

Rush Schakowsky

INDIANA

Buchson
Burton
Carson

IOWA

Boswell
Braley

KANSAS

Huelskamp
Jenkins

KENTUCKY

Chandler
Davis

LOUISIANA

Alexander
Boustany
Cassidy

MAINE

Michaud

MARYLAND

Bartlett
Cumplings
Edwards

MASSACHUSETTS

Capuano
Frank
Keating
Lynch

MICHIGAN

Amash
Benishek
Camp
Clarke
Conyers

MINNESOTA

Bachmann
Cravaack
Ellison

MISSISSIPPI

Harper
Nunnelee

MISSOURI

Akin
Carnahan
Clay

MONTANA

Rehberg

NEBRASKA

Fortenberry

NEVADA

Berkley

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Bass

NEW JERSEY

Andrews
Frelinghuysen
Garrett
Holt
Lance

NEW MEXICO

Heinrich

NEW YORK

Ackerman
Bishop
Buerkle
Clarke
Crowley
Engel
Gibson
Grimm
Hanna
Hayworth

Shimkus
Walsh

Butterfield
Coble
Ellmers
Foxy
Jones

NORTH CAROLINA

Kissell
McHenry
McIntyre
Miller
Myrick

NORTH DAKOTA

Berg

OHIO

Austria
Boehner
Chabot
Fudge
Gibbs
Johnson

Jordan
Kaptur
Kucinich
LaTourette
Latta
Renacci

OKLAHOMA

Boren
Cole

OREGON

Blumenauer
Schrader

PENNSYLVANIA

Altmire
Barletta
Brady
Critz
Dent
Doyle
Fattah

Fitzpatrick
Gerlach
Holden
Kelly
Marino
Meehan
Murphy

RHODE ISLAND

Langevin

SOUTH CAROLINA

Gowdy
Mulvaney

SOUTH DAKOTA

Noem

TENNESSEE

Cooper
DesJarlais
Duncan

Fincher
Fleischmann
Roe

TEXAS

Barton
Brady
Burgess
Canseco
Carter
Conaway
Cuellar
Culberson
Doggett
Farenthold
Flores

Gohmert
Gonzalez
Granger
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Hall
Hensarling
Hinojosa
Jackson Lee
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam

UTAH

Bishop

VERMONT

Welch

VIRGINIA

Griffith
Hurt
Moran
Rigell

Scott
Wittman
Wolf

WASHINGTON

Dicks
Hastings
Herrera Beutler
Inslee

Larsen
McDermott
McMorris
Rodgers

WEST VIRGINIA

McKinley

WISCONSIN

Baldwin
Duffy
Kind

Moore
Petri
Ribble

WYOMING

Lummis

□ 1234

The CLERK. The quorum call dis-
closes that 434 Representatives-elect
have responded to their name. A
quorum is present.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CLERK

The CLERK. Credentials, regular in
form, have been received showing the
election of:
The Honorable PEDRO R. PIERLUISI as
Resident Commissioner from the Com-
monwealth of Puerto Rico for a term of
4 years beginning January 3, 2009;
The Honorable ELEANOR HOLMES
NORTON as Delegate from the District
of Columbia;
The Honorable MADELEINE Z.
BORDALLO as Delegate from Guam;
The Honorable DONNA M.
CHRISTENSEN as Delegate from the Vir-
gin Islands;
The Honorable ENI F. H.
FALEOMAVAEGA as Delegate from Amer-
ican Samoa; and
The Honorable GREGORIO SABLAN as
Delegate from the Commonwealth of
the Northern Mariana Islands.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The CLERK. Pursuant to law and
precedent, the next order of business is
the election of the Speaker of the
House of Representatives for the 112th
Congress.

Nominations are now in order.

The Clerk recognizes the gentleman
from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING).

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Clerk,
every Congress represents a sacred re-
sponsibility to write a new and greater
chapter in our Republic's history. Be it
providence or destiny, a unique man of
uniquely American values is now called
to lead this effort.

At a time when far too many of our
countrymen remain unemployed, a
former small businessman will lead the
House to pass policies to encourage job
creation.

At a time when all agree our Nation
is on an unsustainable fiscal course, a
fiscal reformer will ensure that this
House never mortgages the torch of lib-
erty in order to pay our debts.

At a time when too many doubt that
their children can enjoy a brighter fu-
ture in our country, he has lived the
American dream, and will protect it for
our posterity like few others before
him.

This proud son of Ohio—one of 12
children born into a working-class fam-
ily—has waited tables, mopped floors,
tended bar, worked construction,
worked his way to a college degree at
night school, led a thriving company.
And through his faith, his hard work,
his values, he is now poised to become
the next Speaker of the House of Rep-
resentatives. He knows firsthand that
unlimited opportunity can only arise
from limited constitutional govern-
ment.

Madam Clerk, as chairman of the Re-
publican Conference, I am directed by
the unanimous vote of that conference
to present for election to the Office of
Speaker of the House of Representa-
tives for the 112th Congress the name
of the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER, a
Representative-elect from the State of
Ohio.

The CLERK. The Clerk now recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON).

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Clerk, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, I am directed by the vote of that caucus to present for election to the Office of Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 112th Congress a person who gives me great honor and privilege, who has led with decency and dignity. I submit on behalf of this caucus the name of the Honorable NANCY D'ALESSANDRO PELOSI, a Representative-elect from the great State of California.

The CLERK. The names of the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER, a Representative-elect from the State of Ohio, and the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, a Representative-elect from the State of California, have been placed in nomination.

Are there further nominations?

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

The gentleman from California (Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN);

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. 2]
BOEHNER—241

Adams	Campbell	Fleming
Aderholt	Canseco	Flores
Akin	Cantor	Forbes
Alexander	Capito	Fortenberry
Amash	Carter	Fox
Austria	Cassidy	Franks (AZ)
Bachmann	Chabot	Frelinghuysen
Bachus	Chaffetz	Gallegly
Barletta	Coble	Gardner
Bartlett	Coffman (CO)	Garrett
Barton (TX)	Cole	Gerlach
Bass (NH)	Conaway	Gibbs
Benishek	Cravaack	Gibson
Berg	Crawford	Gingrey (GA)
Biggert	Crenshaw	Gohmert
Billray	Culberson	Goodlatte
Billirakis	Davis (KY)	Gosar
Bishop (UT)	Denham	Gowdy
Black	Dent	Granger
Blackburn	DesJarlais	Graves (GA)
Bonner	Diaz-Balart	Graves (MO)
Bono Mack	Dold	Griffin (AR)
Boustany	Dreier	Griffith (VA)
Brady (TX)	Duffy	Grimm
Brooks	Duncan (SC)	Guinta
Brown (GA)	Duncan (TN)	Guthrie
Buchanan	Ellmers	Hall
Bucshon	Emerson	Hanna
Buerkle	Farenthold	Harper
Burgess	Fincher	Harris
Burton (IN)	Fitzpatrick	Hartzler
Calvert	Flake	Hastings (WA)
Camp	Fleischmann	Hayworth

Heck	McHenry
Heller	McKeon
Hensarling	McKinley
Herger	McMorris
Herrera Beutler	Rodgers
Huelskamp	Meehan
Huizenga (MI)	Mica
Hultgren	Miller (FL)
Hunter	Miller (MI)
Hurt	Miller, Gary
Issa	Mulvaney
Jenkins	Murphy (PA)
Johnson (IL)	Myrick
Johnson (OH)	Neugebauer
Johnson, Sam	Noem
Jones	Nugent
Jordan	Nunes
Kelly	Nunnelee
King (IA)	Olson
King (NY)	Palazzo
Kingston	Paul
Kinzinger (IL)	Paulsen
Kline	Pearce
Labrador	Pence
Lamborn	Petri
Lance	Pitts
Landry	Platts
Lankford	Poe (TX)
Latham	Pompeo
LaTourette	Posey
Latta	Price (GA)
Lee (NY)	Quayle
Lewis (CA)	Reed
LoBiondo	Rehberg
Long	Reichert
Lucas	Renacci
Luetkemeyer	Ribble
Lummis	Rigell
Lungren, Daniel E.	Rivera
Mack	Roby
Manzullo	Roe (TN)
Marchant	Rogers (AL)
Marino	Rogers (KY)
McCarthy (CA)	Rogers (MI)
McCaul	Rohrabacher
McClintock	Rokita
McCotter	Rooney
	Ros-Lehtinen

PELOSI—173

Ackerman	Engel	Matsui
Andrews	Eshoo	McCarthy (NY)
Baca	Farr	McCollum
Baldwin	Fattah	McDermott
Bass (CA)	Filner	McGovern
Becerra	Frank (MA)	McNerney
Berkley	Fudge	Meeks
Berman	Garamendi	Miller (NC)
Bishop (NY)	Gonzalez	Miller, George
Blumenauer	Green, Al	Moore
Boswell	Green, Gene	Moran
Brady (PA)	Grijalva	Murphy (CT)
Braley (IA)	Gutierrez	Nadler
Brown (FL)	Hanabusa	Napolitano
Butterfield	Harman	Neal
Capps	Hastings (FL)	Olver
Capuano	Heinrich	Owens
Carman	Higgins	Pallone
Carney	Himes	Pascarella
Carson (IN)	Hinchey	Pastor (AZ)
Castor (FL)	Hinojosa	Payne
Chandler	Hirono	Pelosi
Chu	Holt	Perlmutter
Cicilline	Honda	Peters
Clarke (MI)	Hoyer	Peterson
Clarke (NY)	Inslee	Pingree (ME)
Clay	Israel	Polis
Cleaver	Jackson (IL)	Price (NC)
Clyburn	Jackson Lee	Quigley
Cohen	(TX)	Rahall
Connolly (VA)	Johnson (GA)	Rangel
Conyers	Johnson, E. B.	Reyes
Costello	Kaptur	Richardson
Courtney	Keating	Richmond
Critz	Kildee	Rothman (NJ)
Crowley	Kucinich	Roybal-Allard
Cuellar	Langevin	Ruppersberger
Cummings	Larsen (WA)	Rush
Davis (CA)	Larson (CT)	Ryan (OH)
Davis (IL)	Lee (CA)	Sanchez, Linda T.
DeGette	Levin	Sanchez, Loretta
DeLauro	Lewis (GA)	Sarbanes
Deutch	Loeb sack	Schakowsky
Dicks	Lofgren, Zoe	Schiff
Dingell	Lowe y	Schwartz
Doggett	Lujan	Scott (VA)
Doyle	Lynch	Scott, David
Edwards	Maloney	Serrano
Ellison	Markey	

Sewell	Tierney	Waters
Sherman	Tonko	Watt
Sires	Towns	Waxman
Slaughter	Tsongas	Weiner
Smith (WA)	Van Hollen	Welch
Speier	Velázquez	Wilson (FL)
Stark	Visclosky	Woolsey
Sutton	Walz (MN)	Wu
Thompson (CA)	Wasserman	Yarmuth
Thompson (MS)	Schultz	

SHULER—11

Altmire	Holden	Michaud
Boren	Kissell	Ross (AR)
Cooper	Matheson	Shuler
Donnelly (IN)	McIntyre	

LEWIS (GA)—2

Giffords

COSTA—1

Cardoza

CARDOZA—1

Costa

COOPER—1

Kind

KAPTUR—1

Lipinski

HOYER—1

Schrader

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Bishop (GA)

NOT VOTING—2

Boehner DeFazio

□ 1341

The CLERK. The tellers agree in their tallies that the total number of votes cast by surname is 432, of which the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER of the State of Ohio has received 241, the Honorable NANCY PELOSI of the State of California has received 173, the Honorable DENNIS CARDOZA of the State of California has received 1, the Honorable JIM COOPER of the State of Tennessee has received 1, the Honorable JIM COSTA of the State of California has received 1, the Honorable STENY HOYER of the State of Maryland has received 1, the Honorable MARCY KAPTUR of the State of Ohio has received 1, the Honorable JOHN LEWIS of the State of Georgia has received 2, the Honorable HEATH SHULER of the State of North Carolina has received 11, with 1 recorded as "present."

Therefore, the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER of the State of Ohio, having received the majority of the votes cast, is duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 112th Congress.

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

The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR)

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI)

The gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY)

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER)

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. HENSARLING)

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN)

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS)

The gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON)

The gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE)

The gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA)

The gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS)

The gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL)

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER)

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN)

The gentlewoman from South Dakota (Mrs. NOEM)

The gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER)

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT)

The gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO)

The gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN)

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR)

The gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER)

The gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ)

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM)

The gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS)

And the Members of the Ohio delegation:

Ms. KAPTUR

Mr. LATOURETTE

Mr. KUCINICH

Mr. TIBERI

Mr. RYAN

Mr. TURNER

Mrs. SCHMIDT

Ms. SUTTON

Mr. LATTA

Mr. JORDAN

Ms. FUDGE

Mr. AUSTRIA

Mr. CHABOT

Mr. GIBBS

Mr. JOHNSON

Mr. RENACCI, and

Mr. STIVERS

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 112th Congress, who was escorted to the chair by the Committee of Escort.

Ms. PELOSI. It is a high honor to welcome all Members of Congress and their families to the House of Representatives.

To the new Members and their families, a special congratulations and welcome to you. We all wish you great success. Congratulations to you.

We all come here to represent our constituents. Our respect for each other is founded in our respect for the people that we represent.

This month, we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the inauguration of John F. Kennedy as President of the United States.

As a student, I was there in the freezing cold. For some of you, you have read about it in the history books, but to Bob and me, it was our youth.

Right, Bob?

I was there in the freezing cold and heard the stirring address that inspired generations of Americans to public service.

In his 1962 State of the Union Address, right from here, from this dais, President Kennedy said to the Congress: the Constitution makes us all trustees of the American people, custodians of the American heritage.

Today, as we take the oath of office to support and defend our Constitution, we do so as trustees of America's best hopes and as custodians of America's highest values. However we may differ, let us never lose sight of our common laws for this exceptional Nation and our shared obligation to the way forward.

I started off by acknowledging and welcoming and congratulating the Members and their families. Our families have always helped light the way forward for all of us. With a full and grateful heart, I want to thank my family: my husband of 47 years, Paul Pelosi; my children, Nancy Corinne, Christine, Jacqueline, Paul, and Alexandra; and my grandchildren. I am proud, too, to be from a large family—the youngest of seven—and to acknowledge my brother, Thomas D'Alesandro III, the former mayor of Baltimore, Maryland.

Welcome, Thomas.

Let me thank my constituents in San Francisco, whom I am proud to represent in the spirit of the anthem of our city of Saint Francis—the song of Saint Francis—and I am so pleased that that was recited by all of us at the interdenominational service this morning.

I am grateful to my colleagues for their commitment to equality, which is both our heritage and our hope, giving me the historic honor of being the first woman Speaker of the House of Representatives. Now more doors are wide open for all of America's daughters and granddaughters.

I am also honored to be the first Italian-American Speaker. Like many Americans, our heritage is a source of great pride and of deeply ingrained patriotism which summons us to build a stronger Nation. We recognize that the proudest title we will ever hold is not accorded on this floor. It is the simple dignity of the title "American"—part of our great democracy that continues to be the greatest hope of liberty and progress for the entire world.

When I was first elected Speaker, I called the House to order on behalf of America's children; and now, as I prepare to hand the gavel over to Speaker BOEHNER, I know one thing above all else: Thanks to you, we have stood with those children and for their families—for their health, their education, the safety of the air they breathe, the water they drink, and the food they eat.

Thanks to you, for those children and their families, we have made the largest ever commitment to making col-

lege more affordable, enacted Wall Street reform with the greatest consumer protections in history, and passed a strong Patients' Bill of Rights. It means that children with preexisting conditions can get care; young people can stay on their parents' policies until they are 26; pregnant women and breast and prostate cancer patients can no longer be thrown off their insurance; our seniors are paying less for their medical prescriptions. Taken together, it will save taxpayers \$1.3 trillion.

Thanks to you, thanks to all of us, we advanced the defining American cause of "equality for all" from the first days of the Congress with the passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act to the last days with the repeal of the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy.

And thanks to you, we achieved more for America's veterans than at any time since the passage of the GI Bill of Rights in 1944. Because of our courageous troops and our veterans, we will always be the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Let us now salute our men and women in uniform.

To honor them, we must build a future worthy of their sacrifice, which includes good-paying jobs when they come home. It is not enough that we staved off a depression. Much more needs to be done to open up the American Dream and lift up the American economy. The only acceptable outcome is to fully and finally restore fair prosperity that good-paying jobs provide.

□ 1400

Our most important job is to fight for American jobs, to make it in America—STENY—and so Democrats will judge what comes before Congress, from either side of the aisle, as to whether it creates jobs, strengthens the middle class, and reduces the deficit, not burdening future generations. When the new Speaker of the House, JOHN BOEHNER, and the new Republican majority—and congratulations, again—come forward with solutions that will address these American challenges, you will find us a willing partner.

As we congratulate Speaker BOEHNER and our Republican colleagues, as we wish them success, we must stand ready to find common ground, to solve problems, and to build a more secure future for all Americans.

And as we take the oath of office today to support and defend the Constitution, we must be ever mindful that it makes us trustees for the American people, with an obligation to do what is right for them, and custodian of the American heritage—our great values.

Thank you, my colleagues, for the honor of serving in that tradition as the Speaker of the House of Representatives. I thank you, my colleagues.

Again, I want to congratulate all of the new Members of Congress, all of you who have been reelected, but especially the new majority and the new Speaker of the House, JOHN BOEHNER.

Now, the House will be led by a proud son of Ohio, a man of conviction, a public servant of resolve, and a legislative leader of skill. Speaker BOEHNER is a leader who has earned the confidence of his conference and the respect of his colleagues in the Congress. He is a man of faith: faith in God, faith in our country, and faith in his family.

It is very important for us, in acknowledging that, for us to acknowledge his family, his wife, Mrs. Boehner. As we congratulate him, we congratulate and thank Debbie for sharing him with us and Lindsay and Trisha and, indeed, the entire Boehner family. Thank you and congratulations to all of you.

Now, recognizing our roles under the Constitution, united in our love of our country, we now engage in a strong symbol of American democracy, the peaceful and respectful exchange of power. I now pass this gavel, which is larger than most gavels here, but the gavel of choice of Speaker BOEHNER—I now pass this gavel and the sacred trust that goes with it to the new Speaker. God bless you, Speaker BOEHNER. God bless this Congress and God bless America.

Mr. BOEHNER. Thank you. It's still just me.

Madam Speaker, thank you for your kind words, and thank you for your service to this institution.

Secondly, I want to welcome all of our new Members and their families on what is a very special day. All of us who have been here remember vividly that first day that we served here, and I think any of us can tell you that you will never forget today.

My own family is here as well. I think you just met Debbie, and next to Debbie are Lindsay and Trisha, our two daughters. Welcome. We're glad that you're here. Ten of my 11 brothers and sisters and sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law are here as well, and my poor brother Greg who runs a restaurant down in Georgia was unable to be here, but I wanted to acknowledge him.

I also want to acknowledge some of my close friends that are here from the other side of the Capitol: MITCH MCCONNELL, the Senate Republican leader is here; and two of my best buds, RICHARD BURR from North Carolina, SAXBY CHAMBLISS from Georgia, along with, you know, my buddy LATHAM. Thank you for being here, gentlemen. I appreciate it.

I am honored and humbled to represent a great, hardworking community in Congress. The people of Ohio's Eighth Congressional District continue to afford me the privilege to serve, for which I am deeply grateful.

We gather here today at a time of great challenges, when nearly one in 10 of our neighbors is out of work. Health care costs are still rising for American families. Our spending has caught up with us, and our debt soon will eclipse the entire size of our national economy. Hard work and tough decisions will be required of the 112th Congress.

No longer can we fall short. No longer can we kick the can down the road. The people voted to end business as usual; and, today, we begin to carry out their instructions.

In the Catholic faith, we enter into a season of service by having ashes marked on our head. The ashes remind us that life, in all of its forms, is very fragile; our time on this Earth fleeting. But as the ashes are delivered, we hear those humbling words: remember, you are dust and to dust you shall return.

The American people have humbled us. They have refreshed our memories to just how temporary the privilege of serving is. They've reminded us that everything here is on loan from them. That includes this gavel, which I accept cheerfully and gratefully, knowing that I am but its caretaker. After all, this is the people's House. This is their Congress. It's about them, not about us. What they want is a government that's honest, accountable, and responsive to their needs, a government at that respects individual liberty, honors our heritage, and bows before the public that it serves.

Let's start with the rules package that the House will consider today. If passed, it will change how this institution operates, with an emphasis on real transparency, greater accountability, and a renewed focus on our Constitution. Our aim will be to give the government back to the American people.

□ 1410

In seeking this goal, we will part with some of the rituals that have come to characterize this institution under majorities, both Republican and Democrat alike. We will dispense with the conventional wisdom that bigger bills are always better, that fast legislating is good legislating, that allowing amendments and open debate makes the legislative process "less efficient" than our Forefathers had intended.

These misconceptions have been the basis for the rituals of modern Washington. In my opinion, the American people have not been served well by them. Today, mindful of the lessons of the past, we open a new chapter.

Legislators and the public will have 3 days to read a bill before it comes to a vote. Legislation will be more focused, properly scrutinized, and constitutionally sound. Committees, once bloated, will be smaller with a renewed mission, including oversight. Old rules that have made it easy to increase spending will be replaced by new rules that make it easier to cut spending. And we will start by cutting Congress' own budget.

Above all else, we will welcome the battle of ideas, encourage it, and engage in it—openly, honestly, and respectfully. As the Chamber closest to the people, the House works best when it is allowed to work its will. And I ask all Members of this body to join me in recognizing this common truth.

To my colleagues in the majority, my message is this: We will honor our

pledge to America, built through a process of listening to the American people. We will stand firm on our constitutional principles that built our party and built a great Nation. We will do these things, however, in a manner that restores and respects the time-honored right of the minority to an honest debate and a fair, open process.

And to my friends in the minority, I offer a commitment: Openness, once a tradition of this institution but increasingly scarce in recent decades, will be the new standard. There were no open rules in the House in the last Congress. In this one, there will be many.

But with this restored openness, however, comes a restored responsibility. You will not have the right to willfully disrupt the proceedings of the people's House, but you will always have the right to a robust debate in open process that allows you to represent your constituents, to make your case, offer alternatives, and be heard.

In time I believe this framework will allow the House to be a place where the people's will is done. It will also, I hope, rebuild trust among us and the people we serve and, in so doing, provide a guidepost for those who follow us in the service of our Nation.

To our new Members, Democrat and Republican alike, as you take the oath today, I know that you do so mindful of this shared goal and the trust placed in you by your constituents.

As Speaker, I feel part of my job is to help each of you do your job well, regardless of your political party. My hope is that every new Member, and, indeed, every Member, will be comfortable with approaching me with regard to matters of the House.

We will not always get it right, and we will not always agree on what is right. There is a great deal of scar tissue that has been built up on both sides of the aisle. We can't ignore that, nor should we. My belief has always been that we can disagree without being disagreeable. That is why it's critical that this institution operate in a manner that permits a free exchange of ideas and resolves our honest differences through a fair debate and vote. We may have different, sometimes very different, ideas about how to go about achieving the common good. It is why we serve.

Let us now move forward, humble in our demeanor, steady in our principles, dedicated to proving worthy of the trust and confidence that has been placed in each of us. If we brace ourselves to do our duty and do what we say we're going to do, I don't think that, together, there is anything that we can't accomplish, again, on behalf of the people we serve.

More than a country, America is an idea; and it's our job to pass that posterity of blessings that have been bestowed on us to those generations that follow us.

I want to wish all of you the very best. Welcome to the people's House. Welcome to the 112th Congress.

I am now ready to take the oath of the office, and I ask the Dean of the House, the Honorable JOHN DINGELL of Michigan, to administer the oath of office.

Mr. DINGELL then administered the oath of office to Mr. BOEHNER of Ohio, 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. DINGELL. Congratulations, Mr. Speaker.

SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS

The SPEAKER. According to precedent, the Chair will swear in the Members-elect en masse.

The Members-elect will rise and raise their right hands.

The Members-elect rose, and the Speaker administered the oath of office to them 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 Members of the 112th Congress.

□ 1420

MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Republican Conference, I have been directed to report to the House that the Republican Members have selected as majority leader the gentleman from Virginia, the Honorable ERIC CANTOR.

MINORITY LEADER

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Congratulations to you, Mr. Speaker, and congratulations to my colleague and chair of the Republican Conference.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, I am directed by that conference to notify the House of Representatives officially that the Democratic Members have selected as minority leader the gentlewoman from California, the Honorable NANCY D'ALESSANDRO PELOSI.

MAJORITY WHIP

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Republican Con-

ference, I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as their majority whip the gentleman from California, the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY.

MINORITY WHIP AND ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, as chair of the Democratic Caucus, I am directed by that conference to notify the House of Representatives officially that the Democratic Members have selected as minority whip the gentleman from Maryland, the Honorable STENY HOYER; and as assistant Democratic leader, the gentleman from South Carolina, the Honorable JAMES CLYBURN.

ELECTION OF CLERK OF THE HOUSE, SERGEANT AT ARMS, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER AND CHAPLAIN

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

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1

Resolved, That Karen L. Haas of the State of Maryland, be, and is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

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

That Daniel J. Strodel of the District of Columbia be, and is hereby, chosen Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives; and

That Father Daniel P. Coughlin of the State of Illinois, be, and is hereby, chosen Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate my counterpart on his re-election.

I yield to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) for the purpose of offering an amendment.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. 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.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. LARSON OF CONNECTICUT

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment to the remainder of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:

That John Lawrence of the State of New Jersey be, and is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That Alexis Covey-Brandt of the State of Maryland be, and is hereby, chosen Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives; and

That Yelberton Watkins of the State of South Carolina be, and is hereby, chosen Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Connecticut.

The amendment was rejected.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the remainder of the resolution offered by the gentleman from Texas.

The remainder of the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER. The Chair will now swear in the officers of the House.

The officers presented themselves in the well 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.

□ 1430

SWEARING IN OF MEMBER

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Oklahoma please present himself in the well.

Mr. SULLIVAN 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.

NOTIFICATION TO THE SENATE

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution 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 John A. Boehner, a Representative from the State of Ohio, has been elected Speaker; and that Karen L. Haas, a citizen of the State of Maryland, has been elected Clerk of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Twelfth Congress.