

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 28, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
c/o Ms. Julie Chavez Rodriguez
Associate Director of Latino Affairs and Immigration
for the Office of Public Engagement
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

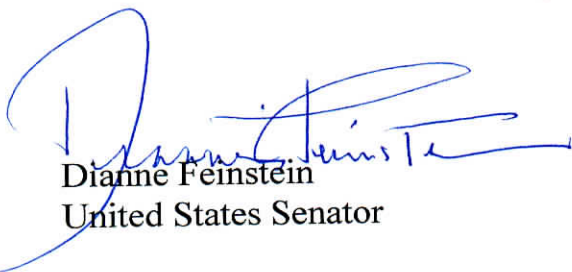
Dear Mr. President:

We are pleased to recommend Mr. Fred Ross, Sr. to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Executive Order 11085, signed by President Kennedy, states that the Presidential Medal of Freedom may be awarded to any person who has made an especially meritorious contribution to cultural or other significant public endeavors. Fred Ross Sr.'s life exemplifies this definition.

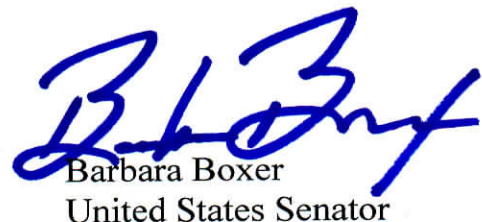
Whether he was advocating for those in California's Japanese "relocation" camps, or for field workers in California, Texas, and Ohio, Fred Ross Sr. struggled tirelessly, throughout his life, for freedom and equality on behalf of the dispossessed and marginalized. By awarding the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Fred Ross, Sr., you will not only recognize his enduring legacy as an organizer who built collective action and citizenship engagement, but you will also inspire future generations of Americans to follow Fred Ross, Sr.'s example of persevering in the face of adversity for inclusion, equity, fairness, and human dignity.

We hope you will give serious consideration to posthumously awarding Fred Ross, Sr. the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator