



From the Office of Representative Thủy Trần

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 24, 2025

Press Contact:

Celeste Baird, Rep.ThuyTran@oregonlegislature.gov

Rep. Thuy Tran Presents Resolution Honoring Cambodian-Americans in Oregon

SALEM, Ore. –Representative Thuy Tran (D–NE Portland) worked with the Cambodian community in Oregon to pass [HCR 17](#) on the House Floor on March 24. HCR 17 honors the history, resilience and strength of Cambodian-Americans in Oregon and across the United States. It memorializes those who lost their lives in the Cambodian Genocide, and recognizes survivors of the conflict in Oregon today. highlighting the Cambodian-American story and affirming that Cambodian-Americans have a home in Oregon.

"As a Vietnamese refugee who came to Oregon to build a new life after fleeing my homeland, I deeply resonate with the experiences of the Cambodian-American community. The wounds of war, the uncertainty of fleeing home, and the challenges of assimilation leave a lasting impact," said **Rep. Thuy Tran (D–NE Portland)**.

The history of the Cambodian Genocide is interwoven with the individual stories of the Cambodian community in Oregon. During the Vietnam War era, the Khmer Rouge seized control of the country on April 17, 1975, marking the beginning of the Cambodian genocide in which approximately two million people were killed. In the aftermath of the conflict, between 1975 and 1979, hundreds of thousands of Cambodian and other Southeast Asian refugees and immigrants resettled to the US.

"The Cambodian-American community has endured immense hardship, but through perseverance and unity, it has thrived and strengthened our society," said **Rep. Hai Pham (D-Beaverton, Hillsboro, Washington County)**.

"It is an honor to elevate the voices of our Cambodian community members within the State Legislature. For too long, the experiences and stories of Asian people have not been heard and celebrated in this space." said **Rep. Mari Watanabe (D-Bethany, Cedar Mill)**.

HCR 17 is profoundly meaningful to the survivors of the conflict and their families who contribute to the rich history and cultural tapestry of Oregon. HCR 17 now moves to the Senate for a vote.

###

Link to Google Drive folder with photos: [Photos Press Release HCR 17 Cambodian Resolution - Google Drive](#)