



Representative Hòa Nguyễn  
Oregon House District 48

HCR 36 - In Memoriam: Christine Chin Ryan

5/14 House Committee on Rules

Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Pham and Drazan, and members of the Committee:

My name is Representative Hòa Nguyễn, and I proudly represent House District 48, which includes outer Southeast Portland and North Clackamas County. It's a privilege to be joining the voices urging your support for House Concurrent Resolution 36, celebrating the life of Christine Chin Ryan.

It's rare that a person's legacy contains so much virtue, so much integrity, and so much tenacity that one can only be left humbled by such a profound loss. Christine Chin Ryan left that kind of legacy. A distinguished business owner, mentor, devoted friend, and lifelong community activist whose immeasurable impact spanned more than three decades — her devotion makes her a compelling figure deserving of lasting recognition by this body.

It is difficult to list all the ways Christine dedicated herself to her community. She seemed to make a habit of breaking ceilings, whether glass or bamboo. She collected countless milestones, and held **so many** other leadership positions that her CV was usually just listed as "available upon request". But where I saw her shine most, and what she professed to be her pride and joy out of all of her accomplishments, was her work with the young people of APICCO – the Asian Pacific Islander Community Coalition of Oregon.

As APICCO's Executive Director, Board Chair and primary advocate, Christine strived to empower AAPI youth to develop their leadership potential and serve their communities. She personally brought me my interns from the past two sessions, and empowered many other young people to enter the legislature to serve their state. But Christine was far more than just a bridge of connections — she went to bat for her interns time and time again, and was in their corner up until the very end. She kept close tabs on their achievements, negotiated contracts with fervor to make sure they got paid what they were worth, and loved and celebrated them like they were her own children. She knew the importance of uplifting the next generations in order to cultivate our future, and she was

committed to making that future beautiful. It is such an honor to witness the fruits of her labor and be part of her enduring legacy.

To honor Christine's legacy is not only to acknowledge what she did but to celebrate who she was. Christine Chin Ryan was an unrelenting advocate, an enlightened mentor, a steadfast shoulder to lean on, and a comforting light in the dark. She raised others up and did so with a warm heart. Though her loss leaves an immense void in our AAPI community and Oregon as a whole, she was sure to invest in the next generation of leaders who will stand to fill it. I urge the committee's adoption of HCR 36, and thank you for your time and consideration.

In community,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hòa Nguyễn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Hòa" and the last name "Nguyễn" clearly distinguishable.

Rep. Hòa Nguyễn