

3/11/2012

PLEASE CALL YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Although the Sikh community continues to experience hate crimes, the FBI refuses to track such crimes. Two weeks ago the Gurdwara Sahib in Sterling Heights, Michigan was vandalized with bigoted graffiti. Last week a Sikh family received death threats in the mail in Virginia.

Congressman Joe Crowley in collaboration with the Sikh Coalition is circulating a letter for Members of Congress to sign demanding that the FBI track hate crimes against Sikhs. 50 Members of the U.S. Congress have already signed the letter, but we want more Members of Congress to sign it so that the FBI begins to track hate crimes against Sikhs.

We ask Sikhs throughout the nation to call their Members of Congress starting this Monday and throughout the week to ask that their Member of Congress sign Congressman Joseph Crowley's letter on anti-Sikh hate crimes.

How to Call Your Member of Congress

STEP 1. Find your elected representative. You will need your zip code.

Either Call: (202) 224-3121 or go to: www.house.gov/representatives/find/

STEP 2. Talking Points for Your Call:

- Hello, my name is _____, and I am a constituent of Representative _____. I would like to speak to the Legislative Aide who handles civil rights.
- When you speak to the right person or if you're asked what the call is about, say:
 - As a constituent, I am calling to request that [he/she] sign a letter initiated by Congressman Joseph Crowley calling on the FBI to track hate crime against Sikh Americans.
 - Sikh Americans continue to experience hate crimes in the United States.
 - Although the FBI tracks hate crimes against other religious communities, the FBI does not track anti-Sikh hate crimes.
 - I believe this is bad public policy because it is impossible to understand or address a problem unless it is being measured.
 - Over 54 Members of Congress have already signed the letter, I would like my Representative to sign it as well

STEP 3. After you call, please send an email to the Sikh Coalition: legislative@sikhcoalition.org to tell us how the call went.