

**HONORING THE SACRAMENTO
LIONS CLUB ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY
HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Tuesday, February 24, 2004

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an organization with a distinguished history of community service to the Capital Region. The Sacramento Senator Lions Club will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary Celebration on March 6, 2004. As the members and friends of the Sacramento Senator Lions Club gather to celebrate this momentous occasion, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting one of Sacramento's most important and respected civic groups.

The Sacramento Senator Lions Club was chartered on April 4, 1954 to become a part of the Lions Club, the world's largest service organization. Lions Clubs are non-political, non-sectarian service clubs composed of the community's leading business and professional people. The purpose of a Lions Club is more than good fellowship and club social life. The purpose is to recognize community needs and develop means of meeting them, either through its own effort or in cooperation with other agencies. Lionism is an active and effective medium for national and world service, exerting tremendous influence for national welfare, international amity and human progress socially, culturally and economically. For the past 50 years, the Sacramento Senators Lions Club embodies all of the best qualities that Lionism represents.

The Sacramento Senator Lions Club was the first all Americans of Japanese ancestry in the United States. The Sacramento Senator Lions Club was founded upon the principle that the club should strive to provide its members with the opportunities to collectively serve the community through efforts of fund-raising and hands-on-service projects. Today, the Sacramento Senator Lions Club is a vital service organization that is composed of civic-minded persons of both sexes and many diverse ethnic backgrounds.

The Sacramento Senator Lions Club has a history of community service that stretches beyond Sacramento and across international borders. The Sacramento Senator Lions Club

reached a twinning agreement with the Osaka Tezukayama Lions Club of Japan during the International Lions Club in New Orleans in 1977. In recent years, mutual donations have been made to projects in Osaka, Japan. Donations to the Sacramento Senator Lions Club have played a great role in developing the fragrance garden for the visually handicapped and the Japanese garden for children at the Fairytale Town. In addition, the Sacramento Senator Lions Club is also actively involved in helping many other local organizations; Canine Companion for the Blind, City of Hope, My Sister's House for Abused Women, just to name a few. The Sacramento Senator Lions Club commitment to improve the quality of life for people from all different walks of life is truly commendable and admirable.

The Sacramento Senator Lions Club is internationally renowned as one of the most successful and respected Lions Club chapters in the world. The lofty status of the Sacramento Senator Lions Club was confirmed when their member, Kay K. Fukushima, was elected to be the 86th President of the International Association of Lions Club for the year 2002–2003.

Mr. Speaker, as the friends and family of the Sacramento Senator Lions Club gather to celebrate their 50 years of great service to the people of Sacramento, I am honored to pay tribute to one of the Capital Region's most active service organizations. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing the Sacramento Senator Lions Club continued success in all its future endeavors.