A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE IN SUPPORT OF MAINTAINING JACL’S PRESENCE AS A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

WHEREAS, the JACL is a national organization whose mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry; and

WHEREAS, the Midwest District Council of the JACL includes 20 states, the largest geographical area of any JACL district; and

WHEREAS, the Midwest District Council has Congressional representation which comprises 40 of 100 members of the United States Senate and 168 of 435 members of the House of Representatives making it impossible to ignore this region for any successful national legislative campaign; and

WHEREAS, the Midwest region was instrumental in securing passage of redress legislation, which relied on an extensive legislative campaign for its success; and

WHEREAS, many areas in the MDC lack racial and ethnic diversity creating a need for programs to promote diversity and awareness for AAPI experiences and to respond to incidents of anti-Asian sentiment; and

WHEREAS, in the current political environment where civil rights are being challenged, JACL needs the support of Midwest members of Congress on key civil rights issues; and

WHEREAS, the placement of JACL offices must be consistent with JACL’s role as a national civil rights organization; and

WHEREAS, JACL needs to keep a national presence to maintain its effectiveness to act against injustice in the future on the national stage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the National Council of the Japanese American Citizens League that the Midwest Regional office and staff are fundamental for JACL to fulfill its mission on a national basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that JACL must hire a Midwest Regional Director who will serve JACL’s strategic plan.