
Heidi Blackwell

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

I am expressing my support for HB 3595, which would designate Lunar New Year as an official state holiday. I have had the privilege of being part of the planning of a number of cultural events in my community, including Lunar New Year, allowing me to see firsthand the impact this celebration can have.

Lunar New Year is celebrated by millions of people worldwide, including over 130,000 Oregonians from diverse cultural backgrounds such as Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, and other Asian communities. It is a time for family reunions, honoring ancestors, and welcoming the new year with hope and prosperity. By making it a recognized state holiday, Oregon could acknowledge the cultural significance of this occasion while providing an opportunity for individuals and families to celebrate without work or school conflicts.

Recognizing Lunar New Year as a state holiday would be a meaningful and impactful step toward fostering cultural appreciation and inclusivity in Oregon. I urge you all to support HB 3595 and ensure its passage.

Sincerely,

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