

PROCLAMATION
Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution
January 30, 2018

WHEREAS, the battle for civil liberties has been championed by ordinary Americans who have had the courage to stand up and fight for their basic Constitutional rights; and

WHEREAS, Fred T. Korematsu was one of these individuals who refused to comply with Civilian Exclusion Order 34, based on the federal Executive Order 9066, which imposed strict curfew regulations and required 120,000 Japanese Americans to leave their homes to be incarcerated in American concentration camps during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Korematsu was arrested and convicted but fought back because he believed the conviction went against basic freedoms guaranteed to him by the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Korematsu's conviction was ultimately overturned in 1984, representing a decision that influenced the US government's passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, thus recognizing that a grave injustice was done by forced relocation and incarceration of civilian Americans because of wartime prejudice; and

WHEREAS, current California law designates a number of days as having special significance when public schools are encouraged to observe and conduct suitable commemorative exercises as specified; and

WHEREAS, the History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten through Grade Twelve, states that the history curriculum at each grade level relating to community, state, region, nation and the world must reflect and integrate the experiences of men and women of different racial, religious and ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, the California Assembly and State Senate passed AB 1775, thus establishing January 30 as the Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signing this bill into law on September 23, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Alameda Unified School District Board of Education encourages all schools and teachers to observe the Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution on January 30 of every year, or the days surrounding it, and conduct exercises commemorating the life of Fred Korematsu and recognizing the importance of preserving civil liberties, even in times of real or perceived crisis.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 23rd day of January, 2018.

AYES: _____ MEMBERS: _____

NOES: _____ MEMBERS: _____

ABSENT: _____ MEMBERS: _____

Gray Harris, President
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California

ATTEST:

By: _____
Sean McPhetridge, Secretary
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California