A RESOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE RELATING TO SUSTAINING THE TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOP PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, education about Japanese American history and incarceration is an integral part of the mission of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL); and

WHEREAS, the JACL successfully completed the inaugural series of 5-day “Civil Liberties in Times of Crises” (CLTC) training for teachers from across the nation supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities in the amount of $165,000; and

WHEREAS, 72 teachers convened in the summer, 2016, to learn about the historical background of the Japanese American incarceration during World War II, connections to current events and other communities, and the ongoing lessons of discrimination, civil liberties, and justice; and

WHEREAS, the National Endowment for the Humanities considered the CLTC evaluation ratings to be among the highest of the national programs made available under their Landmarks Grant; and

WHEREAS, the JACL also successfully completed a series of workshops supported by a $98,000 grant from the National Park Service which funded workshops in 2014, 2015, and 2016 in Boston, Minneapolis, Phoenix (twice), Salt Lake City, Santa Fe, Merced, Albuquerque, Houston, and Seattle; and

WHEREAS, each of the teachers attending the workshops developed a lesson plan to present to their students, share with colleagues in their respective school districts, and share with teachers nationally through online access; and

WHEREAS, such lessons will eventually reach thousands of students who, as they mature, will more likely resist acceptance of the proposition that such abridgment of civil rights in times of national crisis is an inevitable and necessary government policy; and

WHEREAS, the teachers’ lesson plans are developed to fulfill respective state social studies standards, thereby ensuring future interest of national, regional, state, and local educational organizations and institutions; and

WHEREAS, the Japanese American National Museum has expressed interest in continuation of in-kind support of future workshop programs through use of its facilities and resources; and
WHEREAS, the teacher training programs contributed toward advancing every component of the JACL’s Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2017-2018 JACL Budget has a program plan for NEH Summer Workshops with about 1,100 national staff hours currently allocated to the program; and

WHEREAS, the NEH program and similar programs have been nurtured and established under the custodianship of recently retired national staff member Bill Yoshino; and

WHEREAS, it is critical that these programs be passed onto a new staff member and it is unclear that this transition has taken place.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the National Council of the Japanese American Citizens League that the Executive Director be directed to sustain these programs.

Sponsored by: Midwest District Council (JACL entity)  Dated: 04/29/2017

Approved by: Elizabeth Sato  Title: MDC District Governor

Name (Please Print)

Signed: 

Please check one:

Fiscal Impact Statement attached

No Fiscal Impact