

MAY NEWSLETTER

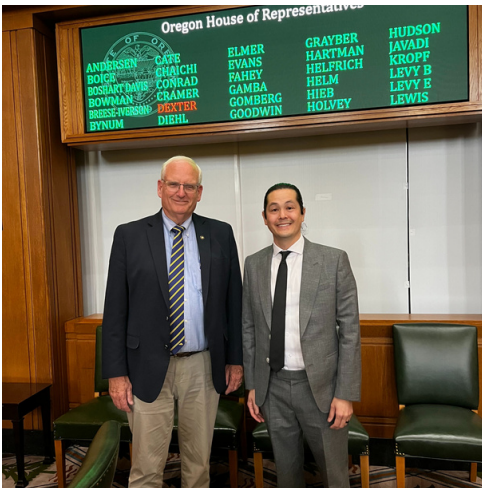
HOUSE DISTRICT 36

Dear Friends and Constituents,

Happy end of May! As we enter the last month of the legislative session and get closer to summer break, I wanted to first take a moment to congratulate the students who have graduated and completed another year of their studies.

I was excited to hear that so many of my constituents are making Dean’s and President’s Lists at their respective universities – congratulations on your hard work!

On another note, here are a few updates I want to share about my Salem activities:



On the House floor with Senator Hansell after the passage of SB 463 to provide greater access to proton beam therapy for cancer patients.



Enjoyed some coffee with Mayor Beaty!

With Governor Kotek, legislators and community leaders for the AANHPI Proclamation.



SENATE REPUBLICAN WALKOUTS & BILLS AT STAKE

We are officially entering more than 20 days of the Senate Republicans walking out from the job, causing mass disruption of our legislative business and threatening the health, safety, and well-being of all Oregonians.

We have much at stake this session, including improving and funding our schools:

- **Record \$15.3 billion to K-12 Funding** – a 12.3% increase over current resources.
- **Early Literacy and Success Budget** – a \$140 million investment to support students with reading and writing skills, which will help lead to higher graduation rates.
- **SB 283:** Addresses school workforce shortages.
- **HB 3135:** Protects funding for smaller school districts.
- **HB 3584:** School Emergency Notification Act – Ensures that parents and guardians are electronically notified during a school emergency and are kept informed.



- **HB 2280:** Supports students who are victims of sexual harassment.
- **HB 2669:** Supports children who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- **HB 2905:** Following a rise in anti-Semitism, this bill adds Jewish history education in public schools.

These are critical investments for our kids and will impact generations to come. Education provides our children with the necessary skills and tools to succeed in life, and investing in education is an investment in their future. Good quality education helps reduce poverty, promote economic growth, and create opportunities for everyone. Education is just one of the many important issues that need to be supported and funded!

PRIORITY BILLS AFFECTED BY THE WALKOUTS

Education bills are not the only bills that are at stake this session; here are a few more of my personal priorities that are at risk if Senate Republicans don't show up:

- **HB 3223A Dental Assistant Certification**: Addresses issues within the dental assistant workforce by promoting equity in the education and training of dental assistants. Ensures that any written exams required for certification meet a set of criteria such as language accessibility and the development of alternative testing options. Tests must be available in the top three most-spoken languages in Oregon (English, Spanish, and Vietnamese). This bill would help get more auxiliary dental staff working in the field and supporting the needs of our patients.
- **HB 2977A Behavioral Health Workforce Development**: Addresses issues within the state's behavioral health workforce and incentivizes more BIPOC and rural behavioral health providers to join and stay in the field.
- **HB 2994A Insurance Coverage Fix for Children's Hearing Aids**: Clarifies and expands insurance coverage of hearing aids, cochlear implants, and assistive listening devices. **More about this important bill on the next page!**
- **HB 2979A Dental Workforce Package**: Addresses the dental workforce crisis by increasing capacity and access to training and education programs and expanding eligibility for incentives to all oral health professionals serving high-need areas.
- **HB 3007 OHA Dental Director Enhanced Authority & Office of Oral Health**: Provides greater clarity to the role of OHA's Dental Director, and creates an Office of Oral Health with an Oral Health Advisory Committee to support the Dental Director and promote evidence-based oral health disease prevention across the state.
- **HB 3008A Dental Provider Network & Claims Transparency**: Improves transparency in dental insurance plan processes to prevent surprise costs and improve access to care, oral health outcomes and public understanding of healthcare costs.
- **HB 3090A Prevent Youth Nicotine Addiction**: Restricts the sale of flavored tobacco products statewide to improve the health of Oregon youth and prevent long-term adverse health effects such as lung disease, heart disease and cancer as a result of tobacco use.

HB 2994A – SUPPORTING CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO HEARING AIDS & COCHLEAR IMPLANTS

Like many of my colleagues in the legislature, I believe the well-being of Oregon's children is of the utmost importance. [HB 2994A](#) addresses a specific aspect of a child's health and wellness – hearing. Five years ago, the legislature passed HB 4104, a bill that would require insurers to cover hearing aids, cochlear implants, and certain assistive listening devices. Unfortunately, several issues arose during the implementation of that policy; specifically, insurers implemented the bill in different ways, leaving families confused and kids without access to these critical devices and services.

HB 2994A provides more clarity in statute of covered services and devices; most importantly, the bill would waive the need to meet a deductible before coverage of these devices and services and extends coverage to children who receive care through OHP, PEBB, and OEBC.

The bill passed unanimously out of the House Behavioral Health and Health Care Committee, with over 170+ parents, providers, and advocates posting testimony in support.

A huge thank you to [Rep. Lisa Reynolds](#), [Rep. Janelle Bynum](#), [Rep. Ed Diehl](#), [Rep. Lily Morgan](#), [Rep. Ben Bowman](#), and [Rep. Thuy Tran](#), for your advocacy on this important issue to support the health of our children.

A letter of support was sent to members of the Joint Ways & Means Committee earlier this month with the support of the sponsors of the bill, and including [Rep. Charlie Conrad](#) and [Rep. Cyrus Javadi](#). Thank you, Reps. Conrad and Javadi for your support!

HB 2994A passed out of the Human Services Subcommittee yesterday unanimously and is now awaiting a vote by the full committee.



HOUSE VS SENATE CHARITY BASKETBALL GAME

Last week I had a great time supporting the Boys and Girls Club of Salem by playing in the House vs. Senate Charity Basketball Game!

My team, House Team #1, led by myself, Rep. Maxine Dexter, Rep. Annessa Hartman, and Rep. Emily McIntire, unfortunately, lost against House Team #2, coached by Rep. Lucetta Elmer, and star players Rep. Dacia Grayber, Rep. Ben Bowman, Rep. Lisa Reynolds, Rep. Ricki Ruiz.

But, we were able to beat Senate Team #1 lead by Senate Majority Leader Kate Lieber to place 3rd overall!

Congratulations to Senate Team #2, led by Senator Daniel Bonham, for winning the championship trophy, and thank you to all the staffers and lobbyists for playing. We were able to raise more than \$10,000!

Thank you Rep. Janelle Bynum for taking great pictures!



Going for the layup against Rep. Grayber!



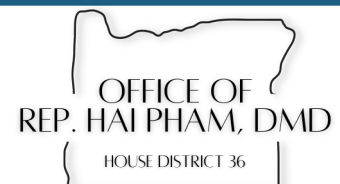
House Team #1 Group Picture

That's all the updates I got for you in Salem. Wishing you all a great week!

REPRESENTATIVE HAI PHAM, DMD



Follow us!
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Facebook.**



Some More Pictures from May...

OSU Lobby Day



With local firefighters and paramedics of TVFR

Having fun as Speaker for the Day!



Rise Above Hate Event



Group picture with the players of the House vs. Senate Game

