



**RESOLUTION OF THE STATE PERSONNEL BOARD
FORMALLY APOLOGIZING FOR PRIOR BOARD ACTIONS THAT DENIED
OPPORTUNITIES FOR STATE EMPLOYMENT AND DISPLACED STATE
EMPLOYEES OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY DURING WORLD WAR II**

WHEREAS, on January 18, 1942, the Senate issued Concurrent Resolution No. 15 directing the State Personnel Board to take every proper means to prevent anyone securing a position on the eligible list of the State civil service or from being certified to a civil service position in the State service who is not loyal to the United States and to further make such rules as may be necessary to provide for the dismissal from the service of such persons as may be proved to be disloyal to the United States of America in this present war;

WHEREAS, in response to the Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 15, the Board on January 28, 1942, issued a resolution directing that the then Acting Executive Officer not certify from existing State eligible lists for state employment any person or persons who are citizens, naturalized citizens, or native-born citizens who are descendants of nationals with whom the United States is at war until an investigation has been made of their citizenship and loyalty to the United States; and that a similar investigation be made of such applicants for state examination prior to acceptance of their applications to compete in future state examinations; and that it be ascertained whether or not funds could be obtained for a similar investigation of such persons who are at present employed by the state;

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 authorizing the Secretary of War the power to exclude any person, alien or citizen from any area, which might be required on the grounds of military necessity. This Order led to the internment of Japanese-American citizens at various camps for the duration of the war;

WHEREAS, on April 2, 1942, following the exclusion order of the President, the Board issued a resolution suspending all State civil service employees of Japanese ancestry, which resulted in the suspension, and ultimately resignation or dismissal, of 265 state employees, 88 of whom appealed the dismissal;

WHEREAS, on January 2, 1945, the U.S. Government issued Public Proclamation No. 21, rescinding Executive Order 9066, which ended the forced internment of Japanese-American citizens;

WHEREAS, on September 8, 1945, the Board rescinded its January 28, 1942 resolution prohibiting the examination and certification of Japanese individuals;

WHEREAS, on January 18, 1947, the Board issued decisions in the 88 matters appealed by state employees of Japanese ancestry from their dismissals from state service, ordering their reinstatements and authorizing back pay compensation for the period between their suspensions and their forced evacuation under Executive Order 9066;

WHEREAS, on February 19, 1976, President Gerald R. Ford formally issued an Executive Order rescinding Executive Order 9066;

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1983, AB 2710 was enacted authorizing up to \$5,000 in monetary compensation to state employees of Japanese ancestry who were terminated by the State Personnel Board's 1942 resolutions;

WHEREAS, in recognition of the historical fact that thousands of Japanese American citizens were unjustly identified as enemies of the state and displaced from their homes, work, and community;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that acts rooted in social and racial injustice, albeit during times of great unrest, are indefensible and serve as a reminder that discrimination and racism are constant possibilities that must be guarded against;

WHEREAS, the Board further recognizes that a diverse civil service representative of the diversity in our state strengthens our foundation in the guard against discrimination and racism;

WHEREAS, it has been 70 years since the Board issued its resolutions that led to the dismissals of loyal Japanese American citizens from California civil service employment;

WHEREAS, though the Board rescinded its 1942 resolutions and awarded recoverable back pay, the Board now seeks to express its sincere regret for the events surrounding the internment of Japanese American citizens and displacement of Japanese American civil servants during WWII; and

IT IS RESOLVED, that in recognition of the 70th Anniversary of its 1942 resolutions, the State Personnel Board offers its sincere apology for the displacement from employment of those Japanese American individuals affected by the Board's 1942 resolutions, which were issued in response to both federal and state mandates.

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The foregoing Resolution was made and adopted by the State Personnel Board at its meeting on January 10, 2013, as reflected in the record of the meeting and Board minutes.

STATE PERSONNEL BOARD

Patricia Clarey, President
Kimiko Burton, Vice President
Maeley Tom, Member
Richard Costigan, Member
Lauri Shanahan, Member



SUZANNE M. AMBROSE
Executive Officer