



## CALIFORNIA ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 19, 2012

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### CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE RECOGNIZES DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

SACRAMENTO, CA – The Asian & Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus joins many Californians today in recognizing the Day of Remembrance. On February 17, 2012, Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez (D – Los Angeles) presented Assembly Concurrent Resolution 104 on the Assembly Floor to establish the Day of Remembrance on February 19 as an observance of the internment of Japanese Americans and Japanese permanent residents during World War II. The resolution passed the Assembly unanimously.

Assemblymember Warren T. Furutani (D – South Los Angeles County) has released the following statement regarding Day of Remembrance:

“70 years ago, on February 19th, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which led to the incarceration of 120,000 American citizens and legal residents of Japanese ancestry during World War II. The effects were a culmination of anti-Japanese sentiment and wartime fear mongering, and resulted in deep trauma for the Japanese American community. Through Executive Order 9066, families were forced to give up the lives they worked so hard to build, abandoning their homes, jobs, friends, and possessions in order to comply with the relocation and internment that lasted three years.

My mother and father were incarcerated at Rohwer and Jerome, Arkansas. The internment camps were a direct violation of the very thing that Americans value most, democracy. As we commemorate the Day of Remembrance, we must ensure that the civil liberties that this nation was founded on are upheld for all. The internment of Japanese Americans must not lie in the dark and be buried underneath the dust but unearthed to remind us of our mistakes. With those mistakes in mind, we must continue in a path that ensures equality for all even in the midst of fear and confusion.”

*The API Legislative Caucus was established in 2001 with the mission of representing and advocating for the interests of the diverse Asian and Pacific Islander communities throughout California. Additionally, the Caucus seeks to increase Asian Pacific Islander participation and representation in all levels of government. Assemblymember Warren T. Furutani and Assemblymember Mary Hayashi serve as chair and vice-chair, respectively, of the caucus.*

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