

VAAPI CAUCUS

Virginia Asian American & Pacific Islander Caucus

For Immediate Release: April 30, 2022
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Virginia Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus recognizes the significance of April 30th for the Vietnamese Diaspora

Richmond, VA — Today is the 47th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, also known as Black April or Tháng Tư Đen.

This day marks a somber moment in Vietnamese and American history. The Fall of Saigon triggered a mass exodus of people from Vietnam who desperately fled persecution and oppression in hopes of building a better future for themselves and their families. Nearly half of the 800,000 people who left by boat died at sea.

Today is a day of reflection and mourning for members of the Vietnamese diaspora, including the Vietnamese American community in Virginia. On this day of collective trauma, the Virginia Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus (VAAPIC), including two members who trace their personal histories to that moment, recognizes their loss and honors their struggle for better lives.

One of VAAPIC's missions is to raise awareness of the history of Asian and Pacific Islander diasporas across the Commonwealth. The public discussion and education of our shared history is foundational to creating an inclusive and welcoming Virginia.

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The Virginia Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus (VAAPIC) is a legislative organization recognized by the General Assembly to serve as a collaborative voice for Virginia's Asian American and Pacific Islander communities by identifying public issues of interest and to develop formal positions, facilitate discussions, and advocate for policy outcomes.