116TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R.3914

To apologize for the treatment of Italian Americans during World War II.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 23, 2019

Ms. LOFGREN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To apologize for the treatment of Italian Americans during World War II.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. APOLOGY FOR THE TREATMENT OF ITALIAN

AMERICANS DURING WORLD WAR II.

5 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

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6 (1) Over 15 million Italians have immigrated to
7 the United States since 1852.

8 (2) Italian immigrants have provided a culture9 and heritage that has enriched American life.

10 (3) The treatment of Italian Americans during
11 World War II was authorized by the Act of July 6,

1798 (Chapter 66, Sec. 1; 1 Stat. 577; 50 U.S.C.
21; commonly known as the Alien Enemies Act).
(4) Additional authority for the treatment of
Italian Americans during World War II was based
on Executive Order 9066 (7 Fed. Reg. 1407) and
Executive Order 9102 (7 Fed. Reg. 2165).
(5) These orders required Italian-born citizens
and their families to carry identification cards, face
travel restrictions, and obey curfews.
(6) These orders authorized the seizure of per-
sonal property.
(7) 10,000 Italian Americans living on the West
Coast were forced to leave their homes and were
prohibited from entering coastal zones during World
War II.
(8) Thousands of Italian-American immigrants
were arrested and hundreds were interned in mili-
tary camps during World War II.
(9) The treatment of Italian Americans during
World War II needs to be acknowledged in order to

World War II needs to be acknowledged in order to remember those whose lives were unjustly disrupted and whose freedoms were violated.

(10) Acknowledging and apologizing for the treatment of Italian Americans during World War II would help repair the Italian-American community

and would discourage the occurrence of similar in justices and violations of civil liberties in the future.
 (b) STATEMENT OF CONGRESS.—For these funda mental violations of the basic civil liberties and constitu tional rights of Italian Americans during World War II,
 Congress apologizes on behalf of the Nation.

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