

February 9, 2016

Senator Rosenbaum  
Chair, Senate Rules Committee  
900 Court St N.E. S-213  
Salem, Or 97301

Dear Senator Rosenbaum,

The Oregon Library Community would like to add its voice of support to HB 4009 designating March 28<sup>th</sup> of each year as Minoru Yasui Day. Mr. Yasui was a true Oregonian and American who stood up for our freedoms. He represents an important piece of Oregon history that we should never forget – the unfair and unconstitutional internment of Japanese Americans.

In 2009, OLA developed the Oregon Reads program to celebrate our sesquicentennial. Libraries encouraged all to read one of three age appropriate books. Two of those addressed our history with the Japanese internment. Lauren Kessler's, *Stubborn Twig*, explored the story of the Yasui family in a compelling and revealing manner. The young adult book – Virginia Euwer Wolfe's *Bat 6* – brought the internment and its resulting social unease to the forefront for younger readers.

We believe that promoting books about our history, the good and the bad, makes for a more informed citizenry. Having a Min Yasui Day will do the same. We applaud and support your legislature efforts to honor this great American.

Sincerely,

Jane Corry  
President, OLA

Janet Webster  
Co-chair, OLA Library Development and Legislation Committee