



From The Offices of
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Oregon House Commemorates 50 Years Since The End Of The Vietnam War

Salem, Ore. – Today, the House passed [House Concurrent Resolution 34](#) with near unanimous support. The resolution would designate April 30, 2025, as Vietnamese American Remembrance Day, on the 50th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War. It honors the contributions of Vietnam War veterans from the United States and the Republic of Vietnam, Vietnamese refugees, and the Vietnamese American community.

“April 30, 1975, was a turning point,” **said Representative Daniel Nguyễn (D-Lake Oswego & SW Portland)**. “For many, it marked the end of a nation, but also the beginning of a long journey for millions of Vietnamese, like my family, who left in search of a new life — in unfamiliar countries, speaking new languages, building new communities from the ground up. This resolution honors that journey.”

“As the daughter of Vietnamese refugees, I witnessed firsthand the sacrifices my parents made to give our family a future,” **said Representative Hòa Nguyễn (D-SE Portland & Damascus)**. “Their courage and resilience inspired my path as an educator and advocate. Designating April 30th as Vietnamese American Remembrance Day is not only about honoring the past — it’s about recognizing the strength of our community and the contributions Vietnamese Americans continue to make in education, public service, and every corner of Oregon.”

Major Paul Evans, USAF (Ret.) spent a little over twenty years in uniform with nearly a decade spent on active duty supporting operational contingencies in Afghanistan, Central/South America, Europe, Iraq, and Southwest Asia.

“This anniversary is bittersweet. The Vietnam War forged the generation of warriors that prepared me for battle. Our experience in Vietnam was far more than a proxy war between superpowers, it was the landscape where American Idealism met the harsh realities of miscalculation and misunderstanding,” **said Representative Paul Evans (D-Monmouth, Independence, South and West Salem)**. “However, today Oregon and Vietnam are more than trading partners, we are friends; we share common interests in economic development, regional security, and prosperity through interdependence. I am grateful to live in a time when both our communities can look to our shared past as a building block for a better, stronger future.”

“As a refugee who came to Oregon to build a new life after fleeing Vietnam, I know how significant it is for Vietnamese American Oregonians to tell our stories and to know that others are listening,” **said Representative Thủy Trần (D-NE Portland)**. “By recognizing Vietnamese American Remembrance Day, Oregon is taking an important step in honoring the history, resilience, and contributions of the Vietnamese community to this state.”

Rep. Lewis is a Vietnam Era veteran, having served three years in the United States Army and two years in the Wyoming National Guard.

“As a Vietnam Era veteran, I recall military service in the 60’s and early 70’s as a turbulent time to have served. Vietnam veterans still carry the scars of war – PTSD, health issues, and loss – but also the pain of coming home to blame, not gratitude,” **said Representative Rick Lewis (R-Silverton)**. “As we commemorate the end of this war and that era, we honor their sacrifice and commit to a future that welcomes and respects all who serve.”

“I came to this country as a refugee child—carrying nothing but hope,” **said Representative Hai Pham (D-S Hillsboro & W Beaverton)**. “I survived cancer, became a dentist, and now serve as a State Representative. The fall of Saigon brought not only loss, but the resilience to rebuild, and we are living proof.”

After passing the House 54-1, HCR34 now heads to the Senate.

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