



CWA of California
Action Alert
March 22, 2005

Greetings!

This alert is specifically for residents of the city of San Diego in order to save the Mt. Soledad cross. If you are not a resident, you are not eligible to sign the petition to save the cross, but please forward this to any friends or family you may have within the city limits.

It all started in 1989 when two atheists were "offended" by the war memorial featuring a 43-foot cross over San Diego, which has been atop Mt. Soledad since 1954. After several unsuccessful attempts by the city to sell the property and retain the cross, Reps. Randy "Duke" Cunningham (R-50th Dist.) and Duncan Hunter (R-52nd Dist.), inserted a provision in a congressional spending bill last year designating the site as a national war memorial. President Bush signed the bill in December. Under the legislation, however, the city had to agree to give the land to the National Park Service.

On March 8, City Attorney Michael Aguirre issued a legal opinion opposing the transfer of the land. The council then voted 5-3 against donating the land to the federal government to be used as a permanent Veterans memorial. Voting against the Mt. Soledad cross were Council members Peters, Zucchet, Frye, Inzunza and Atkins. Voting to transfer the land and save the cross were Mayor Murphy and Councilmembers Madaffer and Maienschein. Council member Young did not vote.

A petition drive has been launched to take this issue to the people and allow them to transfer the property to the federal government. However, there is not much time! ***The petitions, signed by residents of the city of San Diego, must be returned by Friday, April 1.***

If you cannot open the attached petition, you may download the document from the San Diegans for the Mt. Soledad War Memorial Web site at <http://soledadnational.com>. There you will also find details on collecting signatures and returning the completed petitions.

For more information, please visit the Web site or call (858) 456-7445.

Thank you for making a difference!

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