



JACL

Japanese American Citizens League

Support the Preservation of Japanese American History for Future Generations!

Background

In 2006, the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) Program was established for the preservation and interpretation of U.S. confinement sites where Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II. This original legislation was introduced by then Representative Bill Thomas, Doris Matsui, and Mike Honda.

Since the first year of funded projects in Fiscal Year 2009, 247 projects have been funded in 22 states and the District of Columbia with over 32.8 million dollars. Funding has ranged from as little as \$5,000 to over \$800 thousand for a single project. The program was originally funded with 38 million dollars, so the original funding amount will soon be exhausted.

H.R. 8637

Introduced by Representatives Doris Matsui (D-CA-6) and Rob Bishop (R-UT-1), H.R.8637 - the Japanese American Confinement Education (JACE) Act would permanently authorize the JACS Program with another \$38 million dollars in funding authorization. With typical appropriations of \$3 million per year, this would fund the program for an additional twelve years.

In addition to extending and strengthening the JACS Program, the JACE Act would establish a new educational program modeled after the recently passed Holocaust Education Act. An additional \$10 million over five years would be used by a national museum to ensure that present and future generations of American will learn from the experience of Japanese American confinement, and our country's subsequent commitment to equal justice under law. Funding will be used for research and education relating to Japanese American incarceration, and the creation and disbursement of educational materials to promote better understanding of how and why Japanese Americans were incarcerated during WWII.

For more information

Contact David Inoue of the Japanese American Citizens League at (202) 851-4673 or dinoue@jacl.org

The Japanese American Confinement Education Act will ensure the legacy of the Japanese American experience of incarceration during World War II remains a part of the conscience of our country for the next generation.