ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN
I, Rick Snyder, Governor of Michigan, do hereby pay special tribute to

Fred Korematsu

WHEREAS, the state of Michigan is pleased to join the Michigan Asian Pacific American Advisory Commission in recognizing the late Fred Korematsu; and,

WHEREAS, Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu was born in Oakland, California on January 30, 1919 as the third of four sons to Japanese immigrant parents; he was one of many American citizens of Japanese ancestry living on the west coast during World War II; and,

WHEREAS, following the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued an executive order authorizing the U.S. military to require all Americans of Japanese ancestry be placed in internment camps; and,

WHEREAS, Fred Korematsu is famously known for his arrest at the age of 23, on May 30, 1942, and conviction on September 8, 1943, for defying the government's order to be moved to internment camps; he appealed his case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, and in the December 1944 landmark decision of Korematsu v. United States, the high court ruled against him; and,

WHEREAS, nearly 40 years later, on November 10, 1983, Fred Korematsu's conviction was formally vacated in the U.S. District Court of Northern California, an action considered to be a pivotal moment in civil rights history; throughout the rest of his life, Fred Korematsu remained an activist, and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998, the nation's highest civilian honor;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Rick Snyder, governor of Michigan, pay special tribute to the legacy of Fred Korematsu and join with the Michigan Asian Pacific American Advisory Commission as they honor and recognize his many contributions to America's civil rights movement.

[Signature]
Rick Snyder
Governor