

Moran Ryun	KANSAS Snowbarger Tiahrt		Kaptur Kasich Kucinich LaTourette Ney	Oxley Portman Pryce Regula Sawyer	Stokes Strickland Traficant
Baessler Bunning	KENTUCKY Lewis Northup		Rogers Whitfield	OKLAHOMA Coburn Istook	
Baker Cooksey Jefferson	LOUISIANA John Livingston McCrery		Tauzin	OREGON Blumenauer DeFazio	
Allen	MAINE Baldacci			PENNSYLVANIA Borski Coyne Doyle English Fattah Foglietta Fox	
Bartlett Cardin Cummings	MARYLAND Ehrlich Gilchrist Hoyer		Morella Wynn	RHODE ISLAND Kennedy	
Delahunt Frank Kennedy Markey	MASSACHUSETTS McGovern Meehan Moakley Neal		Olver Tierney	SOUTH CAROLINA Clyburn Graham	
Barcia Bonior Camp Conyers Dingell Ehlers	MICHIGAN Hoekstra Kildee Kilpatrick Knollenberg Levin Rivers		Smith Stabenow Stupak Upton	SOUTH DAKOTA Thune	
Gutknecht Luther Minge	MINNESOTA Oberstar Peterson Ramstad		Sabo Vento	TENNESSEE Frost Gordon Hilleary	
Parker Pickering	MISSISSIPPI Taylor Thompson		Wicker	TEXAS Archer Armey Barton Bentsen Bonilla Brady Combest DeLay Doggett Edwards	
Blunt Clay Danner	MISSOURI Emerson Gephardt Hulshof		McCarthy Skelton Talent	UTAH Cannon	
Barrett	MONTANA Hill			VERMONT Sanders	
Ensign	NEBRASKA Bereuter		Christensen	VIRGINIA Goode Goodlatte Moran Pickett	
Bass	NEVADA Gibbons		Bateman Bliley Boucher Davis	WASHINGTON McDermott Metcalfe Nethercutt	
Andrews Franks Frelinghuysen LoBiondo Menendez	NEW HAMPSHIRE Sununu		Dicks Dunn Hastings	WEST VIRGINIA Rahall	
Richardson	NEW JERSEY Pallone Pappas Pascrell Payne Rothman		Roukema Saxton Smith	WISCONSIN Klecza Klug Neumann	
Ackerman Boehlert Engel Flake Forbes Gilman Hinchey Houghton Kelly King LaFalce	NEW MEXICO Schiff		Skeen	WYOMING Cubin	
Ballenger Burr Clayton Coble	NEW YORK Lazio Lowey Maloney Manton McCarthy McHugh McNulty Molinari Nadler Owens Paxon		Quinn Rangel Schumer Serrano Slaughter Solomon Towns Velazquez Walsh	1233	
	NORTH CAROLINA Etheridge Hefner Jones McIntyre		Myrick Price Taylor Watt	ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CLERK	
	NORTH DAKOTA Pomeroy			THE CLERK. The quorum call discloses that 432 Representatives-elect have responded to their name. A quorum is present.	
Boehner Brown	OHIO Chabot Gilmor		Hall Hobson	THE CLERK. The Clerk will state that credentials, regular in form, have been received showing the election of the Honorable CARLOS ROMERO-BARCELÓ as Resident Commissioner from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for a term of 4 years beginning January 3, 1997; the	

election of the Honorable ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON as Delegate from the District of Columbia; the election of the Honorable DONNA M. CHRISTIAN-GREEN as Delegate from the Virgin Islands; the election of the Honorable ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA as Delegate from American Samoa; and the election of the Honorable ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD as Delegate from Guam.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The CLERK. Pursuant to law and to precedent, the next order of business is the election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 105th Congress.

Nominations are now in order.

The Clerk recognizes the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER].

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Clerk, as chairman of the Republican Conference, I am honored and privileged to welcome my colleagues, their families, and the American people to this historic day.

Two years ago we began a new chapter in American history, one of faith in the strength, creativity and goodness of Americans; one where we humbly recognize that although the people sent us here to do their business, we cannot do our job without their consent and their support.

With their support, we began to change America by reforming Washington. And together, we will ensure our reforms improve Americans' quality of life. We will balance the budget, provide permanent tax relief, safer streets, better schools, a cleaner environment, and longer healthier lives with more affordable health care. It is an ambitious agenda, but it is what we were sent here to do. And we owe the American people nothing less.

With pride in what we have accomplished in the past and anticipation of what we can do together in the future, I am directed by a unanimous vote of the Republican Conference to present the name of the Honorable NEWT GINGRICH, a Representative-elect from the State of Georgia, for election to the office of Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 105th Congress.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OFFERED BY MR. FAZIO OF CALIFORNIA

The CLERK. The Clerk now recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO] for a nomination.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Madam Clerk, I rise to a question of the highest constitutional privilege. I offer a resolution which calls for the postponement of the election of the Speaker of the House until the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct completes its work on the matters concerning Representative NEWT GINGRICH of Georgia. The resolution requires the House to proceed immediately to the election of an interim Speaker who will preside over the House until that time.

I ask for the immediate consideration of the resolution.

The CLERK. Section 30 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, which is

codified in section 25 of title 2, United States Code, reads in part as follows:

At the first session of Congress after every general election of Representatives, the oath of office shall be administered by any Member of the House of Representatives to the Speaker; and by the Speaker to all Members and Delegates present, and to the Clerk, previous to entering on any other business.

This has been the law since June 1, 1789.

The precedent recorded in *Hinds' Precedents of the House* at volume 1, section 212, recites that, "at the organization of the House the motion to proceed to the election of a Speaker is of the highest privilege." On that occasion, the Clerk stated that "the duty of the House to organize itself is a duty devolved upon it by law, and any matter looking to the performance of that duty takes precedence in all parliamentary bodies of all minor questions."

The Clerk cites both the statute and the precedent as controlling her decision, consistent with the modern practice of the House, to recognize nominations for Speaker.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Madam Clerk, given the unprecedented nature of the circumstance, I urge that the Clerk permit the Representatives-elect a vote on the motion that I have submitted.

The CLERK. Is the gentleman from California appealing the ruling of the Clerk?

Mr. FAZIO of California. Madam Clerk, if the gentlewoman does not permit a vote under the extraordinary circumstance we face today, I would appeal the ruling of the Clerk.

The CLERK. The gentleman may appeal from the Clerk's ruling on the question of order as to the priority of business.

The question is, Shall the decision of the Clerk stand as the judgment of the House?

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Clerk, I move to lay the appeal on the table.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Madam Clerk, on that I demand the yeas and nays on the motion to table made by the majority.

The CLERK. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER] to lay the appeal on the table.

The question was taken; and the Clerk announced that the yeas and nays appeared to have it.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Madam Clerk, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 210, not voting 0, as follows:

[Roll No. 2]

YEAS—222

Aderholt	Bachus	Barr
Archer	Baker	Barrett (NE)
Armey	Ballenger	Bartlett

Barton	Goodling	Parker
Bass	Goss	Paul
Bateman	Graham	Paxon
Bereuter	Granger	Pease
Bilbray	Greenwood	Peterson (PA)
Bilirakis	Gutknecht	Petri
Billey	Hansen	Pickering
Blunt	Hastert	Pitts
Boehlert	Hastings (WA)	Pombo
Boehner	Hayworth	Porter
Bonilla	Hefley	Portman
Bono	Herger	Pryce (OH)
Brady	Hill	Quinn
Bryant	Hilleary	Radanovich
Bunning	Hobson	Ramstad
Burr	Hoekstra	Regula
Burton	Horn	Riggs
Buyer	Hostettler	Riley
Callahan	Houghton	Rogan
Calvert	Hulshof	Rogers
Camp	Hunter	Rohrabacher
Campbell	Hutchinson	Ros-Lehtinen
Canady	Hyde	Roukema
Cannon	Inglis	Royce
Castle	Istook	Ryun
Chabot	Jenkins	Salmon
Chambliss	Johnson (CT)	Saxton
Chenoweth	Jones	Scarborough
Christensen	Kasich	Schaefer, Dan
Coble	Kelly	Schaffer, Bob
Coburn	Kim	Schiff
Collins	King (NY)	Sensenbrenner
Combest	Kingston	Sessions
Cook	Klug	Shadeegg
Cooksey	Knollenberg	Shaw
Cox	Kolbe	Shays
Crane	LaHood	Shimkus
Crapo	Largent	Shuster
Cubin	Latham	Skeen
Cunningham	LaTourette	Smith (MI)
Davis (VA)	Lazio	Smith (NJ)
Deal	Leach	Smith (OR)
DeLay	Lewis (CA)	Smith (TX)
Diaz-Balart	Lewis (KY)	Snowbarger
Dickey	Linder	Solomon
Doolittle	Livingston	Souder
Dreier	LoBiondo	Spence
Duncan	Lucas	Stearns
Dunn	Manzullo	Stump
Ehlers	McCollum	Sununu
Ehrlich	McCrery	Talent
Emerson	McDade	Tauzin
English	McHugh	Taylor (NC)
Ensign	McInnis	Thomas
Everett	McIntosh	Thornberry
Ewing	McKeon	Thune
Fawell	Metcalfe	Tiahrt
Foley	Mica	Upton
Fowler	Miller (FL)	Walsh
Fox	Molinari	Wamp
Franks (NJ)	Moran (KS)	Watkins
Frelinghuysen	Myrick	Watts (OK)
Galleghy	Nethercutt	Weldon (FL)
Ganske	Neumann	Weldon (PA)
Gekas	Ney	Weller
Gibbons	Northup	White
Gilchrest	Norwood	Whitfield
Gillmor	Nussle	Wicker
Gilman	Oxley	Wolf
Gingrich	Packard	Young (AK)
Goodlatte	Pappas	Young (FL)

NAYS—210

Abercrombie	Clayton	Eshoo
Ackerman	Clement	Etheridge
Allen	Clyburn	Evans
Andrews	Condit	Farr
Baesler	Conyers	Fattah
Baldacci	Costello	Fazio
Barcia	Coyne	Filner
Barrett (WI)	Cramer	Flake
Becerra	Cummings	Foglietta
Bentsen	Danner	Forbes
Berman	Davis (FL)	Ford
Berry	Davis (IL)	Frank (MA)
Bishop	DeFazio	Frost
Blagojevich	DeGette	Furse
Blumenauer	Delahunt	Gejdenson
Bonior	DeLauro	Gephardt
Borski	Dellums	Gonzalez
Boswell	Deutsch	Goode
Boucher	Dicks	Gordon
Boyd	Dingell	Green
Brown (CA)	Dixon	Gutierrez
Brown (FL)	Doggett	Hall (OH)
Brown (OH)	Dooley	Hall (TX)
Capps	Doyle	Hamilton
Cardin	Edwards	Harman
Clay	Engel	Hastings (FL)

Hefner	McHale	Sanders
Hilliard	McIntyre	Sandlin
Hinchey	McKinney	Sanford
Hinojosa	McNulty	Sawyer
Holden	Meehan	Schumer
Hooley	Meek	Scott
Hoyer	Menendez	Serrano
Jackson (IL)	Millender	Sherman
Jackson-Lee	McDonald	Sisisky
(TX)	Miller (CA)	Skaggs
Jefferson	Minge	Skelton
John	Mink	Slaughter
Johnson (WI)	Moakley	Smith, Adam
Johnson, E. B.	Mollohan	Smith, Linda
Kanjorski	Moran (VA)	Snyder
Kaptur	Morella	Spratt
Kennedy (MA)	Murtha	Stabenow
Kennedy (RI)	Nadler	Stark
Kennelly	Neal	Stenholm
Kildee	Oberstar	Stokes
Kilpatrick	Obey	Strickland
Kind (WI)	Olver	Stupak
Klecza	Ortiz	Tanner
Klink	Owens	Tauscher
Kucinich	Pallone	Taylor (MS)
LaFalce	Pascrell	Thompson
Lampson	Pastor	Thurman
Lantos	Payne	Tierney
Levin	Pelosi	Torres
Lewis (GA)	Peterson (MN)	Towns
Lipinski	Pickett	Traficant
Lofgren	Pomeroy	Turner
Lowey	Poshard	Velazquez
Luther	Price (NC)	Vento
Maloney (CT)	Rahall	Visclosky
Maloney (NY)	Rangel	Waters
Manton	Reyes	Watt (NC)
Markey	Richardson	Waxman
Martinez	Rivers	Wexler
Mascara	Roemer	Weygand
Matsui	Rothman	Wise
McCarthy (MO)	Roybal-Allard	Woolsey
McCarthy (NY)	Rush	Wynn
McDermott	Sabo	Yates
McGovern	Sanchez	

So the motion to table was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The CLERK. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO].

Mr. FAZIO of California. Madam Clerk, it was obviously the desire of the minority that we resolve our leadership issues in a different manner today given the unprecedented ethical problems that confront our last Speaker. We hope that over the next month the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct can bring us a resolution of the issues that are currently before it and allow us to resolve those issues here on the floor. And so given that hope that we will be able to work together to agree on a schedule to proceed to a conclusion of this phase, it would be then my privilege as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, directed by unanimous vote of that caucus, to present for election to the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 105th Congress the name of the Honorable RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, a Representative-elect from the State of Missouri.

The CLERK. The Honorable NEWT GINGRICH, a Representative-elect from the State of Georgia, and the Honorable RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, a Representative-elect from the State of Missouri, have been placed in nomination.

Are there any further nominations?

There being no further nominations, the Clerk will appoint tellers.

The Clerk appoints the gentleman from California [Mr. THOMAS], the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. GEJDENSON], the gentlewoman from New Jersey [Mrs. ROUKEMA], and the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. KENNELLY].

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 choice.

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. 3]

GINGRICH—216

Aderholt	Frelinghuysen	Ney
Archer	Gallegly	Northup
Armey	Ganske	Norwood
Bachus	Gekas	Nussle
Baker	Gibbons	Oxley
Ballenger	Gilchrest	Packard
Barr	Gillmor	Pappas
Barrett (NE)	Gilman	Parker
Bartlett	Goodlatte	Paul
Barton	Goodling	Paxon
Bass	Goss	Pease
Bateman	Graham	Peterson (PA)
Bereuter	Granger	Petri
Bilbray	Greenwood	Pickering
Bilirakis	Gutknecht	Pitts
Bliley	Hansen	Pombo
Blunt	Hastert	Porter
Boehlert	Hastings (WA)	Portman
Boehner	Hayworth	Pryce (OH)
Bonilla	Hefley	Quinn
Bono	Herger	Radanovich
Brady	Hill	Ramstad
Bryant	Hilleary	Regula
Bunning	Hobson	Riggs
Burr	Hoekstra	Riley
Burton	Horn	Rogan
Buyer	Houghton	Rogers
Callahan	Hulshof	Rohrabacher
Calvert	Hunter	Ros-Lehtinen
Camp	Hutchinson	Roukema
Canady	Hyde	Royce
Cannon	Inglis	Ryun
Castle	Istook	Salmon
Chabot	Jenkins	Sanford
Chambliss	Johnson (CT)	Saxton
Chenoweth	Jones	Scarborough
Christensen	Kasich	Schaefer, Dan
Coble	Kelly	Schaffer, Bob
Coburn	Kim	Schiff
Collins	King (NY)	Sensenbrenner
Combest	Kingston	Sessions
Cook	Knollenberg	Shadegg
Cooksey	Kolbe	Shaw
Cox	LaHood	Shays
Crane	Largent	Shimkus
Crapo	Latham	Shuster
Cubin	LaTourette	Skeen
Cunningham	Lazio	Smith (MI)
Davis (VA)	Lewis (CA)	Smith (NJ)
Deal	Lewis (KY)	Smith (OR)
DeLay	Linder	Smith (TX)
Diaz-Balart	Livingston	Snowbarger
Dickey	LoBiondo	Solomon
Doolittle	Lucas	Souder
Dreier	Manzullo	Spence
Duncan	McCollum	Stearns
Dunn	McCrery	Stump
Ehlers	McDade	Sununu
Ehrlich	McHugh	Talent
Emerson	McInnis	Tauzin
English	McIntosh	Taylor (NC)
Ensign	McKeon	Thomas
Everett	Metcalfe	Thornberry
Ewing	Mica	Thune
Fawell	Miller (FL)	Tiahrt
Foley	Molinari	Upton
Fowler	Moran (KS)	Walsh
Fox	Myrick	Wamp
Franks (NJ)	Nethercutt	Watkins

Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)

Weller
White
Whitfield

Wicker
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

GEPHARDT—205

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Baesler
Baldacci
Barcia
Barrett (WI)
Becerra
Bentsen
Berman
Berry
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Bonior
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Capps
Cardin
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Cummings
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dellums
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doyle
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Farr
Fattah
Fazio
Filner
Flake
Foglietta
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Furse
Gejdenson
Gonzalez
Goode
Gordon

Green
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hefner
Hilliard
Hinche
Hinojosa
Holden
Hooley
Hoyer
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, E. B.
Kantor
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
Klecza
Klink
Kucinich
LaFalce
Lampson
Lantos
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manton
Mark
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McHale
McIntyre
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Miller
McDonald
Miller (CA)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Moran (VA)
Murtha
Nadler

Neal
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarella
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Pickett
Pomeroy
Poshard
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Richardson
Rivers
Roemer
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sawyer
Schumer
Scott
Serrano
Sherman
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith, Adam
Snyder
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stenholm
Stokes
Strickland
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson
Thurman
Tierney
Torres
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Wexler
Weygand
Wise
Woolsey
Wynn
Yates

LEACH—2

Forbes

MICHEL—1

WALKER—1

PRESENT—6

Klug
Morella
Neumann
Wolf

NOT VOTING—1

□ 1406

The CLERK. The tellers agree in their tallies that the total number of votes cast for a person by name is 425, of which the Honorable NEWT GINGRICH of the State of Georgia has received 216,

the Honorable RICHARD A. GEPHARDT of the State of Missouri has received 205, the Honorable JAMES LEACH of the State of Iowa has received 2 votes, the Honorable ROBERT MICHEL has received 1 vote, and the Honorable ROBERT WALKER has received 1 vote, with 6 voting "present."

Therefore, the Honorable NEWT GINGRICH of the State of Georgia, having received a majority of all votes cast by name for a candidate, is duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 105th Congress.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

The CLERK. The gentleman from California.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Madam Clerk, a parliamentary inquiry. I simply wish to ask the Clerk at this point if the rules or the Constitution require the Speaker to receive the votes of a majority of all the Members, or is there some other rule that comes into play at a time like this?

The CLERK. The Clerk is guided by the precedent recorded in Cannon's Precedents of the House at volume 6, section 24. On that occasion in 1923, when the House also comprised 435 seats, Speaker Gillett was elected by the votes of 215 of the Members-elect present and voting by surname, a quorum being present.

The Clerk also cites Hinds' volume 1, section 216 for this principle.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Further inquiry, Madam Clerk. Had all those Members who voted present cast their vote for another Member, would that have prevented the election of the Speaker?

The CLERK. The Clerk will not respond to that inquiry.

Therefore, the Honorable NEWT GINGRICH, of the State of Georgia, is duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 105th Congress, having received a majority of all votes cast by name for a candidate.

The Clerk appoints the following committee to escort the Speaker-elect to the Chair: The gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT], the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY], the gentleman from Texas [Mr. DELAY], the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER], the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO], the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. COLLINS], the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BISHOP], the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. DEAL], the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON], the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. LINDER], the gentlewoman from Georgia [Ms. MCKINNEY], the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BARR], the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. CHAMBLISS], and the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. NORWOOD].

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 105th Congress, who was escorted to the chair by the Committee of Escort.

□ 1415

Mr. GEPHARDT. Ladies and gentlemen of the House, I will be brief. In that the Republicans have retained their majority in the House and I did not get enough votes, it is my responsibility to hand the gavel to the Speaker of the House, NEWT GINGRICH of Georgia.

Mr. GINGRICH. Thank you, DICK.

Let me say to those who voted for me, from the bottom of my heart, thank you; to those who voted for someone else, I hope that I can work with you in such a way that you feel that I am capable of being Speaker of the whole House and representing everyone.

To the freshmen and their families and all the young people who are here today, you are part of a wonderful experience. Just as in less than 2 weeks we will welcome the President for an inaugural, we here in the legislative branch also celebrate a remarkable moment which the entire world watches, a time when an entire Nation voluntarily decides how to govern itself, and does so in such a manner that there is a sense among the entire country that freedom is secure and that every citizen can participate.

This is the 105th time we have done this as a country. Every 2 years. The first one actually did not occur until April 1, 1789, because while everyone was supposed to show up in March for the brand new Congress, they could not find a quorum. And then they all came together, and there are wonderful stories by people who were there written in their diaries and their letters about the fact that they were just folks from all over, of many different backgrounds.

Back then they would all have been male and they would all have been white and they would all have been property owners. Today we have extended democracy and freedom to levels that the Founding Fathers could not have imagined, and any citizen anywhere in the planet watching through C-SPAN and through the networks and seeing this room and its diversity can appreciate the degree to which America opens its doors and its hearts to all people of all backgrounds to have a better future.

In addition to the elected Members, we are very fortunate to have a professional staff on both sides of the aisle and a professional staff serving on a nonpartisan basis.

And let me say that I think that Robin Carle stood well as the Clerk of the House in representing all of us in establishing the dignity. And I thought that in the interchanges between her and Chairman FAZIO that the world could see legitimate partisanship engaged in legitimately exactly the way it should be, in a professional, in a courteous, in a firm way on both sides. And I think that is part of what we have to teach the world.

In just a few moments, my dear friend JOHN DINGELL, who represents a

tradition in his district, who has fought all these years for all that he believes in, who in the last Congress served so ably in helping pass the telecommunications bill, is going to swear me in. And I am going to ask that I will then have a chance to swear him in.

But before that, if I might, I say to my dear friend, my wife is here and my mother and my relatives. And 2 years ago they were here with my father. He is not here today, as I think all of you know. He was an infantryman. He served this country. He believed in honor, duty, country.

Let me say to the entire House that 2 years ago when I became the first Republican Speaker in 40 years, to the degree I was too brash, too self-confident, or too pushy, I apologize. To whatever degree in any way that I have brought controversy or inappropriate attention to the House, I apologize.

It is my intention to do everything I can to work with every Member of this Congress, and I would just say, as with telecommunications in Congressman DINGELL's case, on welfare reform, on line-item veto, on telecommunications reform, on steps toward a balanced budget, again and again, we found a bipartisan majority willing to pass significant legislation, willing to work together.

There is much work to be done. I have asked Chairman HENRY HYDE of the Committee on the Judiciary to look at the issue of judicial activism. He has agreed to hold hearings looking at that issue.

I think all of us should focus on increasing American jobs through world sales, and I have asked Chairman ARCHER to look at the whole issue of taxation and how it affects American job creation.

I have also asked the Ways and Means Committee to look at oversight on NAFTA, on the World Trade Organization, because the fact is, we have to move the legislative branch into the information age. If there are going to be continuing bodies around the world, then Chairman GILMAN in International Relations and Chairman ARCHER and others have to get in the habit, I think, of a kind of aggressive oversight, reporting to the Nation on whether or not our interests are being protected.

I have also asked Chairman ARCHER to prepare a series of hearings looking at the entire issue of how we revise the entire Tax Code, whether we go toward a flat tax or whether we replace the income tax with a sales tax, or what we do, but to begin a process that, frankly, may take 4 to 6 years but is the right direction for the right reason.

Finally, I have asked Chairman SPENCE on the Committee on National Security both to look at the issue of national missile defense and to look at the question of military reform.

Let me say to all of my friends on both sides of the aisle, we have every opportunity through reform to shrink

the Pentagon to a triangle. We have every opportunity to apply the lessons of downsizing, the lessons of the information age, and just because something is in uniform does not mean it has to be saluted. But instead, we should be getting every penny for our taxpayers, and we in the Congress should be looking at long-term contracting as one way to dramatically lower the cost of defense.

But I want to talk about one other area, and here I just want to say there is something more than legislation. Each of us is a leader back home, and I want to just talk very briefly about three topics, and it is about these children and their America, children on both sides of the aisle, children from all backgrounds and every State.

I think we have to ask the question, as leaders, beyond legislation: How do we continue to create one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all? I believe most Americans, whether native born or immigrant, still desire for us to be one Nation. So let me briefly talk about three areas that I think are vital.

I am going to talk just a second about race, drugs, and ignorance. First let me ask all of you, do we not need to rethink our whole approach to race? And let me draw the parallel to Dick Fosbury. He was a high jumper in the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. He developed an entire new approach which is now used by everyone, yet for 6 years the U.S. Olympic Committee rejected it.

My point is very simple. I do not believe any rational American can be comfortable with where we are on the issue of race, and I think all of us ought to take on the challenge, as leaders, beyond legislation, beyond our normal jobs, of asking some new questions in some new ways.

After all, what does race mean when, if based on merit alone, ethnic Asians would make up a clear majority at the University of California at Berkeley?

What does race mean when colleges recruit minorities in the name of inclusiveness and diversity and then segregate them in their own dormitories?

What does race mean when many Americans cannot fill out their Census forms because they are an amalgam of races?

And furthermore, if those of us who are conservatives say that bureaucracy and compulsion is not the answer, then what are we going to say to a child born in a poor neighborhood with a broken home and no one to help them rise, who has no organic contact to prosperity and has no organic contact to a better future?

I mentioned this in passing 2 years ago, and one of the failures I would take some of the responsibility for, we did not follow up. But I want to put it right on the table today that every one of us, as a leader, has an obligation to reach out beyond party and beyond ideology and as Americans to say one of the highest values we are going to

spend the next 2 years on is openly dealing with the challenge of meaning that, when we say in our Declaration that we are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, that every child in every neighborhood of every background is endowed by God, and every time America fails to meet that, we are failing to meet God's test for the country we should be.

Let me say second about drugs, I think we have to redefine and rethink our approach to drugs.

One of my close friends had her 19-year-old sister overdose, and her 19-year-old sister today is in a coma and celebrated her 20th birthday in that coma.

Drugs are not statistics. As CHARLIE RANGEL told me at breakfast just 2 years ago, drugs are real human beings being destroyed. Drugs are real violence. If we did not have drugs in this country, the amount of spouse abuse, the amount of child abuse, the amount of violence would drop dramatically. And so I want to suggest that we should take seriously reaching across all barriers in establishing an all-out effort.

The Columbia University Center for Addiction and Substance Abuse has done a fascinating study. The Center found that one of the best predictors of whether a child will stay free of drugs is whether he or she practices a religion. Joe Califano, Lyndon Johnson's former advisor and Jimmy Carter's Secretary of Health and Human Services, says that religion is part of the solution to our drug problems and to drug treatment itself. Alcoholics Anonymous refers to a higher power.

I do not know what all the answers are, but I do know that if we love these children, in addition to fighting racism and reaching out to every child, we need to decide that we are prepared to have the equivalent of an abolitionist movement against drugs and to do what it takes so that none of these children ends up in a coma celebrating their birthday or end up dead.

□ 1430

Lastly, we need to pay closer attention to a word you do not hear much anymore: Ignorance. Traditionally ignorance ranked with pestilence, hunger, war as abominations upon humanity, but in recent years the word "ignorance" has been cleaned up and refined into some aspect of educational failure.

I mean by ignorance something deeper. It is not about geography in the third grade. It is about learning the work ethic, it is about learning to be a citizen, it is about learning to save, it is about all the things that make us functional. It is about the things that allow virtually everybody in this room to get up each morning and have a good life. There are too many places in America where people are born into dysfunction, educated into dysfunction and live in dysfunction, and we should

find a way to reach out in this modern era and use every tool at our fingertips, from computers to television to radio to personal volunteerism, so that every family that today happens to be dysfunctional has a chance within the next few years to learn to be functional, and I think we should take ignorance as serious a problem as drugs or race.

We in the Congress have one place we have an obligation beyond any other, and that is this city, and I want to commend the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, for the leadership she has shown and the courage she has shown day after day and week after week. She and the gentleman from Virginia, TOM DAVIS, and the gentleman from New York, JIM WALSH, worked their hearts out over the last 2 years, and I believe it is fair to say that in some ways we have begun to make progress.

It is not easy, it has to be done carefully, it cannot violate the right of the citizens of this city. But let us be candid. First, this is our national capital. We have a unique obligation on both sides of the aisle to care about Washington because we are today to Washington what a State government would be back home to your town. We have an unusual obligation to Washington.

Second, it is our national capital, and people looked at me as though I lost my mind 1½ years ago when I met with Mayor Barry and I said, "You know, our vision ought to be the finest capital city in the world," and that ought to be our vision.

And furthermore, if we are going to talk honestly about race and we are going to talk honestly about drugs and we are going to talk honestly about ignorance, we owe it to every citizen of this District, every child in this District, to have a decent chance to grow up and to go to a school that succeeds in a neighborhood that is drug-free and safe, with an expectation of getting a job in a community that actually cares about them and provides a better future, and we should take on as a Congress all responsibilities to the District of Columbia, and we should do it proudly, and we should not be ashamed to go back home and say, "You're darn right we're helping our national capital because we want you to visit it with pride, and we want you to know that you can say to anyone anywhere in the world come to America and visit Washington, it is a great city."

Let me close with this final thought, and I appreciate my friend, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL] standing there, and I apologize for having drawn him forward particularly since he is standing on one foot. But this has been a very difficult time, and to those who agonized and ended up voting for me, I thank them. Some of this difficulty frankly I brought on myself. We will deal with that in more detail later, and I apologize to the House and the country for having done so. Some of it is part of the natural process of partisan competition.

This morning a very dear friend of mine said that he was going to pray to God that I would win today and I asked him not to and I asked him to pray to God that whatever happens is what God wants, and then we would try to understand it and learn from it. Let me put that forward in the same thing for all of us as we approach the next 2 years.

I was really struck about a month ago when I walked down to the Lincoln Memorial and I read the Second Inaugural, which is short enough to be on the wall, and 12 times in that Inaugural Lincoln refers to God. I went back and read Washington's First Inaugural, which is replete with reference to America existing within God's framework. I read Jefferson's First Inaugural, since he is often described as a deist, which refers to the importance and the power of providence. All of my colleagues can visit the Jefferson Memorial where he says, around the top it is inscribed, "I have sworn upon the altar of God Almighty eternal hostility against all forms of tyranny over the minds of man."

We have much to be proud of as Americans. This is a great and a wonderful system. We have much to be ashamed of as Americans, from drug addiction to spouse and child abuse, to children living in ignorance and poverty surrounded by the greatest wealthiest nation in the world, to a political system that clearly has to be overhauled from the ground up if it is going to be worthy of the respect we want and cherish.

I would just suggest to all of my colleagues that until we learn in a nonsectarian way, not Baptist, not Catholic, not Jewish, in a nonsectarian way, until we learn to reestablish the authority that we are endowed by our Creator, that we owe it to our Creator and that we need to seek divine guidance in what we are doing, we are not going to solve this country's problems.

In that spirit, with my colleagues' prayers and help, I will seek to be worthy of being Speaker of the House, and I will seek to work with every Member sent by their constituents to represent them in the U.S. Congress.

And I now call on my dear friend, the senior Member of the House and wonderful person, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL]. I am ready to take the oath of office, and I ask the Dean of the House of Representatives, the honorable gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL] to administer the oath.

Mr. DINGELL then administered the oath of office to Mr. GINGRICH of Georgia, 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.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS

The SPEAKER. According to the precedents, the Chair will swear in all Members of the House at this time.

For what purpose does the gentleman from California rise?

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. HUNTER. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, In lieu of requesting Representative-elect SANCHEZ to step aside, is it the fact that a notice of contest filed on behalf of Robert Dornan pursuant to the law is on file with the Clerk?

The SPEAKER. The Chair is advised by the Clerk that a notice of contest pursuant to the statute, section 382 of title 2, United States Code, has been filed with the Clerk. Under section 5 of article I of the Constitution and the statute, the House remains the judge of the elections of its Members. The seating of a Member-elect does not prejudice a contest over final right to the seat.

Mr. HOYER. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, am I correct that the gentlewoman from California [Ms. SANCHEZ], has been duly certified by the Secretary of State as duly elected from the 46th District of California?

The SPEAKER. That is the information that has been submitted to the Chair by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER. If the Members will rise, the Chair will now administer the oath of office.

The Members-elect and Delegates-elect and the Resident Commissioner-elect rose, and the Speaker administered the oath of office to them 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 all now Members of the U.S. Congress.

□ 1445

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, due to delayed airline flights, I missed a vote held earlier today to elect the Speaker of the House. Had I been present, I certainly would have voted for the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. GINGRICH].

The SPEAKER. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER].

MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Republican Conference, I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as their majority leader the gentleman from Texas, the Honorable RICHARD K. ARMEY.

MINORITY LEADER

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, I have been directed to report to the House that the Democratic Members have selected as minority leader the gentleman from Missouri, the Honorable RICHARD A. GEPHARDT.

MAJORITY WHIP

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, as leader of the Republican Conference I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as our majority whip the gentleman from Texas, the Honorable TOM DELAY.

MINORITY WHIP

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, I have been directed to report to the House that the Democratic Members have selected as minority whip the gentleman from Michigan, the Honorable DAVID E. BONIOR.

ELECTION OF CLERK OF THE HOUSE, SERGEANT AT ARMS, AND CHAPLAIN

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 1) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1

Resolved, That Robin H. Carle, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and she is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That Wilson S. Livingood, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives; and

That Reverend James David Ford, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I have an amendment to the resolution, but before offering the amendment, I request that there be a division of the question on the resolution so that we may have a separate vote on the Chaplain.

The SPEAKER. The question will be divided.

The question is on agreeing to that portion of the resolution providing for the election of the Chaplain.

That portion of the resolution was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FAZIO OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment to the remainder of the resolution offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER].

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FAZIO of California:

That Marti Thomas, of the District of Columbia, be, and she is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That Sharon Daniels, of the State of Maryland, be, and she is hereby, chosen Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives; and

That Steve Elmendorf, of the District of Columbia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO].

The amendment was rejected.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the remainder of the resolution offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER].

The remainder of the resolution was agreed to.

The SPEAKER. Will the officers-elect present themselves in the well of the House?

The officers-elect presented themselves 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 have been sworn in as officers of the House.

NOTIFICATION TO SENATE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 2) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 2

Resolved, That the Senate be informed that a quorum of the House of Representatives has assembled; that Newt Gingrich, a Representative from the State of Georgia, has been elected Speaker; and Robin H. Carle, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia, has been elected Clerk of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Fifth Congress.

The resolution was agreed to.

COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CONGRESS

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 3) and ask for its immediate consideration.