



House Majority Office

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House Democrats Mourn the Loss of Rep. Hòa Nguyễn

The Representative was a fierce advocate for her community and students across the state

SALEM, Ore. – Representative Hòa Nguyễn passed away this morning surrounded by loved ones after a courageous fight against cancer.

A Life of Service, Rooted in Community

Rep. Nguyễn's story is one of resilience, service, and hope. She was the eldest daughter of Vietnamese refugees who resettled in Louisiana, where her father owned a small convenience store. Growing up, she remembered working the front counter after school, an early lesson in family, hard work, and community connection.

At the age of 16, she moved to Oregon to enroll at St. Mary's Academy, a Catholic school for girls. She later earned her degree in sociology at Portland State University, where she became deeply committed to equity and justice. She soon began serving on the board of API Forward, dedicated to developing and empowering Asian and Pacific Islander leaders.

Her professional life reflected her passion for young people and families. She worked at Robert Gray Middle School in Portland, where she helped create the Walking School Bus program to ensure students had a safe and welcoming way to get to class each day. She served on the David Douglas School Board, advocating for student success and equitable resources, and she worked with the Clackamas Education Service District to strengthen Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN) partnerships that connected families to vital community support.

Legislative Leadership & Accomplishments

Since being sworn in to the Oregon House of Representatives, Hòa Nguyễn represented House District 48, stretching from East Portland to Damascus, with extraordinary dedication. She carried the values she learned in classrooms, community centers, and her own family directly into her legislative service.



Her notable accomplishments include:

- **HB 3144 (2023)** and **HB 3014 (2023)** – expanding supports for early childhood care and education
- **SB 756A (2023)** - Adding Classified Staff to IEPs
- **HB 3383 (2023)** - Classified Staff on Education Advisory Boards
- The **CHIPS Child Care Act (2024)** and her leadership in the **Child Care Alliance (2024)** and the **Child Care Caucus (2025)**, advancing access, affordability, and quality of child care.
- Service on the **Chronic Absenteeism Workgroup (2024)** to address systemic barriers to school attendance.
- **HB 3199 (2025)** and **HB 3218 (2025)** – policies that came out of the Chronic Absenteeism workgroup tackling Regular Attendance.
- Securing **\$5 million for the Happy Valley Community Center (2025)** and support for the **Boring Community Center (2023)**, providing lasting infrastructure investments for her district.

A Legacy to Carry Forward

Rep. Nguyễn asked that this chapter of her life be remembered through the work of making Oregon a just, equitable, and compassionate place. She wanted Oregon to continue building on the work she began, making child care affordable, strengthening schools, expanding community infrastructure, and ensuring every child and every family feels seen.

Her journey, from a convenience store counter in Louisiana, to Portland classrooms and community centers, to the Oregon State Capitol, tells the story of possibility. She has inspired countless Oregonians, and her legacy will live on in the children, families, and communities she fought for.

Information about how Rep. Nguyễn's remarkable life will be honored will be shared when it becomes available.

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