

Representative Ben Bowman  
Chair, House Committee on Rules  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Bowman, Vice Chairs Drazan, Pham, and members of the committee,

Christine Chin Ryan was a strong mentor and advocate for women and the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. As the founder of APICCO, she created a new program to get API students politically involved. The topics she centered the program around inspired and guided us to tap into our identity and power. She especially emphasized the importance of understanding how diverse the API community is. We should both own our individual stories and amplify voices different from ours. Through being a part of APICCO, I have been able to make connections with lots of other passionate API youth as well as make connections with API mentors in local politics.

Though I only knew Christine for a couple years, I am so grateful to have had her as a mentor. Her enthusiasm was contagious, and she always talked with positivity, advocating for us all to work together and dream big to break the bamboo and glass ceilings. She had such a bright presence and was a pillar of the community around her. Christine has touched many hearts and minds, and her legacy will not be forgotten by her community and beyond. This resolution in her honor would mean a lot to her, and I urge your support. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Celeste Baird