RESOLUTION NO. 2018-91

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF
H.R. 2358 and S. 1050

THE CHINESE AMERICAN WORLD WAR II CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

WHEREAS, On May 4th, 2017, The U.S. Senate and the House of Representative introduced bills to collectively award the Congressional Gold Medal to Chinese American Veterans of World War II; and

WHEREAS, Representatives Ed Royce and Ted Lieu from California were the lead co-sponsors of bill H.R. 2358, while Senator Tammy Duckworth from Illinois and Senator Thad Cochran from Mississippi were lead co-sponsors of bill S.1050; and

WHEREAS, California Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris and Representative Barbara Lee were co-sponsors on their respective bills; and

WHEREAS, the introduced bills aim to recognize the contributions of Chinese American veterans in World War II, where some 20,000 Chinese Americans served in the U.S. Armed Forces during the war, despite having fewer than 120,00 Chinese Americans living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Chinese American soldiers made important contributions in World War II efforts, as they served in all theaters of the war, including in New Guinea, Iwo Jima, Philippines, North Africa, Italy, the Normandy D-Day Invasion, and the Battle of the Bulge; and

WHEREAS, approximately 25% of Chinese Americans enlisted served in the U.S. Army Air Force, and the 14th Air Service Group assigned to the 14th Air Force was an all-Chinese American unit, providing supply, transportation and communications support as well as repairs to aircrafts and armaments; and
WHEREAS, despite their patriotism and valor, Chinese Americans faced blatant racial
discrimination at the time, with The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 in effect until 1943, restricting
Chinese immigration to the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, approximately 40% of the Chinese Americans who served were not citizens of
the United States, and many were not able to become citizens until midway through World War II;
and

WHEREAS, Bills H.R. 2358 and S.1050 will commemorate the contributions and patriotism
of Chinese American veterans in World War II by awarding the Congressional Gold Medal to the
whole group, an honor that other veteran groups have had; and

WHEREAS, the timing for the passage of these bills is crucial, as many of the Chinese
American veterans in World War II have already passed away, and 2018 will be the 75th anniversary
of the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Albany City Council expresses its support
of H.R. 2358 and S.1050, and calls on Congress for a timely passage of these bills during its current
session.

[Signature]
PEGGY MCQUAID, MAYOR
RESOLUTION NO. 2018-91

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 2nd day of July, 2018, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Barnes, Maass, Nason, Pilch and Mayor McQuaid

NOES: None

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this

3rd day of July, 2018.

Eileen Harrington
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

The City of Albany is dedicated to maintaining its small town ambiance, responding to the needs of a diverse community, and providing a safe, healthy and sustainable community.