethnic groups and hundreds of different language groups,
12 which is reflective of the tremendous diversity of the Asian and Pacific Island regions, with
13 over 30 countries, 16 major ethnic groups, nine languages, and numerous belief systems; and

14 WHEREAS, the diversity of AAPI immigrants bring tremendous economic and cultural
15 wealth to the great State of Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, AAPI communities often face invisible difficulties because they are not a
17 monolithic population, as each ethnicity faces distinct challenges such that gathering
18 disaggregated data is critical to forming evidence based policy around the unique needs of
19 these diverse communities, identifying barriers to access of services and resources at the
20 local, state, and federal levels, so that policymakers may develop solutions to the unique
21 challenges faced by AAPI communities as they continue to become a larger part of the broad
22 U.S. social fabric; and

23 WHEREAS, citizens of AAPI descent in this state, in each succeeding generation, have
24 enhanced our culture, quality of life, and economic vitality through leadership, commitment
25 to knowledge advancement, and dedication to our local communities; and

26 WHEREAS, the contributions of our AAPI residents continue to grow in significance as
27 more choose to make this state their home and as our economy becomes increasingly united
28 with the economies throughout Asia; and

29 WHEREAS, there are more elected and appointed officials of Asian American and Pacific
30 Islander descent in this state than ever before, with members of our AAPI communities
31 educating themselves about the political process and mobilizing for greater civic engagement
32 and participation in our local, municipal, state, and national electoral processes; and

33 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia takes pride in the successes and contributions of our AAPI
34 communities and welcomes the opportunity to honor outstanding AAPI citizens and residents
35 for their lasting and expanding imprint upon our state.

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
37 the members of this body encourage all citizens to celebrate the individual and collective
38 contributions of Georgia Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and recognize February 22,
39 2017, as Georgia Asian American Legislative Summit and Lobby Day at the state capitol.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
41 and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the Georgia Asian and
42 Hispanic American House Caucus.