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CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF CHICAGO

COUNCIL CHAMBER

SECOND FLOOR, CITY HALL

744-3080

July 23, 1984

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

AGING AND DISABLED
(VICE CHAIRMAN)

CLAIMS AND LIABILITIES

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AFFAIRS

POLICE AND FIRE

STREETS AND ALLEYS

ZONING

Mr. William J. Yoshino
Japanese American Citizens League
5415 N. Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60640

Dear Mr. Yoshino:

Enclosed is a copy of an resolution I introduced before the Chicago City Council on July 9. This resolution drew heavily on the help you provided me on this important matter. I greatly appreciate your assistance and look forward to working with the Japanese American Citizens League to win Council approval of the resolution.

The resolution was co-sponsored by Alderwoman Volini of the 48th Ward, and it was referred to the Council's Intergovernmental Relations Committee, chaired by Alderman Pucinski. The League may want to write to Alderman Pucinski to express its support for the resolution.

Again, many thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

DAVID D. ORR

DDO/mt

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, from 1942-46, 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were forcibly excluded from the West Coast of the United States by military fiat, incarcerated and confined behind barbed wire fences under armed military guard, without charges or hearings, and deprived of basic human rights by orders of the United States government; and

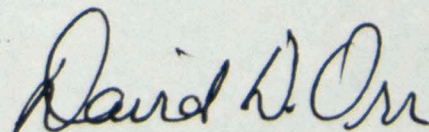
WHEREAS, the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC), after 2½ years of study and research, issued its report of February 24, 1983, concluding that the exclusion and detention of Americans of Japanese ancestry were not a matter of military necessity but were caused by racism, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership; and

WHEREAS, the same U.S. Commission (CWRIC) issued its recommendations on June 16, 1983, that the United States should enact a joint resolution, signed by the President, acknowledging a grave injustice was done to a group of people on the basis of ancestry and offering official apologies; that the United States Congress should establish a commemorative trust fund for humanitarian and educational purposes; and that the sum of \$20,000 be awarded to survivors of such experiences as a symbol of this nation's regret that such unjust events occurred and as a token of honorable efforts to acknowledge such wrong to the end that similar aberrations of justice shall never recur; and

WHEREAS, Americans of Japanese ancestry, through the leadership of the Japanese American Citizens League, seek the implementation of legislation based upon the recommendation of the U.S. Commission (CWRIC) as a means of promoting human rights and upholding the Constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS, on October 6, 1983, H.R. 4110, the Civil Liberties Act of 1983 was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives and on November 17, 1983, S. 2116, a bill to accept the findings and implement the recommendations of the CWRIC was introduced in the U.S. Senate; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Chicago City Council endorse the findings and recommendations of the U.S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians and urges the Congress of the United States to enact H.R. 4110 and S. 2116 in order to carry out those recommendations to preserve and rectify the honor and integrity of this Nation.



DAVID D. ORR, 49th Ward