

1 [SUPPORT OF SB 1902 - JAPANESE IMPERIAL ARMY DISCLOSURE ACT OF 1999]  
2 URGING CONGRESS TO PASS SB 1902 - JAPANESE IMPERIAL ARMY DISCLOSURE  
3 ACT OF 1999 - TO REQUIRE THE DISCLOSURE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF  
4 INFORMATION ACT CLASSIFIED RECORDS AND DOCUMENTS IN THE POSSESSION OF  
5 THE U.S. GOVERNMENT REGARDING CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXPERIMENTS AND  
6 OTHER WARTIME ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY JAPAN DURING WORLD WAR II,  
7 AND DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO TO  
8 FORWARD A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO CALIFORNIA'S CONGRESSIONAL  
9 DELEGATION, INCLUDING SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN, SENATOR BARBARA  
10 BOXER, CONGRESSWOMAN NANCY PELOSI AND CONGRESSMAN TOM LANTOS;  
11 REPRESENTATIVES IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE, INCLUDING ASSEMBLYMEMBERS  
12 KEVIN SHELLEY, CAROLE MIGDEN, AND MIKE HONDA, AND STATE SENATORS JOHN  
13 BURTON AND JACKIE SPEIER; GOVERNOR GRAY DAVIS; AND THE CITY'S  
14 LOBBYISTS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

15 WHEREAS, SB 1902 - Japanese Imperial Army Disclosure Act of 1999  
16 - was introduced November 9, 1999 by Senator Dianne Feinstein, in an  
17 effort to heal the wounds of World War II that still remain,  
18 particularly in California's Chinese American community; and,

19 WHEREAS, Senator Feinstein has worked for over twenty years  
20 toward the development of a Pacific Rim community that is peaceful  
21 and stable, and;

22 WHEREAS, A large number of Californians believe that there is an  
23 effort to keep information about possible atrocities and experiments  
24 with poisonous gas and germ warfare carried out by Japan during World  
25 War II from public record; and,

SUPERVISOR, TENG *yaki*, BIERMAN, NEWSOM, KATZ  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1           WHEREAS, Many of the records and documents regarding Japan's  
2 wartime activities remain classified and hidden in U.S. government  
3 archives and repositories, and according to some scholars, some of  
4 these records are now being inadvertently destroyed; and,

5           WHEREAS, According to information which was revealed at the  
6 International Military Tribunal for the Far East, starting in 1931,  
7 when the so-called "Mukden incident" provided Japan the pretext for  
8 the occupation of Manchuria, the Japanese Imperial Army conducted  
9 numerous biological and chemical warfare tests on Chinese civilians,  
10 Allied POWs, and possibly Japanese civilians as well; and,

11           WHEREAS, By the late 1930's, General Ishii Shiro, a Japanese  
12 Army surgeon, built a large installation in China with germ breeding  
13 facilities, testing grounds, prisons to hold the human test subjects,  
14 facilities to make germ weapons, and a crematorium for the final  
15 disposal of the human test victims - the main factory operating under  
16 the infamous code name Unit 731; and,

17           WHEREAS, Based on the evidence revealed at the War Crimes  
18 trials, as well as subsequent work by numerous scholars, there is  
19 little doubt that Japan conducted these chemical and biological  
20 warfare experiments, and that the Japanese Imperial Army attempted to  
21 use chemicals and biological weapons during the course of the war,  
22 including reported use of plague on the cities of Ningbo and Changde;  
23 and,

24           WHEREAS, Some of the records of these activities were revealed  
25 during the Tokyo War Crimes trials, and others have since come to

1 light under Freedom of Information Act requests, but many other  
2 documents, which were transferred to the U.S. military during the  
3 occupation of Japan, have remained hidden for the past fifty years,  
4 and;

5 WHEREAS, Upon the urging of the Asian Pacific American  
6 community, including Japanese Americans, the California Assembly and  
7 Senate overwhelmingly adopted AJR 27 sponsored by Assemblyman Mike  
8 Honda, asking for a formal apology from Japan for its war crimes;  
9 now, therefore, be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County  
11 of San Francisco hereby urges Congress to pass SB 1902 for the  
12 declassification and release of records and documents to help the  
13 victims of chemical and biological warfare experimentation carried  
14 out by the Japanese Army during World War II, as well as their  
15 families and descendants, gain information about what occurred so as  
16 to begin a healing process; and be it

17 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
18 County of San Francisco directs the Clerk to forward a copy of this  
19 resolution to California's Congressional delegation, including  
20 Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Barbara Boxer, Congresswoman Nancy  
21 Pelosi and Congressman Tom Lantos; representatives in the State  
22 Legislature, including Assemblymembers Kevin Shelley, Carole Migden,  
23 and Mike Honda, and State Senators John Burton and Jackie Speier;  
24 Governor Gray Davis; and the City's Lobbyist in Washington, D.C.  
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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

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**File Number:** 992242

**Date Passed:**

Resolution urging the Congress to pass SB 1902 - Japanese Imperial Army Disclosure Act of 1999 - to require the disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act classified records and documents in the possession of the U.S. Government regarding chemical and biological experiments and other wartime activities carried out by Japan during World War II, and directing the Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco to forward a copy of this resolution to California's Congressional Delegation, including Senator Dianne Feinstein, Senator Barbara Boxer, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and Congressman Tom Lantos; representatives in the State Legislature, including Assemblymembers Kevin Shelley, Carole Migden, and Mike Honda, and State Senators John Burton and Jackie Speier; Governor Gray Davis; and City's Lobbyists in Washington, D.C.

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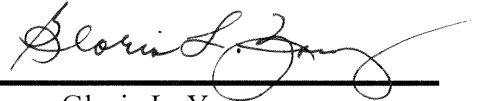
December 13, 1999 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 10 - Becerril, Bierman, Brown, Katz, Kaufman, Leno, Newsom, Teng, Yaki, Yee

Absent: 1 - Ammiano

File No. 992242

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on December 13, 1999 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.



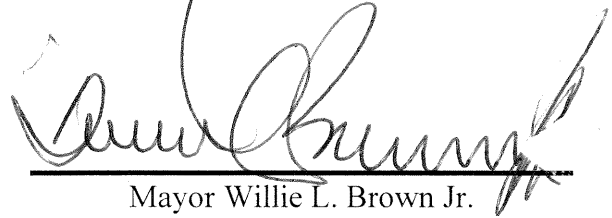
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Gloria L. Young  
Clerk of the Board

DEC 23 1999

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Date Approved



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Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.