

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the mistreatment of Italian Americans during World War II is a tragic but nearly forgotten episode in United States history; and

WHEREAS, some of those affected were arrested, had their homes raided, and lived under curfews that resulted in the loss of livelihood for hundreds of thousands of Italian American families; and

WHEREAS, some of those affected (approximately 1,600) were kept in internment camps similar to those that held Japanese Americans; and

WHEREAS, there is no evidence that Italian Americans were engaged in subversive activities against the United States; and

WHEREAS, currently pending in the United States House of Representatives is HR 4146 (Lofgren) which would authorize the United States Secretary of Education to provide grants for education programs on the history of the treatment of Italian Americans during World War II; and

WHEREAS, under HR 4146, priority for the award of such grants would be given to Italian American historical and cultural organizations; and

WHEREAS, HR 4146 would raise awareness about the experiences of Italian Americans during the war to those within the Italian American community who may not be aware of these past events as well as the general public; and

WHEREAS, the story of the treatment of Italian Americans during World War II should be told to the broader public to ensure that we remember those whose civil liberties and constitutional rights were violated and to prevent such injustice from occurring in the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for HR 4146 (Lofgren) which would authorize the United States Secretary of Education to provide grants for education programs on the history of the treatment of Italian Americans during World War II.

PRESENTED BY: Joe Buscaino
JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

APR 22 2016

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BMR

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