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ASSEMBLYMEMBER KANSEN CHU AND COUNTY SUPERVISORS CINDY CHAVEZ AND DAVE CORTESE HOLD HEARING TO DISCUSS BIAS-RELATED BULLYING

(SAN JOSE, CA) – Today, Assemblymember Kansen Chu is co-hosting a hearing on bias-related bullying with Santa Clara County Supervisors Dave Cortese and Cindy Chavez. Panelists include representatives from local district attorney’s offices, school representatives, community leaders, parents and students. The discussion will focus on bullying in and outside of school and how we can collaborate at the state and local level to combat this issue.

“Bullying has no place in our schools and communities and no child should be fearful of discrimination because of their background, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, disabilities, or gender,” said Assemblymember Kansen Chu (D-San Jose). “According to the Anti-Bullying Institute, a startling 1 in 7 students in grades K-12 have been bullied. The statistic further concludes that 57% of boys and 43% of girls were bullied because of their cultural background or religious beliefs and 9 out of 10 LGBTQ youth have been targeted. These numbers mean that we need to do better to ensure that our children feel safe and welcomed in their schools and community.”

“After Supervisor Chavez and I hosted last year’s hearing on hate crimes, and with recent events at the national level, it became clear that hate and bullying continue to be an issue within Santa Clara County’s communities of faith, color, age, gender, and sexual orientation,” said Dave Cortese, Santa Clara County Supervisor. “I thank Assemblymember Chu for approaching us with this opportunity to continue the conversation about how we, as a county, can further our efforts to be aware and to combat bullying wherever and whenever it happens. Hate is not a problem we can ignore. We have to be proactive in every way to ensure that our community, especially our future generations, grow up in a region free from hate and be allowed to express their identities in peace. We have to protect the promise not only of our county, but of our country.”

“The County of Santa Clara holds as core values the preservation of public safety and the protection of individuals, classes or groups of community members who experience prejudice, harassment, violence and oppression in any form,” said Santa Clara County Cindy Chavez. “Thank you, Assemblymember Chu, for convening this public hearing on such an important topic.”

Assemblymember Kansen Chu is proud to represent the 25th Assembly District, comprised of the cities of Fremont, Milpitas, Newark, Santa Clara and San Jose.