

SIXTY NINTH LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

THIRTY EIGHTH DAY

House Chamber, Olympia, Wednesday, February 19, 2025

The House was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by the Speaker (Representative Shavers presiding). The Clerk called the roll and a quorum was present. The flags were escorted to the rostrum by the Scouts from Seattle Buddhist Church, Scout Troop 252, comprised of Ansel Ketcherside, Aleksandar Bertelsen, and Reese Tanabe. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Scout Theo Kaku, Scout Troop 252.

The prayer was offered by Father Natch Ohno, Society of Jesus, current Chaplain for faculty at Seattle University.

Reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed with and it was ordered to stand approved.

RESOLUTION

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2025-4619, by Representatives Jenkins, Stokesbary, Abbarno, Abell, Barkis, Barnard, Berg, Bergquist, Bernbaum, Berry, Bronoske, Burnett, Caldier, Callan, Chase, Connors, Corry, Cortes, Couture, Davis, Dent, Doglio, Donaghy, Duerr, Dufault, Dye, Engell, Entenman, Eslick, Farivar, Fey, Fitzgibbon, Fosse, Goodman, Graham, Gregerson, Griffey, Hackney, Hill, Hunt, Jacobsen, Keaton, Klicker, Kloba, Leavitt, Lekanoff, Ley, Low, Macri, Manjarrez, Marshall, McClintock, McEntire, Mena, Mendoza, Morgan, Nance, Obras, Orcutt, Ormsby, Ortiz-Self, Parshley, Paul, Penner, Peterson, Pollet, Ramel, Reed, Reeves, Richards, Rude, Rule, Ryu, Salahuddin, Santos, Schmick, Schmidt, Scott, Shavers, Simmons, Springer, Stearns, Steele, Stonier, Street, Stuebe, Taylor, Thai, Tharinger, Thomas, Timmons, Volz, Walen, Walsh, Waters, Wylie, Ybarra, and Zahn

WHEREAS, On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which authorized the United States military to forcibly remove and incarcerate more than 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast, including 12,000 Japanese-American residents of Washington State; and

WHEREAS, The first civilian evacuation order gave Japanese-Americans from Bainbridge Island, Washington less than one week to leave behind homes, personal belongings, farms, businesses, friends, and family and report to detention centers like Camp Harmony on the grounds of the Washington State fair in Puyallup, where hastily converted horse stables housed the evacuated families; and

WHEREAS, These detention centers were temporary quarters for the evacuees while the United States military constructed mass incarceration sites for Japanese-Americans located in remote inland areas of the United States; and

WHEREAS, This drastic policy of forced removal allegedly aimed to prevent acts of espionage and sabotage by Japanese-Americans who were deemed untrustworthy and disloyal to the United States; and

WHEREAS, On March 23, 1943, the War Department organized the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, a segregated unit of Japanese-Americans, most of whom reported for military duty from the concentration camps in which they and their families were held as prisoners surrounded by barbed wire and armed guards; and

WHEREAS, More than 12,000 volunteers responded to questions about their loyalty and patriotism by amassing a battle record unparalleled in United States military history, earning a collective seven Presidential Unit Citations, 21 Medals of Honor, 29 Distinguished Service Crosses, one Distinguished Service Medal, 588 Silver Stars, more than 4,000 Bronze Stars, 22 Legion

of Merit Medals, 145 Soldier's Medals, 9,486 Purple Hearts, 16 decorations from France and Italy, and, in 2010, the Congressional Gold Medal; and

WHEREAS, Equally loyal and patriotic Japanese-Americans fought to protect our constitutional rights and liberties through dissent, like University of Washington student and Auburn native Gordon Hirabayashi who was arrested, convicted, and imprisoned for defying the military curfew on select civilians and refusing to evacuate when ordered; and

WHEREAS, In 1982, the Congressional commission on wartime relocation and internment of civilians found "no military or security reason" for the incarceration of persons of Japanese ancestry, but determined the cause as "racial prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership"; and

WHEREAS, Through this travesty of justice, Japanese-Americans suffered immense economic loss of property and assets; experienced immeasurable physical and psychological harm as individuals and collectively as a community; and were deprived of their constitutional liberties without due process of law; and

WHEREAS, In 1979, Washington State Congressman Mike Lowry introduced H.R. 5977 to provide reparations and an apology to the Japanese-American incarcerated, thus initiating a 10-year legislative quest that ended when President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988; and

WHEREAS, With this historical lived experience, the Japanese-American community has become an authentic and powerful voice for equity and justice and against racism, bigotry, and hate through the message *Nidoto Nai Yoni – Let it Not Happen Again*;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of Representatives pause to acknowledge the 83rd anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066; to recognize and remember Japanese-American veterans, incarcerated, and civil rights activists from the State of Washington; and to reflect upon the responsibilities of the phrase, "...with liberty and justice for all"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to the Nisei Veterans Committee, Densho, the Japanese-American Citizens League, the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington State, and the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience.

Representative Keaton moved adoption of HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4619.

Representatives Keaton, Santos, Dufault and Stonier spoke in favor of the adoption of the resolution.

MOTION

On motion of Representative Ramel, Representatives Hackney and Simmons were excused.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4619 was adopted.

SPEAKER'S PRIVILEGE

The Speaker (Representative Shavers presiding) introduced guests in the gallery who were here to observe Day of Remembrance: Secretary of State Steve Hobbs; Senator Bob Hasegawa; State Supreme Court Commissioner Michael Johnston; Frank Fukui, Incarceree; Penny Fukui, Incarceree; Joe Okimoto, Incarceree; Consul General Makoto Iyori, Consulate General of Japan in Seattle. Members of the Nisei Veterans Committee: Commander Dale Watanabe; Lt. Colonel Mike Yaguchi, USAF,

Retired; Vice Commander Dale Kaku; Former Commander, Master Sergeant Danny Ing, USAF, Retired; Lt. Colonel Bill Wright, USAF, Retired. Japanese American Citizens League, Olympia Chapter; Japanese American Citizens League, Seattle Chapter; Japanese American Citizens League, White River Chapter; Blaine and Preciosa Tamaki Foundation; Japanese Community and Cultural Center of Washington; Japan America Society of the State of Washington; Bill Kaneko and Ryan Kawamoto, producers of the documentary "Removed by Force"; and Betty Buckley representing Edward Bensussan.

There being no objection, the House advanced to the fourth order of business.

INTRODUCTION & FIRST READING

HB 1999 by Representatives Schmick, Dent, Eslick, Dufault, Chase, Engell and Abell

AN ACT Relating to foreign ownership of agricultural land in Washington; amending RCW 64.16.005; adding new sections to chapter 64.16 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

Referred to Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary.

HB 2000 by Representatives Caldier and Richards

AN ACT Relating to names to be included on the Washington state law enforcement memorial; and adding a new section to chapter 79.24 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Capital Budget.

HB 2001 by Representative Dufault

AN ACT Relating to lowering taxes and providing smaller, smarter government by sunseting all nonconstitutionally mandated state agencies, commissions, boards, task forces, work groups, and councils every 10 years absent affirmative reestablishment by the legislature; adding a new chapter to Title 43 RCW; and creating a new section.

Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

HB 2002 by Representatives Couture, Nance, Griffey, Marshall, Connors, Volz, Stuebe, Davis, Low, Rude, Dye, Keaton, Burnett, Penner, Manjarrez, Schmick, Caldier, Fitzgibbon, Klicker, Mendoza, Eslick and Leavitt

AN ACT Relating to criminal justice and the recovery of firearms used in the commission of a crime; amending RCW 82.14.310, 82.14.320, and 82.14.330; and adding a new section to chapter 10.85 RCW.

Referred to Committee on Community Safety.

There being no objection, the bills listed on the day's introduction sheet under the fourth order of business were referred to the committees so designated.

There being no objection, the House advanced to the eighth order of business.

MOTIONS

There being no objection, the Committee on Rules was relieved of HOUSE BILL NO. 1317, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

There being no objection, the Committee on Appropriations was relieved of HOUSE BILL NO. 1491, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Capital Budget.

There being no objection, the Committee on Transportation was relieved of HOUSE BILL NO. 1529, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Rules.

There being no objection, the following bill listed on the second reading calendar was returned to the Rules Committee: HOUSE BILL NO. 1192.

There being no objection, the Committee on Rules was relieved of HOUSE BILL NO. 1192, and the bill was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

There being no objection, the House adjourned until 10:30 a.m., Thursday, February 20, 2025, the 39th Day of the 2025 Regular Session.

LAURIE JINKINS, Speaker

BERNARD DEAN, Chief Clerk

1192	Other Action	2
1317	Other Action	2
1491	Other Action	2
1529	Other Action	2
1999	Introduction & 1st Reading	2
2000	Introduction & 1st Reading	2
2001	Introduction & 1st Reading	2
2002	Introduction & 1st Reading	2
4619	Introduced.....	1
	Adopted	1
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE (Representative Shavers presiding)		
	Speaker's Privilege	2