

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
48th JACL National Convention
National Council Meeting
Washington, D.C.
July 7, 2017

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN
CITIZENS LEAGUE RELATING TO THE MARGINALIZATION OF NATIVE
AMERICAN PEOPLES REGARDING THE DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE ON
STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBAL LAND**

WHEREAS, the JACL is the nation's largest and oldest Asian American civil rights organization and has a long history of advocating for the rights of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, the JACL has been supportive of Native American sovereign rights nationally and has affirmed support for coastal tribe's fishing rights in the Boldt Decision of 1975; and

WHEREAS, in 1984 the JACL supported the efforts of Hawaii's indigenous people to address the federal government's illegal and immoral wrongdoing against them and reaffirmed its support in 1986 and 1992; and

WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers approved construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) on Standing Rock Sioux tribal land; and

WHEREAS, the 1851 Fort Laramie Treaty states that nothing may be built on Standing Rock Sioux land without the consent and consultation of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's concerns on the DAPL construction effects on the environment and residents of the area were not respected; and

WHEREAS, the Army Corps of Engineers denied DAPL permission to be built near Bismarck, North Dakota residents; and

WHEREAS, thousands of peaceful protesters from around the world opposed the construction of DAPL; and

WHEREAS, more Native American tribes nationwide gathered together to oppose DAPL than ever before in history; and

WHEREAS, peaceful protesters were arrested by the Morton County Sheriff's Department and held captive in dog kennels for hours at a time; and

WHEREAS, peaceful protesters were hosed with water by the Morton County Sheriff's Department in sub-freezing temperatures; and

WHEREAS, the use of concussion grenades by the Morton County Sheriff's Department at close range resulted in a severe arm injury to a peaceful protester; and

WHEREAS, to protest the disregard of Native American sovereign rights, environmental dangers, and protester safety, government entities, such as the City of Seattle, have urged divestment of savings from any financial institution invested in DAPL.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the National Council of the Japanese American Citizens League that the JACL insists that Native American rights and treaty obligations be respected;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the JACL condemns the US Army Corps of Engineers for their disparate treatment of Native American rights in comparison to non-Native Americans' rights during the development of the construction plans for the pipeline;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the JACL insists that Morton County Sheriff's Department be held accountable for its violations of civil and human rights;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the JACL at all levels of the organization educate itself on the issues surrounding the DAPL and to pursue and build coalitions with Native American groups; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the JACL calls for its Investment Policy Committee to review its Investment Policy Statement (IPS) to consider socially responsible funds.

Sponsored by: Seattle Chapter
(JACL entity)

Dated: 5/4/17
Month/Day/Year

Approved by: Sarah Baker
Name (Please Print)

Title: President

Signed: /s/
Signature

Please check one:

 Fiscal Impact Statement attached

 X No Fiscal Impact (meaning that the resolution does not call for any action that will be carried out by JACL staff, or incur any costs to JACL)