

Dear Chair and Members of the House Committee on Rules,

I am writing in support of House Concurrent Resolution 17, which recognizes and honors the history, hardships, resiliency, and strength of Cambodian Americans in Oregon and across the United States.

I would like to express gratitude for Representative Thuy Tran for seeing and recognizing Cambodian Americans in Oregon and the rest of the U.S. and for introducing this resolution to help others do the same.

As a second generation Cambodian American, I have often been frustrated and angered by the lack of awareness of the Cambodian Genocide because it felt as if the Killing Fields, all the deaths, the hardships, and the resulting trauma that my family and others have to live with for the rest of their lives were going unacknowledged. This bill is meaningful because it gives Cambodian Americans the recognition they deserve and has the potential to increase awareness of the history of Cambodians living in this country. It is vital that the sacrifices, bravery, and resiliency of survivors are not forgotten. I look forward to a future where more Americans know about the Cambodian Genocide and better understand the Cambodian American experience.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Emilia Saing