



Senator Janet Nguyen · California's 34th Senate District  
**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Senator Janet Nguyen Opposes Assembly-Passed Bill That Would Allow  
Communists to Work as California State Employees**

*(Sacramento, CA)* - Today, California State Senator Janet Nguyen expressed her strong opposition to Assembly Bill 22 (AB 22), sponsored by Assemblyman Rob Bonta, which would allow Communist Party members to work for the state government. AB 22 was passed by the State Assembly on May 8th in a 41 to 30 vote with no Republican support and will soon make its way to the State Senate.

“Many California residents still bear the painful scars of having lived under Communist regimes and now Sacramento wants to allow avowed Communist Party members to work for the State of California,” said Senator Janet Nguyen. “This bill is an incredible insult to Californians who have escaped Communism, among them the over 500,000 Vietnamese-Americans who escaped Communist Vietnam. This bill also does a great disservice to our brave U.S. service members who fought and died valiantly against Communist forces around the world, as they did in Vietnam.”

Under current California law, public employees may be dismissed from employment if they advocate or are knowingly a member of the Communist Party or of an organization that they know advocates for the overthrow of the Government of the United States. AB 22 would delete the reference to the Communist Party and would no longer allow a public employee to be dismissed solely on the basis of being a member of, or advocating for, the Communist Party.

For over 10 years as an elected official, Senator Nguyen has taken an aggressive stance against Communist regimes and their systematic efforts to oppress the rights of their people. In this effort, she has spearheaded legislation that would target Communist government officials who had violated basic human rights. Additionally, Senator Nguyen has taken an active role in countless grassroots protests against the Communist regime in Vietnam. As an advocate, Senator Nguyen has also testified before Congress about the deteriorating condition of human rights in Vietnam, first in 2008 before the Committee on Foreign Relations and most recently, in 2014 before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Her work also includes calling for the release of all of Vietnam's human rights prisoners.

To continue the fight against Communism, Senator Nguyen has launched an online petition to gather signatures from residents who oppose AB 22. The signatures will be submitted to the

California State Senate, for its consideration before members vote on this important piece of legislation. To sign the petition, please visit Senator Nguyen's website at [https://lcmspubcontact.lc.ca.gov/PublicLCMS/SDInfo/einvites/SD34/171\\_Oppose\\_AB22.html](https://lcmspubcontact.lc.ca.gov/PublicLCMS/SDInfo/einvites/SD34/171_Oppose_AB22.html)

“AB 22 follows a pattern of oppression that began with my forcible removal from the Senate floor for speaking out against pro-Communist sympathizer Tom Hayden and now, it continues with AB 22, an assault on the values of freedom and democracy that make the United States great,” said Senator Janet Nguyen. “The Vietnamese-American community must unite and stop further efforts to reinsert Communism into our daily lives. I call on the community to join me in taking a stand against AB 22 by signing this petition.”

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**About Senator Janet Nguyen**

*Senator Janet Nguyen was overwhelmingly elected to represent the residents of California's 34th State Senate District in 2014. With this victory, Senator Nguyen became the first woman elected to represent the 34th Senate District and the first Vietnamese-American in the country to be elected to the State Senate. Senator Nguyen is the highest-ranking Vietnamese American elected official in the State of California.*

*The 34th State Senate District includes the cities of Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, Los Alamitos, Santa Ana, Seal Beach, Westminster, the unincorporated communities of Midway City and Rossmoor, as well as portions of Anaheim, Huntington Beach, Long Beach, and Orange.*