

UNITED CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF OREGON

11300 SE CASCADE VIEW DR. HAPPY VALLY, OR 97086

俄勒岡洲華人聯合會

March 10, 2025

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Pham,
Dear Members of the House Rules:

United Chinese Association of Oregon was established in 2002, we now have member all over the state of Oregon, for main events celebration we take turn to different city in side Oregon during the year, for example, the Lunar New Year in January, the Lantern Festival (Mid Autumn) in September. as you may know, over 130,000 to 180,000 Oregonians and one-fifth of humanity worldwide celebrate the Lunar New Year! Thanks to all chairperson and members of the House Rules and State Representative Dr. Thuy Tran for advocating Lunar New Year to be recognized in Oregon as a state holiday.

WE SUPPORT HB3595 TO RECOGNIZED LUNAR NEW YEAR AS STATE HOLIDAY IN OREGON!

Cultural significance, for over 150 years, Asian communities have been an integral part of Oregon's history and development, official recognition would honor their contribution, promote greater cultural appreciation and strengthen community ties across the state.

- **We strongly believe Oregon is as liberal as California and Washington!** State Representative Dr. Tran will introduce similar legislation while neighboring states such as Washington and California have already taken this step
- **Easy up for Public Employee and Student**, currently, many Oregon families have to take personal leave from work or school to observe Lunar New Year. Official recognition would:
 4. Align Oregon's holiday with the cultural diversity, fostering a more inclusive environment.
 5. Allow students to participate in cultural traditions without receiving academic penalties.
 6. Support public employees, educators and workers who celebrate "Holiday" with their families.
- **Economic advantage**, driving huge consumers spending and business activity, enhance economic benefits by encouraging broader participation, supporting local businesses, thus, further integrating into Oregon's economic landscape.
- **Conclusion** : Recognizing Lunar New Year as a state holiday in OREGON is a significant step toward honoring the traditions of the state's diverse communities, enhance cultural appreciation, contribute to economic growth and ensure family can celebrate without barriers. We strongly support HB3595 and urge its passage to create a more inclusive and equitable society for all.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN!

Jimmy Jiemei Zhu, chairman

Jimmyzhu1205@yahoo.com

UNITED CHINESE ASSOCIATION OF OREGON