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SENATOR JANET NGUYEN

THIRTY-SIXTH SENATE DISTRICT



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May 1, 2024

The Honorable Lindsey Horvath Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Proclaiming April 30th as "Jane Fonda Day" in Los Angeles County

Dear Chairwoman Horvath:

I am writing this letter to you and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to express my disappointment over your recent proclamation recognizing April 30 as "Jane Fonda Day" in Los Angeles County. As State Senator of the largest Vietnamese population outside of Vietnam, I find this decision alarming and profoundly disrespectful to over half a million Vietnamese-Americans in California.

This directly undermines the memory and sacrifice of the 58,220 US soldiers and 250,000 South Vietnamese soldiers who died in defense of freedom and democracy during the Vietnam War, in addition to the millions of Vietnamese civilian casualties as a result of the conflict.

Ms. Fonda was a propagandist who supported a Communist agenda in Vietnam. Her visit to North Vietnam in 1972 earned her the title "Hanoi Jane" for betraying American troops and the United States. By honoring an individual whose actions during that time were anti-American and anti-democratic, the Board has chosen to disregard the immense sacrifices made by these brave men and women and the pain of Vietnamese-Americans. Further, by honoring a pro-communist activist on the anniversary of the Fall of Saigon, the Board shows contempt for the deeply painful experience of Vietnamese refugees.

It is imperative that we remember and respect the sacrifices of those who fought to preserve the principles of freedom and democracy upon which our nation was founded.

I urge the Board to immediately rescind their proclamation and instead focus on honoring individuals who have exemplified the virtues of freedom, democracy, and service to our nation and allies. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (714) 374-4000.

Sincerely,

JANET NGUYEN

Senator, Thirty-Sixth District California State Legislature

CC: Honorable County Supervisors, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors