



**DENNIS RICHARDSON  
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DISTRICT 4**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**REP. DENNIS RICHARDSON APPOINTED TO ASIAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

SALEM—Rep. Dennis Richardson (R-Central Point) has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Asian Education Foundation. The Foundation is a Portland-based group that promotes Asian language education in Oregon.

“Mr. Richardson is an Oregon State Representative who has been promoting Asia-America trade relations and Asian language education among his many undertakings in serving the people of Oregon,” said Victoria Yu, president of the Asian Education Foundation.

Rep. Richardson introduced legislation in 2007 to advance the instruction of Mandarin Chinese in Oregon schools.

“Positive China-American relations in the 21st century are vital for both nations, and for Oregon to become ‘America's Gateway to China,’ Oregon's students must have the opportunity to learn Mandarin Chinese,” Rep. Richardson said. “The Asian Education Foundation wants Mandarin language and Chinese studies to be an integral part of Oregon's educational curriculum, and so do I. It is an honor to serve on the Asian Education Foundation's Board of Directors.”

Rep. Richardson said that Mandarin Chinese instruction will help Oregon students be competitive in the global economy.

“Oregon students deserve a world-class education, and Mandarin Chinese should become part of Oregon's educational curriculum at all levels. Nearly every student in China is learning English,” Rep. Richardson said. “Due to the size of China's population, soon there will be more English speaking students in China than in America. There is no time to lose. Oregon can be America's Gateway to China, if we will take action now and encourage Mandarin Chinese language classes for our students. Oregonians who become fluent in Mandarin will have a major advantage for succeeding in the world economy of the 21st century.”

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