

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

January 8, 2008

KOREAN AMERICAN DAY

WHEREAS, Korean American history began on January 13, 1903, with the maiden arrival of 103 brave souls to Hawaii aboard the S.S. Gaelic. These courageous men, women, and children ventured across the Pacific in pursuit of the American dream. However, their hopes and dreams of the promised land was quickly frustrated by social, economic, and language barriers of unforeseen magnitude. Regardless, they did not falter, and through tenacious effort and sacrifice, a home was established in the new land with the proper rearing of their children a pivotal focus.

WHEREAS, the first Korean immigrants fought for the freedom and independence of the motherland, their children grew up to be Patriotic American citizens, serving the country at home and abroad, including the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II. The first wave of immigrants gradually made inroads, and the timely enactment of the 1965 Immigration Act opened a flood gate for the second wave of Korean immigration in time-with diligence, fortitude, and strong belief in the American dream, these new immigrants turned emergent areas into thriving and respectable communities.

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County is home to the largest population of Korean outside of Korea and the Korean American community has become an integral interwoven part of the multi-faceted and multi-ethnic fabric of Los Angeles County. In a quarter of a century, the proceeding generations of Korean Americans have become immersed into mainstream society and like those before them, have begun to contribute significantly in the fields of finance, technology, law, medicine, education, sports, media, the arts, the military, and government, as well as in other areas.

-M-O-R-E-

MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

BURKE _____

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE
JANUARY 8, 2008
PAGE TWO**

WHEREAS, with a population of over one million, the Korean American community looks toward the next century, and as they begin their next chapter, it has become vital to instill in the upcoming generations a deep sense of their roots; proper appreciation for the courage and value of those before them; and pride in their cultural heritage; so that they may become better responsible citizens that will continue to share, contribute, and participate in the county of Los Angeles.

THEREFORE, I MOVE that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles hereby proclaim the 13th of January 2008 Korean American Day throughout the County of Los Angeles.

#####

YBB:DR:am