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CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 14, 1984
21

RESOLUTION IN
RECOGNITION OF
PUBLIC LAW 77-503
RES. NO. 84-034

Following introduction of the matter, Council, on motion of Council Member Pinkerton, Murphy second, adopted Resolution No. 84-034 paying special recognition to March 21, 1942 as a reminder of Public Law 77-503 and its denial of justice to American citizens and of the need to be constantly vigilant to insure the constitutional rights of all American citizens at all times.

RESOLUTION NO. 84-034

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, on March 21, 1942, passed Public Law 77-503 which enforced military orders and imposed penalties of imprisonment and/or fine for violations of the restrictions and military orders promulgated from Executive Order 9066, signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt; and

WHEREAS, the landmark cases of Korematsu, Yasui and Hirabayashi were prosecuted in the federal courts under the aegis of Public Law 77-503 and established the legality of the World War II mass exclusion and internment as legal precedent by the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, government records clearly demonstrate that both Executive Order 9066 and Public Law 77-503 were intended to be enacted against only those persons of Japanese ancestry, both American citizens and permanent residents, residing the West Coast; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, following 2 1/2 years of study, concluded that the exclusion and detention of Americans of Japanese ancestry was not a matter of military necessity, but was caused by racism, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lodi, pay special recognition to March 21, 1942 as a reminder of Public Law 77-503 and its denial of justice to American citizens, and of our need to be constantly vigilant to insure the constitutional rights of all American citizens at all times.

Dated: March 21, 1984

I hereby certify that Resolution No. 84-034 was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting held March 21, 1984 by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members - Reid, Pinkerton, Snider,
Murphy, and Olson (Mayor)

Noes: Council Members - None

Absent: Council Members - None

Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS. 1765 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115 • (415)921-5225

TO Chapter Presidents & Chapter Redress Chairs DATE February 3, 1984
FROM John Tateishi, Redress Director *John Tateishi* SUBJECT Local Government Resolutions
COPIES National Board, National Redress Committee, National Staff

On March 21, 1942, the United States Congress passed Public Law 77-503, which made it a crime punishable by imprisonment and/or fine to violate military restrictions promulgated from Executive Order 9066. It was under PL 503 that the cases of Korematsu, Yasui, and Hirabayashi were heard by the federal district courts and whose convictions were confirmed by the United States Supreme Court, establishing a precedent of law.

While February 19th has been recognized on numerous occasions as a memory of the signing of Executive Order 9066 by President Roosevelt, March 21st and Public Law 503 by the 77th Congress is virtually unnoticed by the Japanese American community and the public at large. The JACL's intent is to draw public recognition to March 21, 1942, and its significance.

ACTION ITEM: RESOLUTIONS FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT

All chapters are asked to seek resolutions from their city councils and county boards of supervisors in recognition of Public Law 77-503 and its significant impact on Japanese Americans and on the laws of this nation. Enclosed is a sample resolution for your use and, for your information, a copy of PL 77-503.

Our target date for these resolutions is March 21, 1984 -- i.e., to have the resolutions dated March 21, 1984.

For those unfamiliar with the process, you should first contact a city councilperson or county supervisor who is friendly to our issue and ask that the resolution be introduced for passage by March 21st.

Please forward copies of resolutions of National Headquarters.

FEB 6, 1984

PUBLIC LAW NO. 503 (77TH CONGRESS)
March 21, 1942

Dated March 21, 1942

To provide a penalty for violation of restrictions or orders with respect to persons entering, remaining in, leaving, or committing any act in military areas or zones.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That whoever shall enter, remain in, leave, or commit any act in any military area or military zone prescribed, under the authority of an Executive order of the President, by the Secretary of War, contrary to the restrictions applicable to any such area or zone or contrary to the order of the Secretary of War or any such military commander, shall, if it appears that he knew or should have known of the existence and extent of the restrictions or order and that his act was in violation thereof, be guilty of misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not to exceed \$5,000 or to imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, for each offense.

RESOLUTION NO.

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WHEREAS, the landmark cases of Korematsu, Yasui and Hirabayashi were prosecuted in the federal courts under the aegis of Public Law 77-503 and established the legality of the World War II mass exclusion and internment as legal precedent by the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, government records clearly demonstrate that both Executive Order 9066 and Public Law 77-503 were intended to be enacted against only those persons of Japanese ancestry, both American citizens and permanent residents, residing the West Coast; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, following 2 1/2 years of study, concluded that the exclusion and detention of Americans of Japanese ancestry was not a matter of military necessity, but was caused by racism, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lodi, pay special recognition to March 21, 1942 as a reminder of Public Law 77-503 and its denial of justice to American citizens, and of our need to be constantly vigilant to insure the constitutional rights of all American citizens at all times.

Dated:

I hereby certify that Resolution No. _____
was passed and adopted by the City Council
of the City of Lodi in a regular meeting
held by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members - _____
Noes: Council Members - _____
Absent: Council Members - _____

Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk