

STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** In 1942, Executive Order 9066 forced 120,000 Japanese Americans to registration, curfew, abandonment of their homes and subsequent imprisonment; and
- WHEREAS:** The State of Oregon cooperated in the enforcement of these discriminatory military orders on more than 4,000 Oregonians who were U.S. citizens; and
- WHEREAS:** Nearly 3,700 Japanese American citizens and legal residents suffered ongoing civil and human rights violations while imprisoned in the Portland Assembly Center and relocation camps; and
- WHEREAS:** In 1983, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians determined that Executive Order 9066 was not justified by military necessity but was the result of "race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership" and
- WHEREAS:** In 2016, the Oregon Legislature designated March 28 Minoru Yasui Day, to honor the courageous Japanese American who challenged Executive Order 9066 in 1942; and
- WHEREAS:** Today, the State of Oregon is a sanctuary state, mindful of the civil and human rights of all people. By statute, local law enforcement officers are prohibited from enforcing federal programs regarding immigration, registration of aliens, or travel restrictions; and
- WHEREAS:** In recognition of the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, the State of Oregon issues this official apology to the Japanese American community in Oregon and to all Oregonians for failing to defend the civil and human rights of its citizens and legal residents in 1942; and
- WHEREAS:** On May 6, 1942, Portland was declared the first city on the west coast to be free of all Japanese Americans, we return in remembrance to this site of conscience, and the State of Oregon affirms its resolve, along with the Japanese American community, that NEVER AGAIN will any persons be registered, restricted, or detained based upon their ancestry or national origin in violation of their civil and human rights.

NOW,

THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **May 6, 2017** to be

RETURN AND REMEMBRANCE DAY

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, May 2, 2017.



Kate Brown

Kate Brown, Governor

Dennis Richardson

Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State