San Diego Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League  
1031 25th Street, Suite D  
San Diego, CA 92102  

July 28, 2008

RE: Support for HR 662 “Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Latin Americans of Japanese Descent Act”

Dear Member of Congress:

The San Diego Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (“San Diego JACL”) is writing to express our strong support of HR 662 and S 381 “Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Japanese Latin Americans of Japanese Descent Act.”

HR 662 and S 381 aims to establish a nine-member commission to investigate the World War II-era relocation, incarceration, and deportation of Japanese Latin Americans by the U.S. government and to recommend appropriate remedies.

During World War II, the U.S. government uprooted approximately 2,300 men, women, and children of Japanese Descent from their homes in thirteen Latin American countries and detained them in American internment camps.

While the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 honorably addressed the plight of Japanese Americans who were forcibly removed and incarcerated in such internment camps, it did not bring relief for the Japanese Latin Americans who were unlawfully interned in the United States.

Founded in 1929, the Japanese American Citizens League (“JACL”) is the nation’s largest membership-based Asian American community organization with over 24,000 members in 112 chapters throughout the nation. San Diego JACL serves to address the concerns of over 500 JACL members in the San Diego area.

JACL and San Diego JACL believes that HR 662 and S 381 will be an important step to close this regrettable chapter in our history. We believe that this Bill deserves your support and urge you to work for its enactment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Miyo Tanaka Reff  
San Diego Chapter President  
Japanese American Citizens League