

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 6, 2017

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2017–18 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Concurrent Resolution**

**No. 1**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Muratsuchi**

*(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Bonta)*

*(Coauthors: Assembly Members McCarty, Acosta, Aguiar-Curry, Travis Allen, Arambula, Baker, Berman, Bloom, Bocanegra, Burke, Caballero, Calderon, Cervantes, Chau, Chávez, Chen, Chiu, Choi, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Cunningham, Dababneh, Daly, Eggman, Flora, Fong, Frazier, Friedman, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gipson, Gloria, Gomez, Gonzalez Fletcher, Gray, Grayson, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Kalra, Kiley, Lackey, Levine, Limón, Low, Maienschein, Mayes, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Patterson, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Rendon, Reyes, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Rubio, Salas, Santiago, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Voepel, and Wood)*

December 5, 2016

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 1—Relative to a Day of Remembrance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 1, as amended, Muratsuchi. Day of Remembrance.

This measure would declare February 19, ~~2017~~ 2017, as a Day of Remembrance in order to increase public awareness of the events surrounding the ~~internment~~ incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D.  
2 Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, under which more than  
3 120,000 Americans and ~~resident aliens~~ *residents* of Japanese  
4 ancestry were incarcerated in 10 internment camps scattered  
5 throughout western states during World War II; and

6 WHEREAS, Executive Order 9066 deferred the American dream  
7 for more than 120,000 Americans and ~~resident aliens~~ *residents* of  
8 Japanese ancestry by inflicting a great human cost of abandoned  
9 homes, businesses, careers, professional advancements, and  
10 disruption to family life; and

11 WHEREAS, Despite their families being incarcerated behind  
12 barbed wire in the United States, approximately 33,000 veterans  
13 of Japanese ancestry fought bravely for our country during World  
14 War II, serving in the 100th Battalion, the 442nd Regimental  
15 Combat Team, and the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion; and

16 WHEREAS, On June 21, 2000, President William Jefferson  
17 Clinton elevated 20 Japanese Americans who served in the 100th  
18 Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and ~~were~~ *county*  
19 among 52 individuals who received the nation's second highest  
20 military decoration, the Distinguished Service Cross, to receive  
21 the nation's highest military decoration, the Medal of Honor,  
22 bringing the total number of Japanese Americans who so received  
23 the Medal of Honor to 21; and

24 WHEREAS, In 2010, President Barack Obama granted the  
25 Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the 100th Infantry  
26 Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team in recognition of  
27 their dedicated service during World War II; and

28 WHEREAS, Nearly 6,000 veterans of Japanese ancestry served  
29 with the Military Intelligence Service and have been credited for  
30 shortening the war by two years by translating enemy battle plans,  
31 defense maps, tactical orders, intercepted messages and diaries,  
32 and interrogating enemy prisoners; and

33 WHEREAS, Many Japanese American veterans continued a  
34 life of public service after the war, including Medal of Honor  
35 recipient and United States Senator Daniel Inouye, who passed  
36 away in December 2012 while representing his home state of  
37 Hawaii; and

38 WHEREAS, Nearly 40 years after the United States Supreme  
39 Court decisions upholding the convictions of Fred Korematsu,  
40 Min Yasui, and Gordon Hirabayashi for violations of curfew and

1 Executive Order 9066, it was discovered that officials from the  
2 United States Department of War and the United States Department  
3 of Justice had altered and destroyed evidence regarding the loyalty  
4 of Americans and ~~resident aliens~~ *residents* of Japanese ancestry  
5 and withheld information from the United States Supreme Court;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Dale Minami, Peggy Nagae, Dennis Hayashi, Rod  
8 Kawakami, and many attorneys and interns contributed  
9 innumerable hours to win a reversal of the original convictions of  
10 Korematsu, Yasui, and Hirabayashi in 1983 by filing a petition  
11 for writ of error coram nobis on the grounds that fundamental  
12 errors and injustice occurred; and

13 WHEREAS, On August 10, 1988, President Ronald Wilson  
14 Reagan signed into law the federal Civil Liberties Act of 1988,  
15 finding that Executive Order 9066 was not justified by military  
16 necessity and, hence, was caused by racial prejudice, war hysteria,  
17 and a failure of political leadership; and

18 WHEREAS, The federal Civil Liberties Act of 1988 apologized  
19 on behalf of the people of the United States for the evacuation,  
20 ~~internment~~, *incarceration*, and relocation of Americans and  
21 permanent ~~resident aliens~~ *residents* of Japanese ancestry during  
22 World War II. The act also provided for restitution to those  
23 individuals of Japanese ancestry who were ~~interned~~; *incarcerated*;  
24 and

25 *WHEREAS, Given recent national events, it is all the more*  
26 *important to learn from the mistakes of the past and to ensure that*  
27 *such an assault on freedom will never again happen to any*  
28 *community in the United States; and*

29 WHEREAS, February 19, 2017, marks 75 years since the signing  
30 of Executive Order 9066 and a policy of grave injustice against  
31 American citizens and ~~resident aliens~~ *residents* of Japanese  
32 ancestry; now, therefore, be it

33 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
34 *thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California*  
35 *declares February 19, 2017, as a Day of Remembrance in this state*  
36 *to increase public awareness of the events surrounding the*  
37 *~~internment~~ *incarceration* of Americans of Japanese ancestry during*  
38 *World War II; and be it further*

1     *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
2 of this resolution to the Governor, the Superintendent of Public  
3 Instruction, the State Library, and the California State Archives.

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6     **REVISIONS:**

7     **Heading—Line 3.**

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