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24 25 [Commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the Signing of Executive Order 9066 - Day of Remembrance - February 19, 2022]

Resolution commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 and declaring February 19, 2022, as a Day of Remembrance; recognizing the need for increased public awareness of the events surrounding the incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II; and recognizing the role the City and County of San Francisco actively engaged in one of the most blatant acts of civil and constitutional wrongs in our country's history.

WHEREAS, The Japanese Exclusion League of California was founded in San Francisco and its successor organization, the California Joint Immigration Committee, promoted fabricated and baseless accusations of espionage committed by Japanese Americans following the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco was home to the Western Defense Command, which following the Pearl Harbor attack, produced a series of report findings including: "the Japanese race is an enemy race and while many second and third generation Japanese born on United States soil [...] have become 'Americanized,' the racial strains are undiluted;" and

WHEREAS, On February 19, 1942, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 (EO 9066), which authorized the United States War Department to forcibly remove and incarcerate over 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II (WWII), two-thirds of whom were U.S. citizens; and

WHEREAS, The Wartime Civil Control Administration, located in the Presidio of San Francisco, issued specific instructions: "To All Persons of Japanese Ancestry" residing in San Francisco to be "evacuated" by May 11, 1942; and

WHEREAS, Japanese American families only had a matter of days to close their businesses, sell many of their significant assets and priceless cultural artifacts, leave everything behind, and bring only what they could carry; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors were implicit in their support of the incarceration of Japanese Americans and the implementation of the Civilian Exclusion Orders; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Police Department participated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in raiding the homes and businesses of Japanese Americans, the arrest of Japanese American community leaders, and assisted in the round-up of over 5,000 Japanese Americans residing in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a Resolution banning

Japanese Americans and Japanese immigrants from employment by the City and County of

San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, From April through June of 1942, all San Francisco City government and law enforcement agencies assisted in the forced removal of all persons of Japanese ancestry from San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors has never recognized its role and participation in the forced evacuation of Japanese Americans from San Francisco, nor it has it apologized or explored restitution of the civil and economic losses the Japanese American community suffered due to their forced removal and incarceration; and

WHEREAS, Japantown community members requested a Resolution be introduced to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of EO 9066 and recognizing the role the City and County of San Francisco actively played in the forced removal and evacuation of Japanese Americans, on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 220153, which is hereby declared to be a part of this Resolution as if set forth fully herein; and

WHEREAS, Japantown continues to reel from the effects of the pre- and post-WWII policies created by the City and County of San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco commemorates the 80th anniversary of EO 9066 and declares February 19, 2022, as a Day of Remembrance and recognizes the need for increased public awareness of the events surrounding the incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco recognizes that the Japanese American community was the only community to be forced to leave San Francisco into concentration camps; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco recognizes and acknowledges the deep pain and suffering created by the role the City played in perpetuating fear, hatred, and racist discrimination toward the Japanese American community both pre- and post-WWII; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City and County of San Francisco hereby recognizes its role and participation in the forced removal of Japanese Americans in San Francisco during WWII and vows to ensure such acts will never be repeated again; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco acknowledges Japantown's request to formally commission a study to fully document its role in actively supporting racist and systemic forms of oppression towards San Francisco's Japanese American community; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a copy of this Resolution to all city agencies and departments to ensure that they recognize the direct role the City participated in the forced removal of the Japanese American community from San Francisco.



## City and County of San Francisco Tails

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

## Resolution

File Number: 220153

Date Passed: February 15, 2022

Resolution commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 and declaring February 19, 2022, as a Day of Remembrance; recognizing the need for increased public awareness of the events surrounding the incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II; and recognizing the role the City and County of San Francisco actively engaged in one of the most blatant acts of civil and constitutional wrongs in our country's history.

February 15, 2022 Board of Supervisors - AMENDED, AN AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE BEARING SAME TITLE

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton Absent: 1 - Haney

February 15, 2022 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED AS AMENDED

Ayes: 10 - Chan, Mandelman, Mar, Melgar, Peskin, Preston, Ronen, Safai, Stefani and Walton Absent: 1 - Haney

File No. 220153

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED AS AMENDED on 2/15/2022 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

> Angela Calvillo Clerk of the Board

Unsigned

London N. Breed Mayor 2/25/22

**Date Approved** 

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, not being signed by the Mayor within the time limit as set forth in Section 3.103 of the Charter, or time waived pursuant to Board Rule 2.14.2, became effective without her approval in accordance with the provision of said Section 3.103 of the Charter or Board Rule 2.14.2.

Angela Calvillo

Date