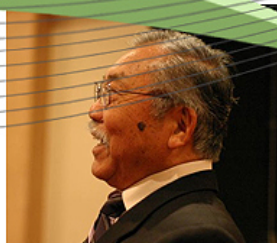


JACL



Pacific Southwest District

Advocating for the Asian and Pacific Islander Community
In Civil Rights, Public Policy and Community Preservation



ASSEMBLYMEMBER ENG, CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS CALL FOR DAY OF INCLUSION

May 29, 2009

EL MONTE, Calif. – Today, Assemblymember Mike Eng (D-Monterey Park) and numerous civil rights organizations convened a press conference to announce the designation of December 17th as “Day of Inclusion” by means of Assembly Concurrent Resolution (ACR) 76, which is sponsored by the Yee Fow Museum.

The day, December 17, was chosen as a way to memorialize the historic Magnuson Act, signed into law on December 17, 1943, which repealed the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and marked a turning point regarding society’s harsh attitudes towards immigration and immigrants. By repealing the “Chinese Exclusion” prohibitions, the United States expressed its commitment to continue to break down cultural barriers, appreciate differences, enrich cultural diversity, and further racial, religious and cultural tolerance.