

1 [Japanese American Day of Remembrance.]
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3 **Resolution proclaiming February 19, 2002 "Japanese American Day of Remembrance"**
4 **in the City and County of San Francisco commemorating the struggles of Japanese**
5 **Americans during the internment of 1942.**

6 WHEREAS, Sixty years ago today, on February 19, 1942, President Franklin Delano
7 Roosevelt signed executive order 9066, which authorized the U.S. Government to force
8 Japanese Americans and legal residents from their homes and into internment camps during
9 World War II out of fear that they were capable of committing acts of treason and espionage;
10 and,

11 WHEREAS, More than 120,000 Americans of Japanese descent living on the West
12 Coast were incarcerated in 10 internment camps and numerous other relocation camps
13 located in desert and swampland areas of the United States for the duration of World War II;
14 and,

15 WHEREAS, Denied due process of law, these Japanese Americans were forced to
16 evacuate their homes and leave their jobs; and,

17 WHEREAS, In some cases family members were separated and put into different
18 camps, behind barbed wire and surrounded by armed guards, with inadequate medical care
19 and schools; and,

20 WHEREAS, These camps were constructed in rural areas where harsh temperatures,
21 desert and swamp-like environments made living difficult in hastily built barracks where the
22 Japanese Americans lived for up to three years without privacy or adequate protection from
23 the harsh physical environment; and,
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1 WHEREAS, Executive Order 9066 was at the time justified as a “military necessity” to
2 protect against domestic espionage and sabotage, a Presidential, blue-ribbon commission in
3 1979 found that the events of this unprecedented chapter in American history “were motivated
4 largely by racial prejudice, wartime hysteria, and a failure of political leadership”; and,

5 WHEREAS, In 1988 more than forty years after Executive Order 9066 was signed, the
6 U.S. government finally acknowledged the mistake it made, when Congress passed and
7 President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which made a formal apology
8 to interned Japanese Americans and mandated that each survivor be paid \$20,000 in
9 reparations, and that an education fund would be established to ensure that this incident
10 never be repeated in American history; now, therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
12 does hereby declare February 19, 2002 a “Japanese American Day of Remembrance”
13 commemorating the struggles of Japanese Americans during the internment of 1942.
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City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 020289

Date Passed:

Resolution proclaiming February 19, 2002 "Japanese American Day of Remembrance" in the City and County of San Francisco commemorating the struggles of Japanese Americans during the internment of 1942.

February 19, 2002 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Ammiano, Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Leno, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Peskin,
Sandoval, Yee

Absent: 1 - Newsom

File No. 020289

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on February 19, 2002 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Gregoire Hobson
Acting Clerk of the Board

MAR 01 2002

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.