



## JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

HONOLULU CHAPTER

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*Working For A Greater America*

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 23, 2015

HONOLULU, HAWAII – The Honolulu Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), the nation’s oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization dedicated to addressing social and racial injustice and inequality, passed a resolution during their 2015 annual membership meeting on Nov. 21, affirming and supporting federal and local efforts to fairly and safely allow refugees to enter the state and country who face religious and political persecution in their country or state of origin.

The resolution states, in relevant part:

Susan Arnett

Shawn Benton

Alphonso Braggs

David Forman

AJ Halagao

Nikki Love

Trisha Nakamura

Geoff Sogi

Kent Mori Walther

Jamie Yamagata

**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 protecting 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 Hawaii or the United States of America.

“The Honouliuli internment camp should be a reminder to everyone in our state of what happens when discrimination and prejudice cloud public policy,” said JACL-Honolulu President Jacce Mikulanec, who met with President Barack Obama earlier this year during the signing of the Presidential Proclamation establishing Honouliuli as a national monument.

### Legal Counsel

Benjamin Kudo

### Advisory Council

Allicyn Hikida-Tasaka

Clayton Ikei

William Kaneko

Colbert Matsumoto

Alan Murakami

Mikulanec further stated: “We commend President Obama, Senator Brian Schatz, and Senator Mazie Hirono, all of whom remain committed to our country’s values of tolerance and accepting immigrants. We also commend our local leaders, including Gov. David Ige, who said the state of Hawaii would work closely with our federal government, and Mayor Kirk Caldwell, who condemned recent remarks by a public official who justified the internment of Japanese Americans.”

Please contact JACL-Honolulu at [jaclhon@gmail.com](mailto:jaclhon@gmail.com) or 808-386-7332 for further information or comment.

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