

NY Chapter JACL Ballot Form

SUBJECT- Voting to ratify the JACL National Board's  
decision to ask Congress for a "Redress Commission".

On June 2, 1979, the JACL National Board officially endorsed the National Redress Committee's recommendation that a Congressional Commission be requested to "determine whether the extent of our loss of Constitutional guarantees warrants some type of ...compensation". This Commission's findings would help to shape the JACL's redress bill, which would then be submitted to Congress.

The National JACL President is now seeking ratification of the "commission approach" by a polling of the individual chapters. The NY Chapter Board felt that this question was too important to be decided upon by just Board members, so we are requesting your input into the decision-making process.

Please read the attached "Pros and Cons" about the commission approach. If you need more information, please refer to: For commission- P.C. June 15, pg. 1  
Against commission- P.C. June 1, pg. 6

Please postmark your ballots at the latest by July 3. Thank you very much.

-----  
NY Chapter Ballot

- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I (we) approve the National Board's decision to endorse the commission approach
- \_\_\_\_\_ No, I (we) do not approve the National Board's decision to endorse the commission approach
- \_\_\_\_\_ I (we) abstain

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Summary of statements made by people for and against the  
concept of a "Redress Commission"

FOR: Those favoring the "Redress Commission" concept feel that it is the proper first step before the introduction of a redress bill to Congress. The commission will sensitize legislators to the problems, both legal and social, caused by the camps, and will also educate the general public via public hearings held throughout the country. Those favoring the redress commission feel that the 18 months of commission hearings are necessary to avoid having the redress legislation die in Congress. They are confident that the commission will come out in favor of a redress bill after all of the hearings have been completed.

AGAINST: Those against the "Redress Commission" concept feel that it is a "cop-out" and a "retreat...into the passive pattern of seeking validation from the American public of facts we have known since 1942." President Ford's repeal of Executive Order 9066 and many public statements during the "Day of Remembrance" last February show that the legal and social problems caused by the camps are already understood by many. Public hearings will attract little additional press coverage and will not get the full attention of non-Nikkei Congressmen anyway. Those against the redress commission remind us that a previous JACL legislative effort failed in its first test in Congress but was later passed- "two years and five separate bills later". Those in this camp want to push ahead with a redress bill which is supported by a strong Nikkei press and personal/group contact campaign.