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April 1, 2025 - Issue: Vol. 171, No. 58 — Daily Edition

119th Congress (2025 - 2026) - 1st Session

[Entire Issue \(PDF 898KB\)](#)

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To late for April meeting I know you have taken more than couple of months to write a proclamation
 1) *Addendum to AAHDP minor*
 Daily Digest House of Representatives Extensions of Remarks

Sections in This Issue:

« [All in House section](#)



30 of 122



2) Or add to



REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM DURING BLACK APRIL; Congressional

Record Vol. 171, No. 58

(House - April 1, 2025)

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[[Pages H1387-H1388](#)]

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REAFFIRM COMMITMENT TO FREEDOM DURING BLACK APRIL

(Mr. TRAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the beginning of the most solemn month of the year for Vietnamese Americans and diaspora. We refer to this month as Black April, or Thang Tu Den, because so many of us lost our homes, our livelihoods, and our country.

My own parents escaped brutal oppression at the hands of the Vietnamese Communist Government and came to this country seeking the freedom and democracy that had been ripped away from them in the country of their birth.

This year, we recognize the 50th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975. In the years since, hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese Americans have built vibrant communities in the United States that have enriched our Nation and strengthened our communities.

By recognizing Black April, we honor those who sacrificed their lives for freedom, including members of the South Vietnamese military who fought alongside American allied forces. We also honor the immense

*Submitted by
Robert Por
Under Oral
Communications
5/6/2025*

hardships endured by the refugees as they embarked on the perilous journey to seek refuge and rebuild their lives.

I am so proud to be the first Vietnamese American to represent Orange County's Little Saigon community in Congress. Home to the largest Vietnamese diaspora in the world, Little Saigon is a beacon of hope and testament to the resiliency of our community.

I am proud to tell the story of our community on the floor of the United States House of Representatives to ensure that no communist regime can rewrite our history.

[[Page H1388]]

As we mark this solemn milestone, let us reaffirm our commitment to freedom and human rights and honor the indomitable spirit of the Vietnamese diaspora.

[«All in House section](#)



30 of 122



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April 29, 2025 - Issue: Vol. 171, No. 71 — Daily Edition

119th Congress (2025 - 2026) - 1st Session

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Sections in This Issue:

[Daily Digest](#)

[Senate](#)

[House of Representatives](#)

[Extensions of Remarks](#)

[« All in House section](#)



11 of 106



RECOGNIZING BLACK APRIL; Congressional Record Vol. 171, No. 71 (House - April 29, 2025)

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[[Page H1691](#)]

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RECOGNIZING BLACK APRIL

(Mr. Tran of California was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to mark the most solemn time of the year for the people of the Vietnamese diaspora. ``Black April,`` ``Thang Tu Den,`` is not just a solemn day in history, but it is a reminder of the day when we lost everything: our homes, our livelihoods, and our beloved country.

It was 50 years ago, on April 30, 1975, that South Vietnam fell to the Communist regime. American troops airlifted 6,000 American and Vietnamese people to safety. Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese refugees would follow, most of them boarding boats on uncharted waters, not knowing what awaited them on the other side of the journey.

In Vietnam, the conditions under the Communist regime grew more brutal. Many were imprisoned in concentration camps, losing not just their homes but their freedom, their dignity, and, in too many cases, their lives.

This is a painful day, a day for reflection, for remembrance, and for mourning. Over 58,000 United States soldiers and more than 250,000

South Vietnamese soldiers gave their lives in service. These brave men and women made the ultimate sacrifice, and they deserve our continued and unwavering gratitude.

We mourn not only those who fought for freedom but the countless innocent lives lost during the war, those who perished at the hands of the Communist regime and the aftermath and the brave souls who were lost fleeing repression on boats. We have no choice but to honor those precious souls who were lost by giving the most we can to this life that we have been blessed with.

I share my own story with hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese Americans born to parents who fled our homeland with nothing. Boat people did not let the hardship of the journey define the life that they built in America. We have built communities that are unparalleled in strength, prosperity, and commitment to preserving our history.

Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on the past 50 years since the fall of Saigon, we do so in solemn remembrance but in celebration of what we have built together. From the ashes of war, we have risen.

We celebrate today the trailblazers who have risen from this legacy: generals and admirals in the U.S. military, award-winning scientists, titans of business, educators, doctors, and artists. Our community has nurtured leaders in all walks of life, turning adversity into opportunity in just five short decades.

Many of these people are children of refugees or refugees themselves, and they represent just a few of the countless contributions that Vietnamese Americans continue to make across every sector of society. Our journey from tragedy to triumph has only just begun, and the story of our people will continue to inspire generations to come.

As the first Vietnamese American to represent Orange County's Little Saigon community in Congress, I am humbled by the responsibility to carry this history forward. Little Saigon, home to the largest Vietnamese diaspora in the world, is a beacon of hope and a reminder of the resilience that has defined our community.

I stand on the shoulders of the Vietnamese leaders in California and across the country who have paved the way for future generations to succeed. I am proud to be the third Vietnamese American ever elected to Congress, following Congressman Joseph Cao of Louisiana and Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy of Florida.

I am reminded every day of our strength, our determination, and our unyielding commitment to preserving our history and to ensuring that no Communist regime can rewrite our history.

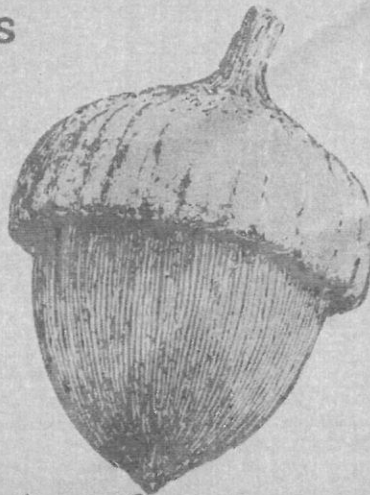
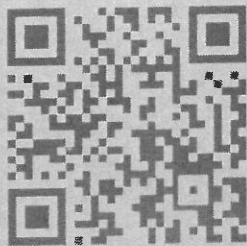
Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in not only remembering the hardships we face, but also in celebrating the incredible resilience of the Vietnamese people. Let us honor the lives of those who sacrificed everything for freedom: The United States Army veterans and the veterans of the former Republic of Vietnam. As we commemorate this solemn milestone, let us reaffirm our commitment to the values that matter most: democracy, human rights, and our unshakeable will to be free.

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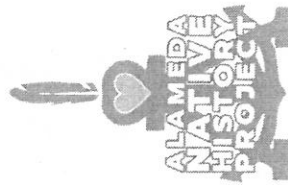
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- reopen indigenous foodways
- provide
culturally appropriate food
for local tribes
& indigenous
communities

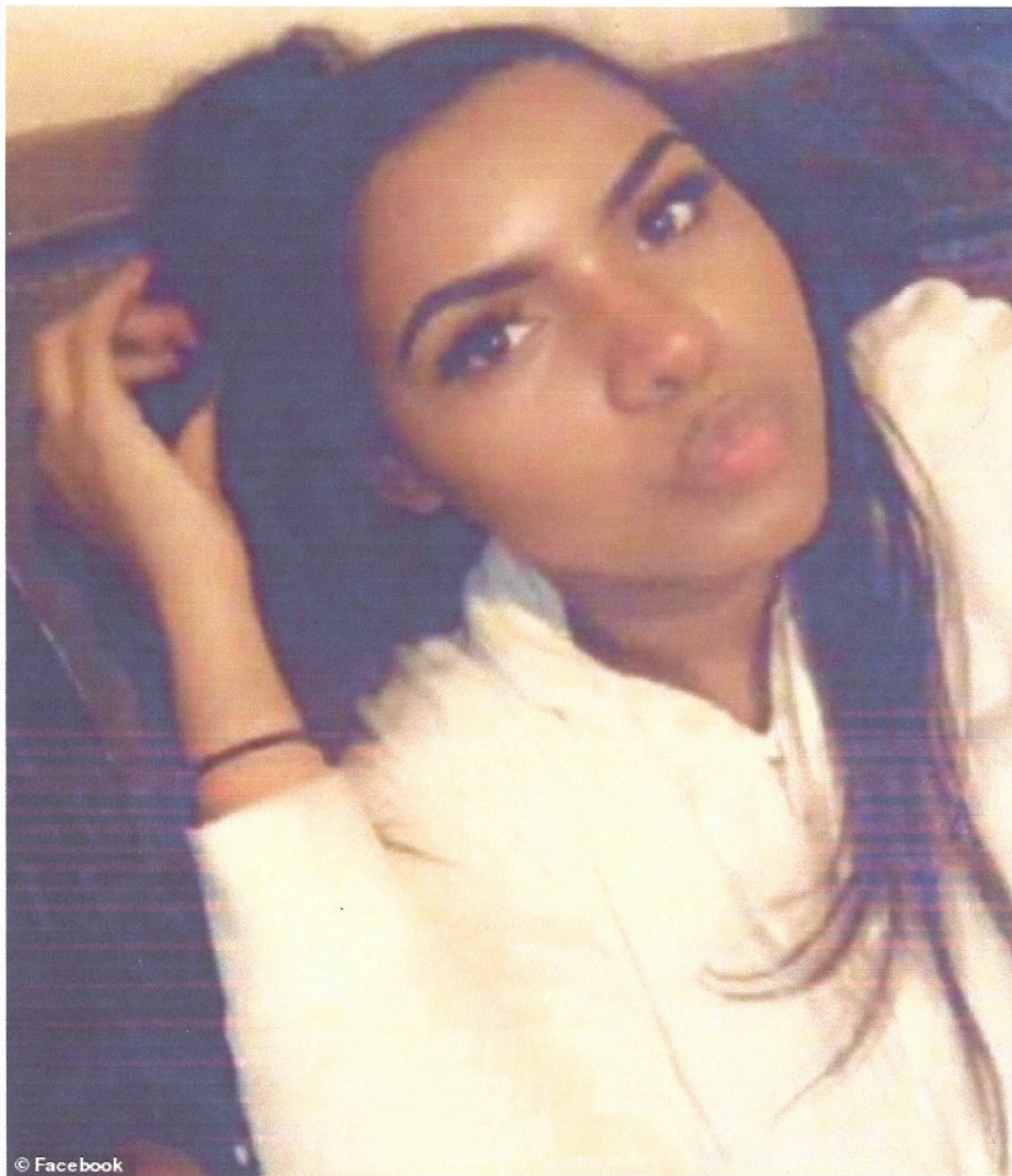


Submitted by Gabriel Dorcas
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5/6/2025