



Cambodian-American Community of Oregon
501 (C) (3) Non-Profit Organization
P.O. Box 233
Beaverton, OR 97075-0233

March 4, 2025

House Committee on Rules

Re: Support for HCR 17 - Recognizing and honoring Cambodian Americans in Oregon and the United States and all those lost in the Cambodian Genocide.

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Pham, and members of the Committee,

My name is Socheat Tauch, and I am a second-generation Cambodian-American and the board chair of the Cambodian-American Community of Oregon (CACO). I've been volunteering with CACO since childhood and joined the board of directors in 2017, becoming board chair in 2022.

Our Cambodian community has made significant contributions to Oregon since our founding in 1989. We've partnered with the Northwest Health Foundation and Portland State University to share oral history excerpts of local Khmer Rouge survivors and their resettlement journey in Oregon. We've collaborated with APANO and the Boy Scouts of America to engage Cambodian-Americans and the AAPI community on a national level, allowing them to access the great outdoors and learn about environmental stewardship. Our health and wellness programs with IRCO, North Clackamas School District, and Portland Public Schools have enabled both adults and youth in our community to become active and fit. Additionally, our partnerships with the City of Beaverton and Multnomah Arts Center have helped us reach thousands through our Khmer Language School since the early 2000s. All these efforts are powered by the willingness of countless Cambodian volunteers.

Supporting this resolution is about ensuring future generations of Cambodian-Americans have a place to thrive and be recognized. We are grateful for Representative Thuy Tran and all supporters. Passing HCR 17 would reaffirm Oregon's commitment to honoring Cambodian-Americans and preserving our history.

On behalf of the Cambodian-American Community of Oregon, we thank you for your leadership and dedication to serving all communities in Oregon.

Regards,

Socheat Tauch
Board Chair, Cambodian-American Community of Oregon (CACO)