

County of Los Angeles  
Board of Supervisors  
Los Angeles



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WAYNE ALLEN  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD  
ROGER W. JESSUP  
CHAIRMAN  
WILLIAM A. SMITH  
GORDON L. McDONOUGH  
JOHN ANSON FORD  
OSCAR HAUGE

January 26, 1942

Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles

40.36

740.18  
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Gentlemen:

In accordance with instructions from members of the Board, I have discussed with members of Congress the problem of care of the unemployed Japanese in this County, many of whom are without work because of complications of the war. No assistance has as yet been pledged by the various departments of the Federal Government. I discussed the matter with Mrs. Roosevelt in her capacity as Director of the Welfare Division of the Office of Civilian Defense. While Mrs. Roosevelt indicated that funds would be provided for the Japanese, there has been no action to date.

The entire California Congressional delegation will meet this week to consider action.

It is considered important that the Board take positive action asking Federal support not only for the families of those interned in the County but for other Japanese who have become unemployed.

It must be considered that Japanese aliens are a possible danger to our interests as a nation, state and county; and to assure our safety it would be advisable for the Federal Government to transfer Japanese aliens away from Pacific Coast areas and care for them at inland points where they could till the soil far removed from airfields, power and water and other strategic defense plants.

As thousands of our men are being killed by the Japanese it would seem only fair and logical that those Japanese who are loyal to the United States would understand the wisdom of such action and would not object, while those disloyal would object and thereby prove their disloyalty.

Recommend that Board adopt resolution urging the President, Congress and the Federal Bureau of Immigration to provide housing and subsistence for Japanese Nationals.

Very truly yours,

*Wayne Allen*  
WAYNE ALLEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

JAN 27 1942

*adpt*

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27th, 1942.

The Board met in regular session. Present: Supervisors William A. Smith, Gordon L. McDonough, John Anson Ford and Oscar Hauge; and J. F. Moroney, Clerk, by Alice Burks, Deputy Clerk. Absent: Supervisor Roger W. Jessup, Chairman.

IN RE CHAIRMAN PRO TEM. }

On motion of Supervisor Ford, unanimously carried, it is ordered that Supervisor McDonough be, and he is hereby appointed Chairman Pro Tem.

IN RE JAPANESE RESIDENTS  
OF THE COUNTY OF  
LOS ANGELES; RESOLUTION  
URGING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
TO PROVIDE HOUSING AND  
SUSTENANCE FOR THOSE WHO  
WOULD OTHERWISE BECOME  
CHARGES OF COUNTY; AND  
TO TRANSFER ALIENS FROM  
COASTAL AREAS TO INLAND  
POINTS. }

On motion of Supervisor Smith, unanimously carried, it is ordered that the following resolution be, and the same is hereby adopted, to wit:  
WHEREAS, there are 93,717 Japanese residents of the State of California

of which 33,569 are aliens, and 36,866 Japanese residents of the County of Los Angeles of which 13,391 are aliens; and,

WHEREAS, many Japanese aliens have been interned here, leaving their dependents without means of support; and,

WHEREAS, many more Japanese have lost their employment as a result of war complications and are in need of some means of public support; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles is without funds to care for the large numbers of additional Japanese who may become dependent on relief through circumstances arising out of the war; and,

WHEREAS, because Japanese aliens are a potential source of danger to our security, it would be advisable for the Federal government to transfer them from Pacific Coast areas and care for them at

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inland points where they could till the soil far removed from airfields, power and water lines and other strategic defense facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the hazard of these Japanese aliens near vital defense points is evidenced by the fact that 80% of Japanese residents here retain their native Buddhist and Shinto religions; that the Shinto religion is that of the Emperor of Japan and includes worship of ancestors and the belief that soldiers who die for Japan become spirits to be worshiped; and,

WHEREAS, the strong ties of religious belief are often so implanted in humans that they are prone to revert to original or native allegiance in periods of stress or emotion; and,

WHEREAS, in the event of an invasion of California by forces of Japan, the civil population of California would be unable to cope with the large Japanese population which would constitute a potentially dangerous fifth column enemy; and,

WHEREAS, it is difficult if not impossible to distinguish between loyal and disloyal Japanese aliens; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Federal Government be, and it is hereby urged to provide housing and sustenance for Japanese who otherwise may become charges on the County; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That Japanese aliens be transferred from coastal areas to inland points for reasons explained herein; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, to the two California Senators, to the Los Angeles County delegation in Congress and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The foregoing order was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, on January 27th, 1942, and is entered in the Minutes of said Board.

J. F. MORONEY, County Clerk of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of said County.

By \_\_\_\_\_ Deputy.