

Thompson Visclosky Wolf
Torkildsen Volkmer Yates
Velazquez Waters Zimmer
Vento Weller

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Harman

NOT VOTING—37

Brown (CA) Kennedy (RI) Roth
Brown (FL) Largent Saxton
Chapman LaTourette Schroeder
Coleman Lincoln Slaughter
Collins (IL) Livingston Smith (NJ)
Collins (MI) Manton Stockman
Crane McCrery Taylor (MS)
Diaz-Balart McDade Torres
Ewing Menendez Whitfield
Foglietta Obey Wilson
Frank (MA) Peterson (MN) Young (AK)
Gunderson Pombo
Johnson, Sam Rangel

□ 1025

Mr. HILLIARD changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

Ms. HARMAN changed her vote from "yea" to "present."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. WYNN] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WYNN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3055. An act to amend section 326 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to permit continued participation by Historically Black Graduate Professional Schools in the grant program authorized by that section.

□ 1030

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The Speaker laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 25, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
The Speaker,
U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the unofficial election returns received from Julian R. Manelli, Deputy Administrator, Maryland State Administrative Board of Election Laws, indicating that, according to the unofficial returns of the Special Election held on April 16, 1996, the Honorable Elijah E. Cummings was elected to the office of Representative in Congress, from the Seventh Congressional District, State of Maryland.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE.

STATE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD
OF ELECTION LAWS,
Annapolis, MD, April 17, 1996.

Ms. Robin H. Carle,
Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. CARLE: Pursuant to your request I am faxing to you the unofficial election results of the 1996 Special Election held on April 16, 1996 in the Seventh Congressional District to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Congressman Kweisi Mfume.

Should you need additional information please contact this office.

Sincerely,

JULIAN R. MANELLI,
Deputy Administrator.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

(D) Elijah E. Cummings, 2014 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21217, Baltimore City.

(W) Barry Patrick Farley, 429 West 23rd Street, Baltimore, MD 21211, Baltimore City.

Counties	Cummings	Farley
Baltimore City	13,942	0
Baltimore County	3,970	24
Total	17,912	24
Percent of total votes	99	1

REPUBLICAN PARTY

(R) Kenneth Kondner, 6610 Windsor Mill Road, Baltimore, MD 21207, Baltimore County.

Counties	Kondner
Baltimore City	1,061
Baltimore County	3,070
Total	4,131
Percent of total votes	100

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE
ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS OF MARY-
LAND AS A MEMBER OF THE
HOUSE

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS, be permitted to take the oath of office today. His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest, and no objection has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I would ask, if I might, for the distinguished gentlewoman from California, NANCY PELOSI, to join us, with the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. CUMMINGS. She is a sister of the former mayor of Baltimore, and a distinguished daughter of the city which Mr. CUMMINGS will represent.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The distinguished gentlewoman from California [Mr. PELOSI] will be welcome in the well, along with the Maryland delegation.

If the delegation will join the Member-elect.

Mr. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear 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.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations. You are now a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE ELI-
JAH E. CUMMINGS TO THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor and privilege, on behalf of all of my colleagues in the Maryland delegation, to first welcome two of America's most outstanding leaders who have represented the Seventh Congressional District which the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. CUMMINGS] now represents.

They are our friends, they were our colleagues, they are great Americans: The Honorable Parren Mitchell, our former colleague; and another example of the extraordinary quality that the constituents of the Seventh District sends to the Congress of the United States, the president and chief operating officer of the NAACP, our former colleague and great American, Kweisi Mfume.

Mr. Speaker, I have the opportunity to introduce to the House their newest colleague. He is the son of Rev. Ruth Cummings and Rev. Robert Cummings. Mr. Speaker, before I make my brief remarks and yield to the minority leader, I would like to acknowledge Senators SARBANES and MIKULSKI, who have joined us from the other body.

Mr. Speaker, although under the rules I cannot recognize them as being in the gallery, and I shall not do so, it has been brought to my attention that the distinguished Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, Casper Taylor, will be able to hear my words. Mr. Speaker; with all due apologies to our distinguished friend, Mr. JOHNSON.

Come walk with me. Come walk with me. I say these words with reverence to our newest Member of the House. These are his words, his words which have been spoken often in the chambers of Annapolis, and which I know will be spoken often here to us. Words like these are not heard often enough these days. It is more often "Come fight with me."

But these words represent the heart of what ELIJAH CUMMINGS is all about: A consummate legislator, a dedicated public servant, a consensus builder, a fighter for what is right; a man, as you will all find, of drive and determination, a man who has ascended to leadership through integrity, hard work, and a belief in the good in mankind.

Born in Baltimore City, a graduate of City College in Baltimore, a graduate

of Howard University, where he was president of the sophomore class, junior class, and student government. He graduated, as Members will not be surprised upon knowing him, Phi Beta Kappa. He graduated from the University of Maryland Law School.

ELIJAH CUMMINGS comes to the House with a vast background in working closely in his community, particularly as a mentor and Big Brother to the young people of his city and his community. He is a father figure to many, and always has hoped in time to find the one golden glimmer which will help turn a youth's life around. As an advocate for youth, he is unshaken.

I recall over a year ago when then-Delegate CUMMINGS was accosted outside his Baltimore home and ordered to lie face down on the street while being robbed. Even through this terrorizing experience, he was and remains undeterred, and has never given up his faith in youth.

His service the past 14 years with the Maryland General Assembly, where he was the first African-American in the history of our State to be elected Speaker pro tempore, the No. 2 position in the House of Delegates, has brought him recognition by his colleagues, as well as being one of its most effective members.

ELIJAH CUMMINGS brings the same talent, drive, and personal conviction as his predecessors who I have previously introduced. I encourage you, ELIJAH, to use your spirit of good will in reaching out to all of us to come walk with you.

Join me in welcoming our newest colleague, an extraordinary human being, the gentleman from Maryland, ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], the distinguished minority leader.

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague. On behalf of all of our colleagues, Democrat and Republican as well, I rise to recognize and welcome our new colleague, the gentleman from Maryland, ELIJAH CUMMINGS. As the gentleman from Maryland, STENY HOYER, has said, this new Member has very big shoes to fill, and those shoes are represented by the two former Representatives in this district who are here today, and we are honored by their presence.

As STENY has said, this young man was born and raised in the same city he now serves, the city of Baltimore. He knows the neighborhoods, the schools, the stores and the churches, because he lived among them all of his life. He has never lost his passion for building a better Baltimore, for giving something back to the city and community that has given so much to him.

As STENY said, he took his Phi Beta Kappa degree from Howard University and his law degree from the University of Maryland, and went right back to Baltimore, building a highly distinguished career as a lawyer, and then serving four terms in the Maryland General Assembly.

In the Maryland House he was a leader on criminal justice issues, on constitutional law, and on economic issues. After one term he was elected chairman of the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus, the youngest person ever to hold that post. Last year he was elected Speaker Pro Tem to the House of Delegates, the second ranking position in the House. His colleagues thought he did such an outstanding job they voted him one of Maryland's most effective legislators in a poll.

Beyond all these titles and accomplishments, Mr. Speaker, I believe ELIJAH will make a difference in this Congress for less tangible reasons than STENY cited: His abiding sense of decency and humanity, his ability to see the subtleties in our public problems, and his determination to pass on to the next generation the opportunities that he earned in his own life.

On behalf of all of us, Republican and Democrat alike, I am delighted to welcome the gentleman from Maryland to the 104th Congress. I think he is going to be a powerful force for progress in his State and in our country, and I know that we will count on his leadership, as Maryland has counted on his leadership, for many years to come. Welcome to the House of Representatives.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to our colleague, the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. CARDIN], the former Speaker of the House of Delegates.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, let me thank my friend, the gentleman from Maryland, for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, in 1982 I had an experience similar to the gentleman from Maryland's of presiding over the session when ELIJAH CUMMINGS became a member of the legislature, of the Maryland House of Delegates. I had the opportunity to serve with our new colleague in the House of Delegates, and I can tell each one of the Members that they are in for a treat: a person who is dedicated to public service and dedicated to helping people.

Mr. Speaker, as we have already heard, the torch of leadership in the Seventh Congressional District has not passed very often in the last quarter of a century. ELIJAH is now the fourth person to hold that seat, with Parren Mitchell, who became a leader of this Nation on urban issues, on banking issues, and particularly small business.

Kweisi Mfume was elected a decade ago to this body, the same time I was. We became and are very close friends. Kweisi became a national leader, chairman of the Black Caucus, and has spoken out so well on so many issues. I was very proud when Kweisi was selected as the head of the NAACP. It was a great decision for that organization and for this Nation, but I lost a colleague and a friend in this legislative body.

Today I am very excited that ELIJAH CUMMINGS is taking that position. He will follow in that tradition.

□ 1045

He was an outstanding member of the House of Delegates, holding the vice chairmanships of two of our standing committees. Mr. Speaker, we only have six standing committees in the Maryland House of Delegates and ELIJAH has shown expertise in two of those. He went on to become the Speaker Pro Tem, very actively involved in the leadership of our General Assembly.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is particularly a pleasure for me to say hello and welcome my colleague for so many years in the House of Delegates, now in the Congress of the United States. I know ELIJAH CUMMINGS will add to the great tradition of the Seventh Congressional District.

Over the past quarter century, the torch of leadership has not been passed often in Maryland's Seventh Congressional District. When it has passed, the Nation has come to know that it should take notice, because Maryland's Seventh District has sent leaders of stature and vision.

In 1970, the voters of Baltimore sent Parren Mitchell to the Congress. Over 16 years in the House, Congressman Mitchell became an acknowledged expert and leader on issues finance, banking, and especially small business.

A decade ago, Congressman Mitchell announced his decision to step down. Rising up to take his seat was a young, articulate, but little known city council member named Kweisi Mfume; 1986 marked my own election to the House. Over the past decade, Congressman Mfume and I forged a strong working relationship and close friendship.

In his years in the House, Congressman Mfume rose to become a national spokesman on behalf of African-Americans and all Americans concerned about justice, fairness, and the realization of the American dream.

Congressman Mfume rose, as Congressman Mitchell had before him, to chair the Congressional Black Caucus. From that post, he used his exceptional skills as a tactician, an orator, and as a strategist to fight effectively for the people of his district and the Nation.

Nobody was prouder than I when, this winter, the NAACP announced that Congressman Mfume would become its new CEO and President.

While I miss my good friend in this body, I am excited over the prospect of serving with the newly elected Congressman from the Seventh.

ELIJAH CUMMINGS is an honorable and able successor as the representative of the Seventh District. He brings all the dedication, intelligence, and vision that distinguished his two predecessors, and I have no doubt he will follow in their footsteps as a national leader.

Elijah and I have served together before, in Maryland's House of Delegates. I was delighted to welcome him to Annapolis in 1982 when he arrived as a new member.

In his 14 years in the State legislature, he has demonstrated a talent for legislative craftsmanship and responsiveness to the concerns of the people he represents that will serve him—and the Nation—well here in Congress. He also has a gift for building consensus and bringing people together that this body desperately needs.

His colleagues in Annapolis have recognized his leadership, as he has risen to be

chairman of Maryland's Legislative Black Caucus, the youngest person ever to attain that position.

As vice chairman of the House Constitutional and Administrative Law Committee and as vice chairman of the Economic Matters Committee, he has acquired a wealth of expertise and experience that he will now bring to bear on the considerable problems facing this Nation. Most recently, he became Speaker Pro Tem of the House of Delegates, the second highest position of leadership in that body.

I am delighted to join my other colleagues in welcoming my neighbor to the House of Representatives. I am sure he will follow in the proud tradition of his district and enjoy a long and distinguished career here in the people's House.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I would now like to yield to a gentleman who served with ELIJAH in the House of Delegates and then was his colleague as a member of the Maryland State senate, will now be again his colleague here in the House of the people, the distinguished Representative from the Fourth Congressional District of Maryland, Mr. ALBERT WYNN.

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend and colleague for yielding.

In 1983 I was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates. As I looked around the orientation, I noticed another young man who really impressed me. That man stands before you today.

So I can tell you from personal experience, having stood shoulder-to-shoulder with ELIJAH CUMMINGS, that he is a true worker for people. I do not have to tell you a lot. Let me simply say that I have watched this man and worked with this man. He has worked for economic development, but he has never forgotten the needs of the downtrodden or the less fortunate. He brings to this House tremendous compassion.

All Members need to know about ELIJAH CUMMINGS is that he is a man of tremendous sincerity, commitment, compassion, and faith in God. He will do a wonderful job for the people of the Seventh Congressional District. He will do a wonderful job for the people of this country. I am looking forward to working with him. Congratulations and welcome, ELIJAH.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the last person before I introduce Mr. CUMMINGS or yield to Mr. CUMMINGS is the dean of the Republican delegation. We are one delegation, but the dean of our Republicans, the distinguished gentlewoman from Montgomery County who herself served with Mr. CUMMINGS, CONNIE MORELLA.

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman for giving me the opportunity to congratulate not only Congressman CUMMINGS but all of us in the 104th Congress for having him added to our numbers. He will speak in a very strong voice, with compassion, with justice, with knowledge.

Indeed, it has been mentioned that he has been handed quite a legacy. Our very good friends who have represented

that district so well who are here today: Kweisi Mfume, whom I consider one of my dearest friends, who was elected with me and BEN CARDIN to the historic 100th Congress; BARBARA MIKULSKI, our Senator who also represented that district. Senator SARBANES, did you represent that district? You did in your heart, that is for sure.

But we all reflect the kind of fine work that has been done there, and I did have the grand opportunity to serve for 4 years with Congressman CUMMINGS in the House of Delegates. Very proud of your background, the temperament, the compassion, and I particularly like the fact that here is a man who is going to work for the American people, both sides of the aisle. He is not predisposed to any one specific myopic kind of philosophy. He wants to work for the American people, for the people of Maryland. I salute him and I congratulate him.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman. I might observe that our senior Senator has always served every district in our State.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am deeply honored to introduce to you a very fine human being who we will be privileged to serve with and walk with, ELIJAH CUMMINGS.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and Members, to the Maryland congressional delegation, to two of my mentors, both of whom I love. Their spirit is a part of my spirit. Their hopes and dreams are part of my hopes and dreams.

To Kweisi Mfume and Parren J. Mitchell, I just want you to know that I love you, and I thank you for all that you have done for the city of Baltimore, the State of Maryland, the Nation, and the world. I appreciate you.

To my family and friends and to the members of the Maryland Legislature who are up there, only God could create this path, only God. Only God could create a path where the son of two sharecroppers from Manning, SC could rise to represent the people of the Seventh Congressional District in the Congress of the United States of America. Only God, and so I must first thank God for this opportunity.

I also thank Him for giving me the strength, the humility, and the courage to walk the path that He has given me. So often we in public life forget that we are very fortunate to come upon this Earth and have an opportunity to serve. So often we forget, because we get so caught up in our battles and our struggles, that so many people wish they could have the problems we have.

So I am just a happy, happy man. I am also very happy, they tell me it is unusual for Members of the other body—I have got to get this language right—to come over, but my two Senators, I want to thank you for being here and for all that you have done. It is not just that they are here today, but they have been walking with me for a long time, and I appreciate you.

Mr. Speaker, I represent a diverse district, a very diverse district. We have people who have a lot of problems. We have people who have very nice homes. We have people who are struggling just trying to make it. It honors me tremendously to know that they would send me here to represent them.

I have often said on the floor of the Maryland House of Delegates that our world would be a much better world and a much better place if we would only concentrate on the things we have in common instead of concentrating on our differences. It is easy to find differences, very easy. We need to take more time to find common ground.

So my mission is one that comes out of a vision that was created long, long ago. It is a mission and a vision to empower people, to make people realize that the power is within them, that they, too, can do the things that they want to do. So I am about that mission. I am looking forward to joining with all of you as we travel this road I often call journey, which I define as life.

There is a poem that Parren Mitchell said many, many years ago, that I say sometimes 20 times a day, and it is a very simple poem but it is one that I live by. It says: "I only have a minute, 60 seconds in it, forced upon me, I did not choose it, but I know that I must use it, give account if I abuse it, suffer if I lose it, only a tiny little minute, but eternity is in it."

So I join you as we move forward to uplift not only the Nation but the world. May God bless you all and may God bless America.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD) laid before the House the following resignation as a Member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 22, 1996.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I hereby resign my position on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Sincerely,

MAXINE WATERS,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 414) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

HOUSE RESOLUTION 414

Resolved, That the following named Members be, and that they are hereby, elected to