

JAN 17 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO ISSUE A POSTAL STAMP
HONORING THE WORLD WAR II JAPANESE-AMERICAN NISEI SOLDIERS.

1 WHEREAS, Over 20,000 Nisei (Second-generation Japanese
2 American) enlisted in the United States Army in World War II,
3 many from internment camps, despite the prejudice generated
4 after the attack of Pearl Harbor by Japan in 1941; and
5

6 WHEREAS, on February 1, 1943, the 442nd Regimental Combat
7 Team was activated by President Roosevelt, stating that
8 "Americanism is not and never was, a matter of race and
9 ancestry."; and
10

11 WHEREAS, among their many battles, Nisei soldiers in Europe
12 fought at Monte Cassino, and they were critical in breaking the
13 German "Gothic Line," and liberating towns such as Bruyeres,
14 Biffontaine, and Belvedere, as well as freeing and aiding
15 Holocaust victims from the Dachau concentration camps; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the most famous Nisei unit, the 100th/442nd
18 Regimental Combat Team also known as the "Go For Broke"
19 regiment, was the most decorated unit for its size and length of
20 service in American history; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team's rescue of
23 the "Lost Battalion" was acknowledged to be one of the prominent
24 battles in Army history in which they led a heroic drive through
25 German lines in the Vosges Mountains in October 1944 freeing
26 over 200 fellow American soldiers of the 36th Texas Division; and
27

28 WHEREAS, the Nisei soldiers of World War II earned 21
29 Medals of Honor, nine Presidential Unit citations, and more than
30 9,000 Purple Hearts; and



S.C.R. NO. 1

1 WHEREAS, Japanese American soldiers of World War II proved
 2 their loyalty through the sacrifices they made in service to the
 3 United States and the decorations and awards they earned are a
 4 permanent and indisputable record of their bravery and
 5 patriotism; and

6
 7 WHEREAS, in 2006 a nationwide campaign started in
 8 California to urge the United States Postal Service to issue a
 9 commemorative postage stamp to honor the contributions of the
 10 Japanese American soldiers of World War II; and

11
 12 WHEREAS, the Postal Service has issued stamps honoring
 13 other brave and distinguished minority veterans groups, such as
 14 Hispanic Americans recognized in 1984 and black Buffalo Soldiers
 15 in 1994; now, therefore,

16
 17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
 18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
 19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature urges
 20 the Postmaster General to approve the issuance of a United
 21 States commemorative stamp honoring the significant
 22 contributions of the Nisei Soldiers in the United States Army
 23 during World War II and honoring their shining example of
 24 patriotic sacrifice in our nation's history, for their service
 25 with outstanding valor despite the many obstacles against them;
 26 and

27
 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to United States Postmaster
 30 General & Chief Executive Officer John Potter, Hawaii's
 31 Congressional Delegation and the Chairman of the Go For Broke
 32 National Education Center.

OFFERED BY:

33
 34
 35
Erzanne Chun Oakland

John Potter
Card Fukushima
Will Hsu

Norman Sakamoto
Mike Gabbard

SCR HMS 2007-4863

