

THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 78
Author: Cabaldon (D), et al.
Introduced: 2/9/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Japanese American concentration camps

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares February 19, 2026, as a Day of Remembrance in this state to increase public awareness of the events surrounding the incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) On February 19, 1942, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 (EO9066), under which more than 125,000 people of Japanese ancestry were incarcerated in 10 concentration camps scattered throughout western states during World War II.
- 2) Despite their families being incarcerated behind barbed wire in the United States, approximately 33,000 veterans of Japanese ancestry fought bravely for our country during World War II, serving in the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service.
- 3) On February 20, 2020, the Assembly of the State of California adopted House Resolution 77, which apologized to all Americans of Japanese ancestry for its past actions in support of the unjust exclusion, removal, and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II, and for its failure to support and defend the civil rights and civil liberties of Japanese Americans during this period.
- 4) Given recent national events, it is all the more important to learn from the mistakes of the past and to ensure that such an assault on freedom will never again happen to any community in the United States.

This resolution declares February 19, 2026, as a Day of Remembrance in this state to increase public awareness of the events surrounding the incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II.

Related/Prior Legislation

SR 61 (Min, 2024) – Adopted in the Senate.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 2/17/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 2/17/26)

None received

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2/18/26 16:06:04

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