

Ros-Lehtinen	Shuster	Udall (NM)
Roskam	Simpson	Upton
Ross	Sires	Van Hollen
Rothman	Skelton	Velázquez
Roybal-Allard	Slaughter	Visclosky
Royce	Smith (NE)	Walberg
Ruppersberger	Smith (NJ)	Walden (OR)
Ryan (OH)	Smith (TX)	Walsh (NY)
Ryan (WI)	Smith (WA)	Walz (MN)
Salazar	Snyder	Wamp
Sali	Solis	Wasserman
Sánchez, Linda	Souder	Schultz
T.	Space	Waters
Sanchez, Loretta	Speier	Watson
Sarbanes	Spratt	Watt
Saxton	Stearns	Waxman
Scalise	Stupak	Weiner
Schakowsky	Sullivan	Welch (VT)
Schiff	Sutton	Weldon (FL)
Schmidt	Tancredo	Weller
Schwartz	Tanner	Westmoreland
Scott (GA)	Tauscher	Wexler
Scott (VA)	Taylor	Whitfield (KY)
Sensenbrenner	Terry	Wilson (NM)
Serrano	Thompson (CA)	Wilson (OH)
Sessions	Thompson (MS)	Wilson (SC)
Sestak	Thornberry	Wittman (VA)
Shadegg	Tiberi	Woolsey
Shays	Tierney	Wu
Shea-Porter	Towns	Yarmuth
Sherman	Tsongas	Young (AK)
Shimkus	Turner	Young (FL)
Shuler	Udall (CO)	

NOT VOTING—11

Clay	Loeb sack	Stark
Gilchrest	Meeks (NY)	Tiahrt
Gingrey	Reynolds	Wolfe
Hulshof	Rush	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes left in the vote.

□ 1342

Messrs. PORTER and PEARCE and Ms. SCHWARTZ changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

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,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 18, 2008.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a scanned copy of a letter received from Ms. Linda H. Lamone, Administrator, Maryland State Board of Elections, indicating that, according to the unofficial returns of the Special Election held June 17, 2008, the Honorable Donna Edwards was elected Representative to Congress for the Fourth Congressional District, State of Maryland.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.

Enclosure.

MARYLAND
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS,
Annapolis, MD, June 18, 2008.

Hon. LORRAINE C. MILLER
Clerk, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MS. MILLER: This letter is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election held on Tuesday, June 17, 2008, for

Representative in Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of Maryland show that Donna Edwards received 15,381 votes or 80 percent of the total number of votes cast for that office on election day excluding absentee and provisional ballots.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Donna Edwards will be certified as the Representative in Congress from Fourth Congressional District of Maryland.

As of the date of this letter, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Sincerely,

LINDA H. LAMONE,
Administrator.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE DONNA EDWARDS, OF MARYLAND, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentlewoman from Maryland, the Honorable DONNA EDWARDS, be permitted to take the oath of office today.

Her certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to her election.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect EDWARDS and the members of the Maryland delegation present themselves in the well.

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, 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.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations. You are now a Member of the 110th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE DONNA EDWARDS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished majority leader, is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the distinguished Speaker for recognizing me for this delightful opportunity.

Madam Speaker, you will appreciate this as much as anybody in this House. I was elected in a special election on January of 1981, actually May of 1981. The Maryland delegation had eight members. Fifty percent of the members of the Maryland House were women. Mrs. Holt, a Republican, Mrs. Spell-

man, my predecessor who had a cardiac arrest and her seat was declared vacant, Mrs. Byron, a distinguished wife and daughter-in-law of two Members of Congress, and actually there were four Byrons that served in the Congress of the United States, and BARBARA MIKULSKI, were all members of the Maryland delegation.

It was a wonderful delegation. One by one, those women left for one reason or another. Senator MIKULSKI, of course, became the first woman elected to the United States Senate without a relative preceding her.

One by one, they were replaced by a male. Those were good males, I want you to know. But our delegation became an all-male delegation. It was, to that extent, not fully representative of the people of our State. We have been advantaged now, not only because Marylanders have elected an extraordinary individual to serve them. She is a highly educated individual. She traveled throughout the world. Her father served in the Air Force. She is well educated. She didn't go to the University of Maryland, which was a lamentable fact, but she went to a great school, Wake Forest University. She got her law degree in New Hampshire. She has served the community well and has served citizens' organizations well.

So in a very real sense, she has been a representative for a very long period of time. This day, however, she begins her career as a representative elected by the constituents of the Fourth Congressional District.

Madam Speaker, I know that I speak on behalf of yourself, on behalf of all the Members of the House and certainly on behalf, DONNA, of the Maryland delegation, we are extraordinarily proud that you have joined us. Our delegation will be stronger, better and more representative because of that. And this institution will be stronger for the strong advocacy that you will bring on behalf not just of the people of the Fourth Congressional District, but the people of this Nation.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am deeply honored to introduce to you a young woman to whom some years ago I gave an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. She determined that she was going to go to Wake Forest. But she has been my friend for a long time. Ladies and gentlemen, the newest Member of this body, DONNA EDWARDS from the Fourth Congressional District.

She is a mother, lawyer, and long-time community activist and organizer.

Born in Yanterville, North Carolina, she moved frequently as a child.

Her father was in the Air Force, and she traveled throughout the country and world.

She graduated from Wake Forest University and later the Franklin Pierce Law Center (in New Hampshire).

Before attending law school, she worked as a contractor for Lockheed Corporation at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt.

After law school, she clerked for a superior court judge in Washington, co-founded the National Network To End Domestic Violence, and

became executive director of the Arca Foundation, which gives grants to civic groups, organizations that study the media, and public policy groups.

She helped lead the fight to pass the Violence Against Women Act, providing comprehensive funding to shelter and offer services to victims of domestic violence and their children.

The Washington Post has called her "bright" and "tough-minded" and recently said: "Poised, persistent and principled, she would make a fine representative for the fourth district" of Maryland.

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Madam Speaker, Leader BOEHNER, our majority leader and the dean of our delegation of the great State of Maryland, our Senators, BARBARA MIKULSKI and BEN CARDIN, thank you. I'm so glad that you could be here today, and to our entire delegation from Maryland, I am humbled and honored to be here in the people's House. And I want to thank my mother, Mary, and my sisters, Janice, Bonnie and Rhonda, my brother, Michael, and my son, Jared, for being here with me today and being so supportive of me.

As I swore to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States, I recall the oath that my brother, John, took when he was just 18 years old, joining the United States Air Force at the height of the Vietnam War. And most especially I thought of my father, John Edwards, who swore the same oath when he joined the United States Air Force as a young man and served in a career of great honor, dignity and service to this country.

And what I thought is that I am so proud to be able to take that same oath to serve the people of the Fourth Congressional District and to serve the United States Congress and the people of this country.

I'm standing here today on a very historic day, Juneteenth. And as the first African American woman to represent the great State of Maryland here in this Capitol and on the shoulders of all of our forefathers and foremothers who took that journey to freedom, I am so proud and humble to be here with my constituents throughout the Fourth Congressional District, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, united across race, religion, class, income, heritage and culture and all of the things that are the false lines that divide us. But we're united as a congressional district, and we're as united as we can be as a country. And in some micro way, in our Fourth Congressional District, I think that we're fulfilling the dream of this entire Nation.

Last February in Maryland's Fourth District, we sent a strong message that it's time for a change across the Potomac and up to this Hill. And this past Tuesday, they sent another message. They said "change can't wait until next year." And so today I'm an agent of change and an agent of their mandate. And America's profile, though slightly tarnished around the world

and with our economy teetering slightly here at home, we can only hope that we don't wait for that change to happen until next January, that my constituents have said to me, we can't wait for change to begin. We can't wait 6 months to do something about foreclosures forcing thousands of Marylanders, thousands of people across this country and in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties away from their homes. And we can't wait 6 months to address skyrocketing costs of gas and groceries while we engage in short-term solutions that abound without focusing on the long-term solutions for alternative energy and things that really will propel us through this 21st century.

I just want to say in closing that our brave servicemen and women, many of them like my brother and my father, can't wait for change either. And people do need help now. And so, more than anything else, I want to join with you in making that change happen. I know that this House is filled with an awfully lot of really good-hearted people who represent congressional districts just like mine across the country. And they're asking us to come together. And I want us to answer that call together. And so I'm here with my sleeves rolled up, and I'm ready to work. And I'm ready to get started, just as you are, in serving the people of the Fourth Congressional District and this country.

Thank you very much.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentleman from Maryland (Ms. EDWARDS), the whole number of the House is 435.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ACT OF 2008

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER). The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT OFFERED BY MR. JORDAN OF OHIO

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. In its present form, I am.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Jordan of Ohio moves to recommit the bill (H.R. 5781) to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform with instructions to report the bill back to the House promptly in the form to which it may be perfected at the time of this motion with the following amendments:

In the matter proposed to be inserted by section 2(a)(3) of the bill, insert at the end the following:

"(7) An employee who is a father and who is not in compliance with a court ordered child support arrangement shall not be eligible for any paid leave under paragraph (2)."

In the matter proposed to be inserted by section 3(a)(3) of the bill, insert at the end the following:

"(5) EXCLUSION OF DEADBEAT DADS.—An employee who is a father and who is not in compliance with a court ordered child support arrangement shall not be eligible for any paid leave under this subsection."

In the matter proposed to be inserted by section 4 of the bill, insert at the end the following:

"(E) EXCLUSION OF DEADBEAT DADS.—An employee who is a father and who is not in compliance with a court ordered child support arrangement shall not be eligible for any paid leave under this paragraph."

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio (during the reading). I ask unanimous consent that the motion to recommit be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

□ 1400

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I offer this motion to recommit with instructions.

This motion to recommit is simple and straightforward, one of these important issues that I think we can all agree on, and, frankly, an issue I would have brought as an amendment in committee if I had thought about the idea then. It says that people who are not compliant with their court-ordered child support arrangements, deadbeat dads, are not eligible for the expanded Federal benefits included in the bill.

This motion sends a clear message to the American people that we have respect for their hard-earned tax dollars they send to Washington, DC. The underlying bill, however, sends a far different message about the priorities of the majority party in Congress.

Think about it: American families are paying more than \$4 a gallon for gasoline, but are we acting to bring more energy to this country? America faces unprecedented terrorist threats from abroad, but are we renewing legislation to help better secure the homeland? Are we addressing out-of-control Federal spending? Are we acting to better secure our borders? We are approaching a \$10 trillion national debt, a problem that threatens our Nation's economic future, but are we cutting spending or reforming the out-of-control earmark process?

Here is what Congress is doing, Mr. Speaker. Congress is spending its time and energy on H.R. 5781, a bill to give Federal bureaucrats, including deadbeat dads, a new handout, a vast expansion to the already generous benefits package they receive at the expense of