

NCSHPO

National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers

SUITE 342 HALL OF THE STATES
444 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20001-1512
202-624-5465 FAX 202-624-5419 WWW.NCSHPO.ORG

March 4, 2022

The Honorable Jay Obernolte
1029 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Via e-mail only to Terry Camp Terry.Camp@mail.house.gov

RE: Japanese American World War II History Network Act (H.R. 6434)

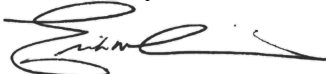
Dear Congressman Obernolte,

On behalf of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO), I write today in support of the creation of the World War II History Network Act (H.R. 6434). NCSHPOs members are state historic preservation offices (SHPOs) in 59 states, territories, and the District of Columbia. SHPOs are charged with operating a variety of programs, promoting historic preservation efforts, and fulfilling their obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act of review and comment on federal undertakings. State historic preservation offices not only serve to educate and promote historic preservation efforts in relation to our built environment, but they also work to tell overlooked and underrepresented histories, like the Japanese experience.

The Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism can be found a short walk from NCSHPO's headquarters in Washington, DC. This memorial honors those Japanese Americans who served in the U.S. military during WWII and lived in incarceration camps. The legislation proposed to create a WWII Network will undoubtedly serve as a useful tool in identifying and preserving important sites related to the WWII Japanese experience.

While telling difficult histories can pose challenges, it is these stories that educate and further the efforts of diversity, equity, and inclusion with the field of historic preservation. NCSHPO is pleased to support this initiative and look forward to seeing it come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Erik M Hein
Executive Director