

House Resolution 701

By: Representatives McDonald of the 26th, Jones of the 25th, Jasperse of the 11th, Clark of the 100th, and Cox of the 28th

A RESOLUTION

1 Condemning Hinduphobia and anti-Hindu bigotry; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Hinduism is one the world's largest and oldest religions with over 1.2 billion
3 adherents in over 100 countries and which encompasses an array of diverse traditions and
4 belief systems with values of acceptance, mutual respect, and peace; and

5 WHEREAS, the United States has always been a beacon of hope, progress, and innovation,
6 attracting people from around the world to create and live a better and fulfilling life, and has
7 welcomed more than four million Hindus from all corners of the world and given them better
8 opportunities and the freedom to practice Hinduism, also known as "Sanatana Dharma"; and

9 WHEREAS, the American Hindu community has been a major contributor to diverse sectors
10 such as medicine, science and engineering, information technology, hospitality, finance,
11 academia, manufacturing, energy, retail trade, and so much more; and

12 WHEREAS, Hindu contributions of Yoga, Ayurveda, meditation, food, music, arts, and more
13 have enriched the cultural fabric and have been widely adopted in American society and
14 enriched the lives of millions; and

15 WHEREAS, Hinduphobia, as described by the Understanding Hinduphobia Initiative, is "a
16 set of antagonistic, destructive, and derogatory attitudes and behaviors towards Sanatana
17 Dharma (Hinduism) and Hindus that may manifest as prejudice, fear, or hatred"; and

18 WHEREAS, there have been documented instances of hate crimes against Hindu Americans
19 over the last few decades in many parts of the country; and

20 WHEREAS, in July 2022, a report released by Rutgers University titled "Anti-Hindu
21 Disinformation: A Case Study of Hinduphobia on Social Media" detailed how hate messages
22 in social media translate into real life threats for people of the Hindu faith; and

23 WHEREAS, Hinduphobia is exacerbated and institutionalized by some in academia who
24 support the dismantling of Hinduism and accuse its sacred texts and cultural practices of
25 violence and oppression.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 the representatives of Forsyth County in the Georgia State Legislature condemn
28 Hinduphobia, anti-Hindu bigotry, and intolerance and declares Forsyth County as a place that
29 welcomes the diversity brought by Hindu Americans and all those who work hard, follow
30 our laws, uphold family values, and contribute to our economic and social well-being.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
33 public and the press.