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SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8000

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session

By Senators Hobbs, Kauffman, Swecker, Roach, Kastama, Marr, Kilmer, and Kline; by request of Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs

Read first time 01/12/09.      Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1            TO THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF  
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5            We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of  
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully  
7 represent and petition as follows:

8            WHEREAS, The Nisei veterans of the Second World War provided the  
9 avenue for Japanese-Americans to prove their loyalty to the United  
10 States by serving as the ultimate patriots in the Armed Forces; and

11            WHEREAS, These veterans served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team,  
12 the 100th Infantry Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service  
13 (MIS); and

14            WHEREAS, The 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat  
15 Team of the United States Army were comprised of Japanese-Americans who  
16 fought in Europe during the Second World War; and

17            WHEREAS, The 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat  
18 Team were members of the most highly decorated military unit of its  
19 size in the history of the United States Armed Forces, with twenty-one

1 Medal of Honor recipients, numerous Purple Hearts, and many other  
2 awards; and

3 WHEREAS, Tens of thousands of lives were saved because the MIS used  
4 their knowledge of Japanese language and culture to help the Allies end  
5 the Second World War quickly in the Pacific; and

6 WHEREAS, The Nisei veterans proud American legacy continues,  
7 however many Nisei veterans have passed away and those still alive are  
8 now in their eighties and nineties; and

9 WHEREAS, These Nisei veterans should be publicly commemorated;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United  
11 States Postal Service issue a postage stamp in commemoration of the  
12 Nisei veterans' service in the United States Armed Forces during the  
13 Second World War.

14 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately  
15 transmitted to the Honorable Barack Obama, President of the United  
16 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
17 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of  
18 Washington.

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