



March 14, 2018

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

The Japanese American Citizens League and Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation and 112 additional undersigned organizations urge you to continue FY 2019 funding of the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) Grant Program and the Underrepresented Communities Competitive Grants under the Historic Preservation Fund.

Since first appropriations were made in 2009, the JACS program has supported 186 projects with over \$23 million in matched funding. The program has enjoyed broad bipartisan support for its important role in re-telling and preserving the Japanese American experience through the various confinement sites and related institutions.

It has been over 75 years since Japanese Americans were first incarcerated without due process, and yet there remain Americans who are unaware of this chapter in our nation's history. The JACS program is instrumental to expanding the knowledge of this chapter in our history and the eventual redemption of our nation in offering a formal apology and redress. Further recognizing this year as the thirtieth anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, it is especially important to affirm the importance of funding the continued preservation and telling of this story.

**Continued funding of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Program will ensure this important piece of American history is preserved.**

Since 2014, the NPS has awarded over \$1 million in grants to diversify the nominations to the National Register of Historic Places. The Underrepresented Communities Grant Program support projects that include surveys and inventories of historic properties associated with communities underrepresented in the National Register as well as the development of nominations to the National Register for specific sites. The Underrepresented Communities Grants Programs has been integral in supporting state and local governments as well as community organizations prepare nominations of properties representing Latino Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, Native Americans, women and LGBTQ Americans.

**Continued funding of the Underrepresented Communities Competitive Grant Program will support the preservation of what are often are most forgotten pieces of history.**

As you consider FY2019 funding levels, we hope that you will continue the broad bi-partisan support for these two programs that are vitally important to preserving our great American history.

Sincerely,

Japanese American Citizens League  
Asian & Pacific Islander Americans in Historic Preservation

**National Organizations**

Advancing Justice-Asian Law Caucus  
Amache Club - Denver Central Optimists Club  
American Civil Liberties Union  
Anti-Defamation League  
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum  
Asian American Psychological Association  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice  
Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS)  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO (APALA)  
Berkeley JACL  
Center for Asian American Media  
Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism-California State University, San Bernardino  
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)  
Defending Rights & Dissent  
Densho  
Friends of Minidoka  
Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation  
Historypin.org  
Jakara Movement  
Japanese American Confinement Site Consortium  
Japanese American National Museum  
Laotian American National Alliance  
Muslim Advocates  
NAACP  
National Asian Pacific American Bar Association  
National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF)  
National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (National CAPACD)  
National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA)

National Council of Asian Pacific Islander Physicians  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Immigration Law Center  
National Japanese American Historical Society  
National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC)  
National Organization for Women  
National Veterans Network  
OCA-Asian Americans  
People For the American Way  
Poston Community Alliance  
Progressive Congress Action Fund  
Project South: Institute for the Elimination of Poverty and Genocide  
The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula  
The Sikh Coalition  
Tule Lake Committee, Inc.

### **Local Organizations**

071 Wasatch Front North JAACL Chapter  
Alaska Chapter, JAACL  
Amache Historical Society II  
Asian American Bar Association of New York  
Asian American Criminal Trial Lawyers Association  
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta  
Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Colorado  
Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Silicon Valley (APABA Silicon Valley)  
Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida  
Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento (ABAS)  
Berkeley JAACL  
Boise Valley JAACL  
Bridging Communities  
C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge  
CAIR San Francisco Bay Area  
CAIR-Iowa  
California Asian Pacific American Bar Association  
California Preservation Foundation  
Chicago Japanese American Historical Society  
Chinese Historical Society of Southern California  
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-LA)  
Council On American-Islamic Relations Minnesota chapter  
Eden Township JAACL  
Filipino American Lawyers Association of Chicago  
Florin JAACL - Sacramento Valley  
Florin JAACL-SV Next Generation

Full Spectrum Features  
Guam Preservation Trust  
Hoosier Chapter - JACL  
Idaho Falls Japanese American Citizens League  
JACL Chicago Chapter  
JACL Philadelphia  
JACL San Jose Chapter  
Japanese American Association of Colorado  
Japanese American Citizens League, Arizona Chapter  
Japanese American Cultural & Community Center  
Japanese American Service Committee  
Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii  
KALAGNY  
Korean American Bar Association of Northern California  
Little Manila Foundation  
Little Tokyo Historical Society  
LULAC Utah  
Mt. Olympus JACL  
NAPABA Hawaii Chapter  
National Tongan American Society  
Olympia Chapter, JACL  
Pan Asian Lawyers of San Diego  
Portland JACL  
Sacramento Chapter, JACL  
Salt Lake Chapter - Japanese American Citizens League  
San Benito County JACL  
San Diego Chapter, Japanese American Citizens League  
San Francisco Heritage  
San Francisco Heritage / Haas-Lilienthal House  
San Mateo Chapter, JACL  
Seattle JACL  
Sequoia JACL  
South Asian Bar Association of Northern California  
The ABAS Law Foundation  
Tulare County JACL  
Twin Cities JACL  
University of Denver Amache Project  
Utah API Democratic Caucus  
Utah Multicultural Civic Council  
Vigilant Love  
Visual Communications Media  
Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL