

MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

## Japanese American Citizens League

5415 NORTH CLARK STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60640  
(312) 728-7170

WILLIAM J. YOSHINO  
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

May 20, 1980

Ms. Theresa Cummings  
Midwest Regional Office  
U.S. Commission on Civil Rights  
230 South Dearborn, Room 3280  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

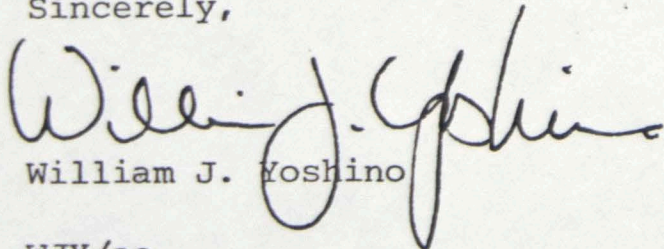
Dear Ms. Cummings:

On October 22-23, 1979 at the national meeting of the 50 State Advisory Chairs to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, a resolution was passed, unanimously endorsing S. 1647 and HR 5499 which would establish a commission to review the facts regarding the World War II internment of Japanese Americans.

The Japanese American Citizens League is currently undertaking the task of gaining endorsements to secure the passage of this legislation. An endorsement by the Illinois Chair as well as the Midwest Office of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights would be of great significance to the eventual success of this legislation.

We would greatly appreciate your support and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

  
William J. Yoshino

WJY/ae

Encl.

National Headquarters, San Francisco, California

U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

Resolution in support of S. 1647 and HR 5499.

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States is now considering S. 1647 and HR 5499, which would establish a Commission to study the evacuation of 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast in 1942, two-thirds of whom were United States citizens, against whom no charges were ever filed and concerning whom no imputation of disloyalty was ever lodged; and

WHEREAS, such Commission would be charged with the responsibility of studying the legal and constitutional aspects of such unprecedented action by the United States government against its own citizens, to determine whether wrong was committed and if so, to recommend redress in such manner as to be determined by the Congress of the United States, to the end that such an aberration of justice will never again occur; and

WHEREAS, the United States Commission on Civil Rights is concerned with such complete denial of civil rights, and with the possibilities of recurrence of such governmental action based upon the precedent of the Japanese American evacuation of 1942, and therefore believes that the present bills in Congress should be supported,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chairs of the State Advisory Committees of the U.S. Commission on Civil rights, that they not only support passage of S. 1647 and HR 5499, but also urge that the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights similarly support such legislation, and that copies of this resolution be transmitted to members of the United States Congress, and the President of the United States,

DONE this 22nd day of October, 1979, in the City of Washington, D.C.

Louis Nunez, Staff Director