



Subject: Support for the Recognition of Lunar New Year as a State Holiday

Tao Hua  
Oregon Chinese Tennis Association (ORCTA)  
March 19, 2025

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

I am writing on behalf of Oregon Chinese Tennis Association, an organization dedicated to promoting tennis among individuals from diverse backgrounds while fostering appreciation for Chinese culture through sports and community engagement. We aim to create a supportive environment that enriches the lives of our community members and promotes cultural exchange.

The legal recognition of Lunar New Year as a state holiday is vital for our organization and the broader community we serve for several reasons:

1. **Cultural Significance:** Lunar New Year is a fundamental celebration for many Asian communities, especially those of Chinese descent. It marks the beginning of the lunar calendar and symbolizes renewal, family unity, and cultural heritage. Recognizing it as a state holiday would not only honor this rich tradition but also acknowledge the diversity that enriches our state's cultural fabric.
2. **Community & Family Celebrations:** In our state, the Lunar New Year is celebrated with various festivities, including family gatherings, traditional meals, and community events such as parades and cultural performances. These celebrations foster a sense of belonging and promote intergenerational connections among families, highlighting the importance of cultural traditions in modern society.
3. **Economic Impact:** Lunar New Year celebrations significantly contribute to the state's economy. Local businesses see increased activity from shopping for holiday goods, dining, and cultural events, stimulating economic growth.
4. **Educational and Work Benefits:** By establishing Lunar New Year as a state holiday, public employees and students would have the opportunity to partake in cultural festivities without the stress of work or academic commitments. This acknowledgment promotes inclusivity and respect for cultural diversity, fostering a more cohesive community where all members feel valued.

In conclusion, recognizing Lunar New Year as a state holiday would be a step towards inclusivity and acknowledgment of the rich traditions that contribute to our collective identity. We strongly support HB 3595 and urge its passage to create a more inclusive and equitable society for all.

Thank you for considering this important proposal. We look forward to your positive response and to the possibility of celebrating the Lunar New Year together as a state.

Sincerely,  
Tao Hua  
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Oregon Chinese Tennis Association

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