

# House Concurrent Resolution 17

Sponsored by Representatives TRAN, PHAM H, Senator WOODS; Representatives GAMBA, LIVELY, NELSON, NGUYEN D, NGUYEN H, Senators FREDERICK, PHAM K

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: Honors Cambodian Americans who live in Oregon and the U.S. and all of the lives that have been lost in war and conflict in that part of Asia. (Flesch Readability Score: 60.5).

Recognizes and honors Cambodian Americans in Oregon and the United States and all those lost in the Cambodian Genocide.

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas April 13 to 17 is a special time for many Cambodian people: a time of renewal, re-  
3 flection and sharing of cultural heritage, with New Year celebrations in Cambodia (Choul Chnam  
4 Thmey) and other communities; and

5       Whereas for the Cambodian American community, April is also a time of reflection and mourn-  
6 ing; and

7       Whereas on April 12, 1975, the United States withdrew from Cambodia in Operation Eagle Pull;  
8 and

9       Whereas April 17, 2025, is the 50th anniversary of both the Khmer Rouge seizing control of  
10 Cambodia on April 17, 1975, and the beginning of the Cambodian Genocide in which approximately  
11 two million people, or almost a quarter of the Cambodian population, died in the Killing Fields; and

12       Whereas in the United States, the history of the conflict and the decades after have scarcely  
13 been talked about; and

14       Whereas the initial resettlement of Cambodian and other Southeast Asian refugees to the United  
15 States between 1975 and 1979 resulted in the passage of the Refugee Act of 1980, paving the way  
16 for hundreds of thousands of immigrants and refugees to resettle across the country; and

17       Whereas people of Cambodian heritage live and work in Oregon and contribute to the rich his-  
18 tory and cultural tapestry of this state; and

19       Whereas in 2018, the Cambodian American Community of Oregon worked with Governor Kate  
20 Brown to proclaim April 2018 as Cambodian American Heritage Month and Memorial for the  
21 Cambodian Genocide; and

22       Whereas on March 21, 2022, the California State Senate introduced Senate Resolution SR-78,  
23 recognizing the week of April 11 to April 17, 2022, as Cambodian Genocide Memorial Week; and

24       Whereas other states of the United States, including Massachusetts, Minnesota and Washington,  
25 have recognized and honored Cambodian communities individually or collectively; now, therefore,

26 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

27       That we, the members of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, recognize and honor the history,  
28 resiliency and strength of all Cambodian Americans throughout Oregon and across the greater  
29 United States; and be it further

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

HCR 17

1       Resolved, That we memorialize all those who lost their lives in the Cambodian Genocide, and  
2 honor all survivors of the conflict living in Oregon today.

3

---