



**A RESOLUTION FROM THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS
LEAGUE – HONOLULU CHAPTER SUPPORTING THE
HUMANE AND CIVIL TREATMENT OF REFUGEES**

Passed at 2015 Annual Membership Meeting
November 21, 2015

Whereas the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is the largest and oldest Asian-American civil rights organization in the United States that has a mission to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry; and

Whereas, the JACL has continued to highlight the fundamental need to secure civil rights during times of crisis in our country and abroad; and

Whereas in 1942 all Japanese Americans were deemed to be a security threat which led to their forced removal from their homes followed by their incarceration in camps in the America's interior – as well as in fourteen locations within the state of Hawaii, including Honouliuli which was the largest; and

Whereas the JACL supports efforts at the national level to safely and appropriately offer asylum to refugees, from Syria, and elsewhere who may face persecution based on their religious and/or political affiliation; and

Whereas our nation and the state of Hawai'i specifically have grown and drawn strength from the countless immigrants and refugees that have sought protection and a new life within the borders of our nation; and

Whereas, the JACL-Honolulu supports efforts at the local and state level to eliminate policies that discriminate on any level, including ethnicity, gender, age, disability, etc., and

Whereas JACL-Honolulu has an established record of supporting the equal treatment of members of our community who face discrimination and prejudice; and therefore

Be it resolved, that the JACL-Honolulu Chapter acknowledges and supports the state of Hawaii for affirming that our state supports the safe and equitable treatment of refugees who are seeking protection from persecution and oppression in their country or state of origin, and

Be it further resolved, the JACL-Honolulu Chapter condemns racially charged rhetoric and policies that seek to limit the legal and safe practices in place to vet refugees seeking protection and asylum in our state and country, and

Be it further resolved, the JACL-Honolulu Chapter condemns any rhetoric or policy that condones or positively references the internment of Japanese Americans in current or future local, state, or federal policy governing the treatment of refugees seeking asylum or protection in Hawai'i or the United States of America.