

INTRODUCED BY    Assembly Member Butler      (Principal coauthor: Senator Lieu)

APRIL 6, 2011

Relative to the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 46, as introduced, Butler. Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker.

This measure would request the Department of Transportation to issue an encroachment permit to the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee to enable the placement of a suitable memorial monument on State Highway Route 1 in the City of Los Angeles at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards to commemorate the internment of Americans of Japanese descent during World War II.

Fiscal committee: yes.

WHEREAS, Presidential Executive Order 9066 empowered the United States military to declare areas of Washington, Oregon, and California militarily sensitive, and forced the relocation of 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry after Japan attacked the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, plunging the United States into war with Japan; and

WHEREAS, In April 1942, more than a thousand American men, women, and children of Japanese ancestry living in Venice, Santa Monica, and Malibu reported to a location at Venice and Lincoln Boulevards in the City of Los Angeles with only what they could carry; and

WHEREAS, The Western Defense Command and Fourth Army issued Civilian Exclusion Order No. 7 which gave these persons only days to dispose of their property and possessions; and

WHEREAS, Buses transported these persons directly to the Manzanar War Relocation Authority internment camp in Inyo County where many internees lived up to three years, for the duration of World War II; and

WHEREAS, The forced removal and imprisonment of these citizens of the United States without any regard to due process or the writ of habeas corpus violated their rights under the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate to commemorate this historical event by the placing of a memorial monument on State Highway Route 1 in the City of Los Angeles at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Department of Transportation is hereby requested to issue an encroachment permit to the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee to enable the placement of a suitable memorial monument on State Highway Route 1 in the City of Los Angeles at the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards; and be it further

Resolved, That placement of the memorial marker shall be consistent with standards of the Department of Transportation and funding of the memorial shall be from nonstate funds; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.