

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Postmaster General Megan Brennan,

We strongly urge you to issue a United States commemorative postage stamp that would preserve the inspiring story of the Japanese Americans who served in the US Army during World War II.

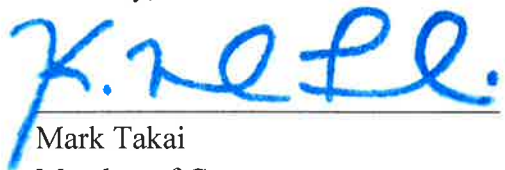
Next year, 2017, marks 75 years since the start of the incarceration of Americans of Japanese ancestry during the war, and 75 years since the Nisei, second generation Japanese Americans, responded by standing tall for America in the face of adversity both at home and abroad.

During World War II, Japanese Americans in the continental United States were forcibly removed from their homes on the Pacific Coast and sent to incarceration camps. In return, over 30,000 majority Nisei volunteered to serve in the United States military. The vast majority were in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, 100th Infantry Battalion and the Military Intelligence Service. These military units were highly decorated and the combined 100th/442nd remains the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in our nation's history. These men fought for all of our freedoms while their families sat in incarceration camps across the mainland United States. Over 800 died in service to our nation during the war.

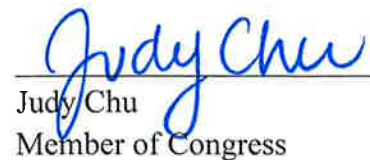
Following the war, many of these American veterans and internees contributed significantly to public life. Senator Daniel Inouye, Governor George Ariyoshi, and Congressman Spark Matsunaga were all Japanese American World War II veterans. Secretary Norman Mineta was one of the approximately 120,000 Japanese Americans incarcerated during this time. Thousands of other former internees became educators, lawyers, and doctors contributing to multiple facets of the American sphere.

These Japanese American families were targeted for incarceration solely because of their ethnicity. We must honor these brave Americans with a stamp that will continue to remind us of their courage, loyalty and undying patriotism to the United States. This stamp will also serve as a constant reminder that civil liberties belong to us all – not just a select few.

Sincerely,




Mark Takai
Member of Congress



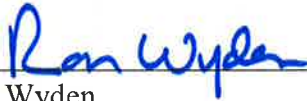
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



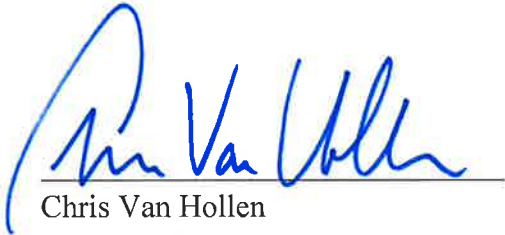
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Raul M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



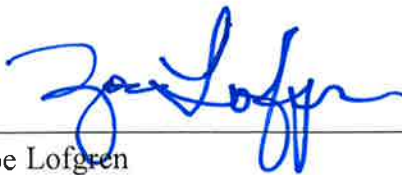
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Nydia Velazquez
Member of Congress



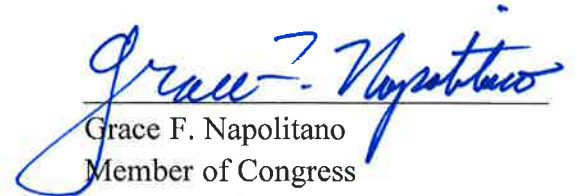
Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez
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Derek Kilmer
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Jim McDermott
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Scott Peters
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Ted Lieu
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Karen Bass
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Susan A. Davis
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