

05 April 2024

**House Committee on Special Legislation**

The State of Rhode Island General Assembly  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: H5887, January 2025**

Honorable Members of the House Committee on Special Legislation:

I am writing in enthusiastic support of the proposed replacement of "Victory Day," the name of the Rhode Island holiday observed on the second Monday of August, with the title "Peace and Remembrance Day."

I am a Japanese American artist and have been a Rhode Island resident since 2006 when I came to the state as a RISD student. The holiday has never sat well with me. Much of my artistic practice is based around my family's history of incarceration during World War II and the day always feels exclusionary to myself and the greater Asian American community. I am encouraged to see this bill propose a change that will make a day for *all* Rhode Island residents.

Sincerely,

Lois Harada

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lois Harada', with a stylized, cursive script.

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