

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform you that I will resign as Speaker of the House effective upon the election of my successor. I will also resign as Representative from Ohio's Eighth District at the end of this month.

I leave with no regrets, no burdens. If anything, I leave the way I started—just a regular guy, humbled by the chance to do a big job. That is what I am most proud of. I am still just me, the same guy who came here 25 years ago as a small-business man and spent all these 25 years trying to just be me.

Now, sometimes my staff thought I was too much like me, but it really is the thing I am most proud of. I am the same regular guy who came here to try to do a good job for my district and my country.

Before I go, I want to express what an honor it has been to serve with all of you. The people's House is, in my view, the great embodiment of the American Dream. Everybody here comes from somewhere, and everybody here is on some mission.

I come from a part of the world where we are used to working. As far back as I can remember, I was working. My staff was asking me the other day: Well, you know, on November 1st, you're not going to have a job. When was the last time you didn't have a job?

I thought about it and thought about it and thought about it. I thought, well, I had to be 8 or 9 years old because I was throwing newspapers back then and working in my dad's bar. As a matter of fact, I used to work from 5 a.m. on Saturday morning until 2 p.m. for \$2. Not \$2 an hour. \$2.

I never thought about growing up as the easy way or the hard way. It was just the Cincinnati way. Our city takes its name from the great Roman general Cincinnatus, a farmer who answered the call of his nation to lead and then surrendered his power to go back to his plow.

For me, it wasn't a farm. It was a small business. And it wasn't so much a calling as it was a mission—a mission to strive for a smaller, less costly, and more accountable Federal Government here in Washington.

How did we do? Here are some facts. For the first time in nearly 20 years, we have made some real entitlement reforms, saving trillions of dollars over the long term.

We have protected 99 percent of the American people from an increase in their taxes. We are on track to save taxpayers \$2.1 trillion over the next 10 years, the most significant spending reductions in modern times. We have banned earmarks altogether. Sorry.

We have protected this institution. We have made it more open to the people. Every day in this capital city there are hundreds of kids from the toughest neighborhoods who are finally getting a chance at a decent education.

I am proud of these things, but the mission is not complete. And the truth is it may never be. One thing I came to realize over the years that I have been here is that this battle over the size and scope and cost of our government in Washington has been going on for more than 200 years, and the forces of the status quo go to an awful lot of trouble to prevent change from happening.

Real change takes time. Yes, freedom makes all things possible, but patience is what makes all things real. So believe in the long, slow struggle. Believe in this country's ability to meet her challenges and to lead the world. And, remember, you can't do a big job alone, especially this one.

So I am grateful to my family, Deb and my two girls. My two girls were 3 and 1 when I first ran for office. Now they are a lot older. So they have been through a lot. You all know what your families go through. It is one thing for us to take the bricks and the boards and everything that gets thrown at us, but it is another thing for our families. Their skin isn't as thick as ours.

I am also grateful to all of my colleagues: my fellow leaders, Mr. MCCARTHY and Mr. SCALISE, Ms. MCMORRIS RODGERS; and many on my side of the aisle, our committee chairs, people I have worked with for a long time.

But I am just as grateful to Ms. PELOSI, Mr. HOYER, Mr. CLYBURN, and Mr. BECERRA and others for all of the work that we have done together. Over these last 5 years, we have done an awful lot of work together. There was probably more work done across the aisle over the last 5 years than in the 25 years that I have served in this institution.

Now, as much as I enjoy working with all of you, some of you still could learn to dress better. You know who you are. I saw one of the culprits, one of the usual suspects who shows up here once in a while without a tie. This morning he didn't look dressed very well, but he did have a tie on.

I am grateful to the people who work in this institution every day, whether it is the Reading Clerks or—you know, there are a lot of people, thousands of people, who allow us to do our jobs and to help make this institution what it is. Whether it is the people you see here today or the people in the CAO's office or the Capitol Police or legislative counsel, there really are thousands of people who really do allow us to do our job.

I am grateful to my staff. Now, you all know I am a big believer in staff. None of us can be what we are without a good staff, and I certainly would never have gotten to this job without having built a great team. So I really am grateful to my staff. As they like to say to each other, once you are part of Boehnerland, you are always a part of Boehnerland, and that certainly goes for me as well.

I am especially grateful to all my constituents and the volunteers over the years. That includes a student at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, in 1990, who was putting up campaign signs for me. His name was PAUL RYAN. I don't think he could pronounce my name back in 1990 when he was putting up yard signs for me.

But, as Cincinnatus understood, there is a difference between being asked to do something and being called to do something. PAUL is being called. I know he will serve with grace and with energy, and I want to wish him and his family all the best.

□ 0945

My colleagues, I have described my life as a chase for the American Dream. That chase began at the bottom of the hill, just off the main drag in Reading, Ohio, right outside of Cincinnati. At the top of the hill was a small house with a big family, a shining city in its own right.

The hill had twists. The hill had turns, and even a few tears. Nothing wrong with that. But let me tell you, it was just perfect.

Never forget, we are the luckiest people on the Earth. In America, you can do anything that you are willing to work for, willing to work hard at, and anything can happen if you are willing to make the necessary sacrifices in life.

If you falter—and you will—you can just pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and go do it again, because hope always springs eternal. And if you just do the right things for the right reasons, good things will happen.

And this, too, can really happen to you.

God bless you, and God bless our great country.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the Speaker's announcement of October 29, 2015, the Chair will receive nominations for the Office of Speaker.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS).

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, today, in the people's House, it gives me great honor to nominate the people's Speaker.

You don't need to look any further than the architecture of Washington, D.C., to see what our Founders envisioned. It is not by mistake that the dome over the Congress is the very center of the Federal city. The White House and the Supreme Court are set about us, satellites to the supreme power of the people expressed in this legislative body.

In the House, we are eager for a fresh start that will make us more effective to fulfill our obligation to reflect the will of the people and to reestablish the balance of power.

There is no better person to lead us in that calling than the man I am about to nominate. He was first elected to the House at the ripe old age of 28, and he has served here now for almost 17 years.

We all remember when he led the House Budget Committee: the visionary proposals, the lengthy debates. And who could forget those PowerPoints?

He is now the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. But he is more than a chairman to us. He is more than a colleague. He is our friend. He is a leader.

Through it all, he has never forgotten his roots. He lives on the same block he grew up on in Janesville, Wisconsin. There is no place he would rather be than at home with his family.

He will continue to put the people of this country first. And I can say, in all candor, he did not seek this office. The office sought him.

As chair of the House Republican Conference, I am directed by the vote of that Conference to present for election to the Office of Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 114th Congress the Representative from the State of Wisconsin, the man from Janesville, the Honorable PAUL D. RYAN.

The SPEAKER. The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA).

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to my friend, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN), on his nomination by his colleagues.

At this time, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus of this House, I wish to place in nomination the name of a proven leader for the Office of Speaker of the House of Representatives:

A leader who has accomplished, in this Chamber and for this country, what few can match;

A leader who, as Speaker of this House, secured passage of landmark economic recovery package legislation in 2009 which transformed a diving economy, losing 800,000 jobs each month, to one which has now created more than 13 million jobs over the last 67 consecutive months of job growth;

A leader who, as Speaker, accomplished what 70 years of Congresses could not, enactment of our lifesaving health security law, which has put 18 million more Americans in control of their and their children's health care;

A leader who had the foresight, in 2008, to fight for the biggest investment in our troops since World War II, with the passage of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, and the largest investment in our veterans' health care and benefits in the 77-year history of the VA;

A leader who was not afraid to take on the challenge of fixing our broken immigration system and secured passage of the DREAM Act in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, leadership is about making the tough choices and getting things done. It means knowing how to build a majority, not just with the members of your own political party, but with the 435 elected Members of the House of Representatives so we can get things done. This leader understands that and knows how to get things done, even while serving in the minority in this House.

That is why, less than 24 hours ago, this leader succeeded in breaking through the gridlock in this House and secured the votes needed to avert a senseless government shutdown and a perilous default on the payment of America's bills. Thanks to this leader, 16.5 million seniors will not suffer a \$55-per-month increase in their Medicare premiums and Congress will not cut the Social Security benefits of 11 million disabled Americans by 20 percent.

Mr. Speaker, that is leadership, and that is what Americans expect from those they elect. That is why it is my privilege, as chairman of the House Democratic Caucus and as directed by the colleagues of the Democratic Caucus, to nominate for election to the Office of Speaker of the House of Representatives, from the 12th District of the great State of California, the Honorable NANCY PATRICIA D'ALESSANDRO PELOSI.

The SPEAKER. The names of the Honorable PAUL D. RYAN, a Representative from the State of Wisconsin, and the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, a Representative from the State of California, have been placed in nomination.

Are there further nominations?

There being no further nominations, the Chair appoints the following tellers:

The gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER);

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY);

The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR); and

The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

The tellers will come forward and take their seats at the desk in front of the Speaker's rostrum.

The roll will now be called, and those responding to their names will indicate by surname the nominee of their choosing.

The Reading Clerk will now call the roll.

The tellers having taken their places, the House proceeded to vote for the Speaker.

The following is the result of the vote:

[Roll No. 581]
RYAN (WI)—236

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei

Babin
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishok

Bilirakis
Bishop (MI)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn

Blum
Boehner
Bost
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comstock
Conaway
Cook
Costello (PA)
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Curbelo (FL)
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dold
Donovan
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers (NC)
Emmer (MN)
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fox
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Griffith
Grothman
Guinta
Guthrie
Hanna
Hardy
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Heck (NV)

Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Hice, Jody B.
Hill
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Hurt (VA)
Issa
Jenkins (KS)
Jenkins (WV)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jordan
Joyce
Katko
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Knight
Labrador
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Loudermilk
Love
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
MacArthur
Marchant
Marino
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris
Rodgers
McSally
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Newhouse
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry

Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Poliquin
Pompeo
Price, Tom
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney (FL)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Rouzer
Royce
Russell
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shinkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Stefanik
Stewart
Stivers
Stutzman
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Trott
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Walters, Mimi
Wenstrup
Westerman
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (IA)
Young (IN)
Zeldin
Zinke

PELOSI—184

Adams
Aguilar
Ashford
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps

Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Costa
Courtney

Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DeBene
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggott
Doyle, Michael
F.
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison

Engel	Lewis	Raybal-Allard
Eshoo	Lieu, Ted	Ruiz
Esty	Lipinski	Ruppersberger
Farr	Loeb	Rush
Fattah	Lofgren	Ryan (OH)
Foster	Lowenthal	Sánchez, Linda
Frankel (FL)	Lowe	T.
Fudge	Lujan Grisham	Sánchez, Loretta
Gabbard	(NM)	Sarbanes
Galleo	Luján, Ben Ray	Schakowsky
Garamendi	(NM)	Schiff
Grayson	Lynch	Schrader
Green, Al	Maloney,	Scott (VA)
Green, Gene	Carolyn	Scott, David
Grijalva	Maloney, Sean	Serrano
Gutiérrez	Matsui	Sewell (AL)
Hahn	McCollum	Sherman
Hastings	McDermott	Sires
Heck (WA)	McGovern	Slaughter
Higgins	McNerney	Smith (WA)
Himes	Meng	Speier
Hinojosa	Moore	Swalwell (CA)
Honda	Moulton	Takai
Hoyer	Murphy (FL)	Takano
Huffman	Nadler	Thompson (CA)
Israel	Napolitano	Thompson (MS)
Jackson Lee	Neal	Titus
Jeffries	Nolan	Tonko
Johnson (GA)	Norcross	Torres
Johnson, E. B.	O'Rourke	Tsongas
Kaptur	Pallone	Van Hollen
Keating	Pascarella	Vargas
Kelly (IL)	Payne	Veasey
Kennedy	Pelosi	Vela
Kildee	Perlmutter	Velázquez
Kilmer	Peters	Visclosky
Kind	Peterson	Walz
Kirkpatrick	Pingree	Wasserman
Kuster	Pocan	Schultz
Langevin	Polis	Waters, Maxine
Larsen (WA)	Price (NC)	Watson Coleman
Larson (CT)	Quigley	Welch
Lawrence	Rangel	Wilson (FL)
Lee	Rice (NY)	Yarmuth
Levin	Richmond	

WEBSTER (FL)—9

Brat	Gosar	Posey
Clawson (FL)	Jones	Weber (TX)
Gohmert	Massie	Yoho

COLIN POWELL—1

Cooper

COOPER—1

Graham

LEWIS—1

Sinema

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—0

NOT VOTING—3

Meeks	Ryan (WI)	Webster (FL)
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□ 1046

The SPEAKER. The tellers agree in their tallies that the total number of votes cast is 432, of which the Honorable PAUL D. RYAN of the State of Wisconsin has received 236, the Honorable NANCY PELOSI of the State of California has received 184, the Honorable DANIEL WEBSTER of the State of Florida has received 9, the Honorable JIM COOPER of the State of Tennessee has received 1, the Honorable JOHN LEWIS of the State of Georgia has received 1, and the Honorable Colin Powell has received 1.

Therefore, the Honorable PAUL D. RYAN of the State of Wisconsin, having received a majority of the votes cast, is duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Chair appoints the following committee to escort the Speaker-elect to the chair:

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY)

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI)

The gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE)

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER)

The gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS)

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN)

The gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN)

The gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA)

The gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MESSER)

The gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY)

The gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS)

The gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL)

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX)

The gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN)

The gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER)

The gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO)

The gentlewoman from California (Mrs. MIMI WALTERS)

The gentlewoman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS)

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS)

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN)

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY)

And the Members of the Wisconsin delegation:

Mr. SENSENBRENNER

Mr. KIND

Ms. MOORE

Mr. DUFFY

Mr. RIBBLE

Mr. POCAN

Mr. GROTHMAN

The committee will retire from the Chamber to escort the Speaker-elect to the chair.

The Sergeant at Arms announced the Speaker-elect of the House of Representatives of the 114th Congress, who was escorted to the chair by the Committee of Escort.

□ 1100

Ms. PELOSI. My dear colleagues of the 114th Congress of the United States, today, as every day, we come to this floor strengthened and inspired by the support of our colleagues, the trust of our constituents, and the love of our families.

My special thanks to my husband, Paul; our five children; our nine grandchildren; and the entire Pelosi and D'Alesandro families for their support. My deep gratitude to the people of San Francisco for the continued honor they give me to represent them here.

My heartfelt thanks to my Democratic colleagues for extending me the

honor of being nominated to be Speaker of the House. Thank you, my colleagues.

Today, we bid farewell to a Speaker who has served his constituents and this Congress with honor for 25 years, Speaker JOHN BOEHNER.

In his story, we are reminded of the enduring, exceptional promise of America—this hardworking son of an Ohio bartender and owner who grew up to be the Speaker of the House of Representatives. JOHN BOEHNER talked about the American Dream. JOHN BOEHNER, you are the personification of the American Dream.

As you all know, Speaker BOEHNER was a formidable spokesman for the Republican agenda. My Republican colleagues, I am sure you know—and I can attest—to the fact that he was always true and loyal to the members of his Conference in any negotiations we ever had.

Although we had our differences and often, I always respected his dedication to this House and his commitment to his values. Thank you, JOHN, for your leadership and courage as Speaker.

Your graciousness as Speaker extended and was reflected in your staff under the leadership of Mike Sommers, whom we all respect. Thank you to JOHN BOEHNER's staff.

I know I speak for everyone here, Democrats and Republicans, when I thank you for making the visit of His Holiness Pope Francis such a beautiful and meaningful experience for all of us.

Today, we extend our thanks and congratulations to Debbie; your daughters, Lindsay and Tricia; and the entire Boehner family, now including grandson, Allister.

Let's hear it for the family of JOHN BOEHNER.

On behalf of House Democrats and personally, I wish you and your family all of God's blessings in the glorious years ahead.

Last month, we witnessed something truly special when Pope Francis made history addressing a joint session of Congress. Standing right here, Pope Francis called on us to seek hope, peace, and dialogue for all people and reminded us of our duty to find a way forward for everyone. "A good political leader," His Holiness said, "is one who, with the interest of all in mind, seizes the moment in a spirit of openness and pragmatism."

Pope Francis echoed the principles of our Founders that placed at the heart of our democracy the saying, "E Pluribus Unum," from many, one. The Founders could never have imagined how vast our country would become, how diverse and many we would be—ethnically, gender identities, beliefs, and priorities—but they knew we had to be one.

Every day in this House and across the country we pledge allegiance to one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

This is the beauty of America, that for all of our honest differences, perspectives, and priorities aired and argued so passionately on this floor, we are committed to being one nation. Despite our differences—in fact, respecting them—I look forward to a clear debate in this marketplace of ideas, the people's House of Representatives.

So, my fellow colleagues, we have a responsibility to act upon our shared faith in the greatness of our country. We have a responsibility to be worthy of the sacrifices of our troops, our veterans, and our military families. We have a responsibility to make real the promise of the American Dream for all.

There is important work before the Congress. We must do more to promote growth, decrease the deficit, create good-paying jobs, and increase the paychecks of America's working families.

Today, in this House, a page is turned. A new chapter has begun. Today, the gavel passes to a proud son of Wisconsin, the first Speaker from Wisconsin.

PAUL RYAN has had the full breadth of experience on Capitol Hill, from a young staffer to a Tortilla Coast waiter—shall I say that again?—Tortilla Coast waiter—to a Congressman, to being a sincere and proud advocate for his point of view as chairman of the Budget Committee, as a respected leader and chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and in a minute, he will be the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, today, on behalf of House Democrats, I extend the hand of friendship to you.

Congratulations to you, PAUL, and to Janna; your children, Liza, Charlie, and Sam; your mother, who is here—how proud she must be—and the entire Ryan family, whom we all know mean so much to you.

Mr. Speaker, God bless you and your family. And God bless the United States of America.

This is the people's House. This is the people's gavel. In the people's name, it is my privilege to hand this gavel to the Speaker-elect of the House, Congressman and Honorable PAUL D. RYAN.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Thank you, Madam Leader.

Before I begin, I would like to thank all of my family and friends who flew in from Wisconsin and from all over for being here today.

In the gallery I have my mom, Betty; my sister, Janet; my brothers, Stan and Tobin; and more cousins than I can count on a few hands.

Most importantly, I want to recognize my wife, Janna; and our children: Liza, Charlie, and Sam.

I also want to thank Speaker BOEHNER. For almost 5 years, he led this House. For nearly 25 years, he served it. Not many people can match his accomplishments, the offices he held, the laws he passed.

But what really sets JOHN apart is he is a man of character, a true class act. He is, without question, the gentleman from Ohio. So please join me in saying one last time, "Thank you, Speaker BOEHNER."

Now I know how he felt. It is not until you hold this gavel, stand in this spot, look out and see all 435 Members of this House, as if all America is sitting right in front of you—it is not until then that you feel it, the weight of responsibility and the gravity of the moment.

As I stand here, I can't help but think of something Harry Truman once said. The day after Franklin Roosevelt died, Truman became President. He told a group of reporters, "If you ever pray, pray for me now."

When they told me yesterday what had happened, I felt like the Moon, the stars, and all the planets had fallen on me. We should all feel that way. A lot is on our shoulders. So if you ever pray, let's pray for each other, Republicans for Democrats and Democrats for Republicans.

□ 1115

And I don't mean pray for a conversion, all right? Pray for a deeper understanding. Because when you are up here, you see it so clearly. Wherever you come from, whatever you believe, we are all in the same boat.

I never thought I would be Speaker, but early in my life, I wanted to serve this House. I thought this place was exhilarating because here you can make a difference. If you had a good idea, if you worked hard, you could make it happen. You could improve people's lives. To me, the House of Representatives represents what is the best of America: the boundless opportunity to do good.

But let's be frank. The House is broken. We are not solving problems. We are adding to them. I am not interested in laying blame. We are not settling scores. We are wiping the slate clean.

Neither the Members nor the people are satisfied with how things are going. We need to make some changes, starting with how the House does business. We need to let every Member contribute, not once they have earned their stripes, but now.

I come at this job as a two-time committee chair. The committees should retake the lead in drafting all major legislation. If you know the issue, you should write the bill.

Let's open up the process. Let people participate, and they might change their mind. A neglected minority will gum up the works. A respected minority will work in good faith. Instead of trying to stop the majority, they might try to become the majority. In other words, we need to return to regular order.

Now, I know this sounds like process. It is actually a matter of principle. We

are the body closest to the people. Every 2 years, we face the voters and sometimes face the music. But we do not echo the people; we represent the people. We are supposed to study up and do the homework that they cannot do. So when we do not follow regular order, when we rush to pass bills that a lot of us don't understand, we are not doing our job. Only a fully functioning House can truly represent the people; and if there were ever a time for us to step up, this would be that time.

America does not feel strong anymore because the working people of America do not feel strong anymore. I am talking about the people who mind the store and grow the food and walk the beat and pay the taxes and raise the family. They do not sit in this House. They do not have fancy titles, but they are the people who make this country work, and this House should work for them.

Here is the problem. They are working hard. They are paying a lot. They are trying to do right by their families, and they are going nowhere fast. They never get a raise. They never get a break. The bills keep piling up and the taxes and the debt. They are working harder than ever before to get ahead, and yet they are falling further behind. They feel robbed. They feel cheated of their birthright. They are not asking for any favors. They just want a fair chance, and they are losing faith that they will ever get it.

Then they look at Washington, and all they see is chaos. What a relief to them it would be if we finally got our acts together. What a weight off of their shoulders. How reassuring it would be if we actually fixed the Tax Code, put patients in charge of their health care, grew our economy, strengthened our military, lifted people out of poverty, and paid down our debt. At this point, nothing could be more inspiring than a job well done. Nothing could stir the heart more than real, concrete results.

The cynics will scoff. They will say it is not possible. You better believe, we are going to try. We will not duck the tough issues; we will take them head-on. We are going to do all we can do so that working people get their strength back and people not working get their lives back. No more favors for the few. "Opportunity for all," that is our motto.

I often talk about a need for a vision. I am not sure I ever really said what I meant. We solve problems here, yes. We create a lot of them, too. But at bottom, we vindicate a way of life. We show by our work that free people can govern themselves. They can solve their own problems. They can make their own decisions. They can deliberate, collaborate, and get the job done.

We show that self-government is not only more efficient and more effective,

it is more fulfilling. In fact, we show it is that struggle, that hard work, that very achievement itself that makes us free. That is what we do here.

We will not always agree, not all of us, not all of the time, but we should not hide our disagreements. We should embrace them. We have nothing to fear from honest differences honestly stated. If you have ideas, let's hear them. I believe that a greater clarity between us can lead to greater charity among us, and there is every reason to have hope.

When the first Speaker took the gavel, he looked out at a room of 30 people, representing a nation of 3 million. Today, as I look out at each and every one of you, we represent a nation of 300 million.

So when I hear people say that America doesn't have it, we are done, we are spent, I don't believe it. I believe with every fiber of my being that we can renew the American idea. Now our task is to make us all believe.

My friends, you have done me a great honor. The people of this country, they have done all of us a great honor. Now let's prove ourselves worthy of it. Let's seize the moment. Let's rise to the occasion. And when we are done, let us say that we left the people—all the people—more united, happy, and free. Thank you.

I am now ready to take the oath of office.

I ask the Dean of the House of Representatives, the Honorable JOHN CONYERS, Jr., of Michigan, to administer the oath of office.

Mr. CONYERS then administered the oath of office to Mr. PAUL D. RYAN of Wisconsin, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear or affirm that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

Mr. CONYERS. Congratulations, Mr. Speaker.

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 503

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to inform the President of the United States that the House of Representatives has elected Paul D. Ryan, a Representative from the State of Wisconsin, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESOLUTION TO INFORM THE SENATE THE ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 504

Resolved, That a message be sent to the Senate to inform that body that Paul D. Ryan, a Representative from the State of Wisconsin, has been elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESIGNATIONS AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS AND JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) laid before the House the following resignations as a member of the Committee on Ways and Means and the Joint Committee on Taxation:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, October 29, 2015.

Hon. KAREN HAAS,
Clerk of the House of Representatives, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. HAAS: As a result of my election today as Speaker, this letter is to inform you that I resign as Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means and from further service on that Committee. I also resign as Chairman and a member of the Joint Committee on Taxation.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. RYAN,
Chairman.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignations are accepted.

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would take this occasion to note that the Speaker's announced policies with respect to particular aspects of the legislative process placed in the RECORD on January 6, 2015, will continue in effect for the remainder of the 114th Congress.

□ 1130

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces that the Speaker has delivered to the Clerk a letter dated October 29, 2015, listing Members in the order in which each shall act as Speaker pro tempore under clause 8(b)(3) of rule I.

RECALL DESIGNEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 29, 2015.

Hon. KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House of Representatives, The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM CLERK: I hereby designate Representative Kevin McCarthy of California to exercise any authority regarding assembly, reassembly, convening, or reconvening of the House pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 1, clause 12 of rule I, and any concurrent resolutions of the current Congress as may contemplate my designation of Members to exercise similar authority.

In the event of the death or inability of that designee, the alternate Members of the House listed in the letter bearing this date that I have placed with the Clerk are designated, in turn, for the same purposes.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS DURING THE 114TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 29, 2015.

I hereby appoint the Honorable Jeff Denham, the Honorable Mac Thornberry, the Honorable Fred Upton, the Honorable Andy Harris, the Honorable Barbara Comstock, and the Honorable Luke Messer to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through the remainder of the One Hundred Fourteenth Congress.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointments are approved.

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT FROM THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015, TO MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Monday, November 2, 2015, when it shall convene at noon for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.