

LOUISIANA			OREGON		
Alexander	Cassidy	Richmond	Bonomici	Schrader	
Boustany	Fleming	Scalise	DeFazio	Walden	
MAINE			PENNSYLVANIA		
Michaud	Pingree		Barletta	Fitzpatrick	Perry
MARYLAND			Brady	Gerlach	Pitts
Cummings	Harris	Sarbanes	Cartwright	Kelly	Rothfus
Delaney	Hoyer	Van Hollen	Dent	Marino	Schwartz
Edwards	Ruppersberger		Doyle	Meehan	Shuster
MASSACHUSETTS			Fattah	Murphy	Thompson
			RHODE ISLAND		
Capuano	Lynch	Neal	Cicilline	Langevin	
Keating	Markey	Tierney	SOUTH CAROLINA		
Kennedy	McGovern	Tsongas	Clyburn	Gowdy	Rice
MICHIGAN			Duncan	Mulvaney	Wilson
Amash	Dingell	Peters	SOUTH DAKOTA		
Benishek	Huizenga	Rogers	Noem		
Bentivolio	Kildee	Upton	TENNESSEE		
Camp	Levin	Walberg	Black	Cooper	Fincher
Conyers	Miller		Blackburn	DesJarlais	Fleischmann
MINNESOTA			Cohen	Duncan	Roe
Bachmann	McCollum	Peterson	TEXAS		
Ellison	Nolan	Walz	Barton	Gohmert	Neugebauer
Kline	Paulsen		Brady	Granger	Olson
MISSISSIPPI			Burgess	Green, Al	O'Rourke
Harper	Palazzo		Carter	Green, Gene	Poe
Nunnelee	Thompson		Castro	Hall	Sessions
MISSOURI			Conaway	Hensarling	Smith
Clay	Graves	Luetkemeyer	Cuellar	Hinojosa	Stockman
Cleaver	Hartzler	Wagner	Culberson	Jackson Lee	Thornberry
Emerson	Long		Doggett	Johnson, E. B.	Veasey
MONTANA			Farenthold	Johnson, Sam	Vela
Daines			Flores	Marchant	Weber
			Gallego	McCaul	Williams
NEBRASKA			UTAH		
Fortenberry	Smith	Terry	Bishop	Matheson	Stewart
NEVADA			Chaffetz	VERMONT	
Amodei	Horsford		Welch		
Heck	Titus		VIRGINIA		
NEW HAMPSHIRE			Cantor	Griffith	Scott
Kuster	Shea-Porter		Hurt	Hurt	Wittman
NEW JERSEY			Forbes	Moran	Wolf
Andrews	Lance	Payne	Goodlatte	WASHINGTON	
Frelinghuysen	LoBiondo	Runyan	DelBene	Kilmer	McMorris
Garrett	Pallone	Sires	Hastings	Larsen	Rodgers
Holt	Pascrell	Smith	Heck	McDermott	Reichert
NEW MEXICO			Herrera Beutler	Smith	
Lujan Grisham	Luján, Ben Ray	Pearce	WEST VIRGINIA		
NEW YORK			Capito	McKinley	Rahall
Bishop	Jeffries	Nadler	WISCONSIN		
Clarke	King	Owens	Duffy	Petri	Ryan
Collins	Lowey	Rangel	Kind	Pocan	Sensenbrenner
Crowley	Maffei	Reed	Moore	Ribble	
Engel	Maloney,	Serrano	WYOMING		
Gibson	Carolyn	Slaughter	Lummis		
Grimm	Maloney, Sean	Tonko	□ 1224		
Hanna	McCarthy	Velázquez	The CLERK. Four hundred twenty-		
Higgins	Meeks		nine Representatives-elect have re-		
Israel	Meng		corded their presence. A quorum is		
NORTH CAROLINA			present.		
Butterfield	Hudson	Pittenger	ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CLERK		
Coble	Jones	Price	The CLERK. Credentials, regular in		
Ellmers	McHenry	Watt	form, have been received showing the		
Foxx	McIntyre		election of:		
Holding	Meadows		The Honorable PEDRO R. PIERLUISI as		
NORTH DAKOTA			Resident Commissioner from the Com-		
Cramer			monwealth of Puerto Rico for a term of		
OHIO			4 years beginning January 3, 2013;		
Beatty	Jordan	Stivers	The Honorable ELEANOR HOLMES		
Boehner	Joyce	Tiberi	NORTON as Delegate from the District		
Chabot	Kaptur	Turner	of Columbia;		
Fudge	Latta	Wenstrup	The Honorable MADELEINE Z.		
Gibbs	Renacci		BORDALLO as Delegate from Guam;		
Johnson	Ryan				
OKLAHOMA					
Bridenstine	Lankford	Mullin			
Cole	Lucas				

The Honorable DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN as Delegate from the Virgin Islands;

The Honorable ENI F. H. FALEOMAVAEGA as Delegate from American Samoa; and

The Honorable GREGORIO SABLAN as Delegate from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Clerk is in receipt of letters from the Honorable Jesse L. Jackson, Jr., of Illinois and the Honorable TIM SCOTT of South Carolina indicating that they will not serve in the House in the 113th Congress. Without objection, the letters will be placed in the RECORD.

DECEMBER 13, 2012.

DEAR MADAM CLERK, I am aware that you have received a certificate for my election as Representative of the Second Congressional District of the State of Illinois in the 113th Congress. This letter serves to notify you that I do not intend to serve in the 113th Congress.

Sincerely,

JESSE JACKSON, JR.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 30, 2012.

HON. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER, I am writing to inform you that I have notified the Governor of South Carolina of my resignation from the U.S. House of Representatives effective January 2, 2013. A copy of that letter is attached. I do not intend to take the office of Representative for the First Congressional District of South Carolina in the 113th Congress.

It has truly been an honor to serve the First District of South Carolina, and I look forward to continuing that service in my new role as United States Senator. I have enjoyed working with you, Majority Leader Cantor, and all of our colleagues in the House, and wish you the best of luck in the future.

Sincerely,

TIM SCOTT,
Member of Congress.

□ 1230

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 113th Congress.

Nominations are now in order.

The Clerk recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS).

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Clerk, the 113th Congress gives us a chance to try once again to make a better America than the one we inherited from our parents—and from the 112 Congresses that came before us. That is the hope of every Member here, on both sides of the aisle: to restore this land of freedom and opportunity for our families and our children.

Our task is not an easy one. There are deep divisions, but there's one person I have turned to time and again to help point the way forward. He is one of 12 children born into a working-class family in Ohio, a man who waited tables, mopped floors, tended bar, and

worked his way to a college degree at night school, a small businessman, and a proud family man.

Serving 22 years in Congress, he's been a committee chairman, conference chair, and Speaker. But he is, as he likes to say, just "a regular guy with a big job." He deeply respects this institution, the House of Representatives, and 2 years ago he strengthened committees, made operations transparent, and ended earmarks.

Today, our families need tax reform, immigration reform, and reforms to protect Social Security and Medicare. What does he advise? Don't kick the can down the road. This is our moment to set the country on a solid course and, most importantly, to do what is good and right for America. That is solid advice from a great man.

So it is with great optimism and hope for the great work that we can accomplish together that, as chair of the Republican Conference—on a unanimous vote of the conference—I present for election to the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 113th Congress the name of the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER.

The CLERK. The Clerk now recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA).

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Clerk, this is the people's House, and every 2 years the populace of this country gives those duly-elected Representatives of the people an opportunity to decide who will lead here in the Chamber of the people's House.

It is a solemn task. It is one that requires vision; it requires the ability to reach across the aisle; and it certainly requires someone who has deep principles. Someone who has shown the experience and has proven herself as a leader of the people and someone worthy to hold the gavel here in the people's House is the person I have the honor of putting forward today for Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I am tasked, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, through the vote of that caucus, to present for election to the Office of Speaker of the House of Representatives to the 113th Congress the name of the Right Honorable NANCY PELOSI, a Representative for the people, duly elected from the 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 gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER);

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY);

The gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR); and

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

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

The roll now will 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—220

Aderholt	Gowdy	Petri
Alexander	Granger	Pittenger
Amodei	Graves (GA)	Pitts
Bachmann	Graves (MO)	Poe (TX)
Bachus	Griffin (AR)	Pompeo
Barletta	Griffith (VA)	Posey
Barr	Grimm	Price (GA)
Barton	Guthrie	Radel
Benishek	Hall	Reed
Bentivolio	Hanna	Reichert
Bilirakis	Harper	Renacci
Bishop (UT)	Harris	Ribble
Black	Hartzler	Rice (SC)
Blackburn	Hastings (WA)	Rigell
Bonner	Heck (NV)	Roby
Boustany	Hensarling	Roe (TN)
Brady (TX)	Herrera Beutler	Rogers (AL)
Brooks (AL)	Holding	Rogers (KY)
Brooks (IN)	Hudson	Rogers (MI)
Buchanan	Huizenga (MI)	Rohrabacher
Bucshon	Hultgren	Rokita
Burgess	Hunter	Rooney
Calvert	Hurt	Ros-Lehtinen
Camp	Issa	Roskam
Campbell	Jenkins	Ross
Cantor	Johnson (OH)	Rothfus
Capito	Johnson, Sam	Royce
Carter	Jordan	Runyan
Cassidy	Joyce	Ryan (WI)
Chabot	Kelly	Salmon
Chaffetz	King (IA)	Scalise
Coble	King (NY)	Schock
Coffman	Kingston	Schweikert
Cole	Kinzinger (IL)	Scott, Austin
Collins (GA)	Kline	Sensenbrenner
Collins (NY)	LaMalfa	Sessions
Conaway	Lamborn	Shimkus
Cook	Lance	Shuster
Cotton	Lankford	Simpson
Cramer	Latham	Smith (NE)
Crawford	Latta	Smith (NJ)
Crenshaw	LoBiondo	Smith (TX)
Culberson	Long	Southerland
Daines	Lucas	Stewart
Davis, Rodney	Luetkemeyer	Stivers
Denham	Lummis	Stutzman
Dent	Marchant	Terry
DeSantis	Marino	Thompson (PA)
DesJarlais	McCarthy (CA)	Thornberry
Diaz-Balart	McCaul	Tiberi
Duffy	McClintock	Tipton
Duncan (SC)	McHenry	Turner
Duncan (TN)	McKeon	Upton
Ellmers	McKinley	Valadao
Emerson	McMorris	Wagner
Farenthold	Rodgers	Walberg
Fincher	Meadows	Walden
Fitzpatrick	Meehan	Walorski
Fleischmann	Messer	Weber (TX)
Fleming	Mica	Webster (FL)
Flores	Miller (FL)	Wenstrup
Forbes	Miller (MI)	Westmoreland
Fortenberry	Miller, Gary	Whitfield
Fox	Mullin	Williams
Franks (AZ)	Murphy (PA)	Wilson (SC)
Frelinghuysen	Neugebauer	Wittman
Gardner	Noem	Wolf
Garrett	Nugent	Womack
Gerlach	Nunes	Woodall
Gibbs	Nunnelee	Yoder
Gibson	Olson	Young (AK)
Gingrey (GA)	Palazzo	Young (FL)
Goodlatte	Paulsen	Young (IN)
Gosar	Perry	

Andrews	Green, Gene	Owens
Barber	Grijalva	Pallone
Bass	Gutierrez	Pascrell
Beatty	Hahn	Pastor (AZ)
Becerra	Hanabusa	Payne
Bera	Hastings (FL)	Pelosi
Bishop (GA)	Heck (WA)	Perlmutter
Bishop (NY)	Higgins	Peters (CA)
Bonamici	Himes	Peters (MI)
Brady (PA)	Hinojosa	Peterson
Bralley (IA)	Holt	Pingree (ME)
Brown (FL)	Honda	Pocan
Brownley (CA)	Horsford	Polis
Bustos	Hoyer	Price (NC)
Butterfield	Huffman	Quigley
Capps	Israel	Rahall
Capuano	Jackson Lee	Rangel
Cárdenas	Jeffries	Richmond
Carney	Johnson (GA)	Ruiz
Carson (IN)	Johnson, E. B.	Ruppersberger
Cartwright	Kaptur	Rush
Castor (FL)	Keating	Ryan (OH)
Castro (TX)	Kennedy	Sánchez, Linda
Chu	Kildee	T.
Cicilline	Kilmer	Sanchez, Loretta
Clarke	Kind	Sarbanes
Clay	Kirkpatrick	Schakowsky
Cleaver	Kuster	Schiff
Clyburn	Langevin	Schneider
Cohen	Larsen (WA)	Schrader
Connolly	Larson (CT)	Schwartz
Conyers	Lee (CA)	Scott (VA)
Costa	Levin	Scott, David
Courtney	Loebsock	Serrano
Crowley	Lofgren	Sewell (AL)
Cuellar	Lowenthal	Shea-Porter
Cummings	Lowey	Sherman
Davis (CA)	Lujan, Grisham	Sinema
Davis, Danny	(NM)	Sires
DeFazio	Luján, Ben Ray	Slaughter
DeGette	(NM)	Smith (WA)
Delaney	Lynch	Speier
DeLauro	Maffei	Swalwell (CA)
DelBene	Maloney,	Takano
Deutch	Carolyn	Thompson (CA)
Dingell	Maloney, Sean	Thompson (MS)
Doggett	Markey	Tierney
Doyle	Matsui	Titus
Duckworth	McCarthy (NY)	Tonko
Edwards	McCollum	Tsongas
Ellison	McDermott	Van Hollen
Engel	McGovern	Vargas
Enyart	McNerney	Veasey
Eshoo	Meeks	Vela
Esty	Meng	Velázquez
Farr	Michaud	Visclosky
Fattah	Miller, George	Walz
Foster	Moore	Wasserman
Frankel (FL)	Moran	Schultz
Fudge	Murphy (FL)	Waters
Gabbard	Nadler	Watt
Gallego	Napolitano	Waxman
Garamendi	Neal	Welch
Garcia	Negrete McLeod	Wilson (FL)
Grayson	Nolan	Yarmuth
Green, Al	O'Rourke	

CANTOR—3

Bridenstine	Pearce	Yoho
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ALLEN WEST—2

Broun (GA)	Gohmert	
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COOPER—2

Lipinski	McIntyre	
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LEWIS—1

	Barrow	
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JORDAN—1

	Huelskamp	
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COLIN POWELL—1

	Cooper	
--	--------	--

LABRADOR—1

	Amash	
--	-------	--

AMASH—1

	Massie	
--	--------	--

DINGELL—1

	Matheson	
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DAVID WALKER—1

	Jones	
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PRESENT—1

Stockman

NOT VOTING—6

Blumenauer
BoehnerLabrador
LewisMulvaney
Roybal-Allard

□ 1338

The CLERK. The tellers agree in their tallies that the total number of votes cast is 426, of which the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER of the State of Ohio has received 220 votes, and the Honorable NANCY PELOSI of the State of California has received 192 votes, the Honorable Raul Labrador of the State of Idaho has received 1, the Honorable JOHN LEWIS of the State of Georgia has received 1, the Honorable ERIC CANTOR of the State of Virginia has received 3, the Honorable ALLEN WEST has received 2, Colin Powell has received 1, the Honorable JIM JORDAN of the State of Ohio has received 1, David Walker has received 1, the Honorable JIM COOPER of the State of Tennessee has received 2, the Honorable JUSTIN AMASH of the State of Michigan has received 1, the Honorable JOHN DINGELL of the State of Michigan has received 1, with 1 recorded as “present.”

Therefore, the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER of the State of Ohio, having received a majority of the votes cast, is duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 113th 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 gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS)

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN)

The gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN)

The gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA)

The gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD)

The gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY)

The gentlewoman from Kansas (Ms. JENKINS)

The gentleman from New York (Mr. ISRAEL)

The gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX)

The gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO)

The gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. WAGNER)

The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS)

The gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS)

The gentleman from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN)

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM)

The gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LUJAN GRISHAM)

And the Members of the Ohio delegation:

Ms. KAPTUR

Mr. TIBERI

Mr. RYAN

Mr. TURNER

Mr. LATTA

Mr. JORDAN

Ms. FUDGE

Mr. CHABOT

Mr. GIBBS

Mr. JOHNSON

Mr. RENACCI

Mr. STIVERS

Ms. BEATTY

Mr. JOYCE, and

Mr. WENSTRUP

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 113th Congress, who was escorted to the chair by the Committee of Escort.

Ms. PELOSI. To my fellow Members of the House of Representatives, it is a high honor to welcome you to the 113th Congress.

To our newest Members of Congress, it is a special privilege and honor to welcome you and your families and extend congratulations to the newest Members of Congress. Welcome.

To reach this day, each of us has been strengthened by our faith and our families. With a full and grateful heart, I want to thank my family: my husband of 49 years, Paul Pelosi; our children, Nancy Corinne, Christine, Jacqueline, Paul, and Alexandra; and our grandchildren who are represented here today by our granddaughter, Madeleine. And I have to include the D'Alesandro family of Baltimore in that gratitude, as well.

I must thank my constituents in San Francisco for giving me the privilege of representing that beautiful and diverse city in the Congress of the United States.

Each of us here today is truly a representative, a representative in the truest sense of the word: to represent the highest hopes and aspirations of the American people.

On New Year's Eve, some of you, a large number of Members of Congress, joined hundreds of people at the National Archives building where we observed, at midnight, the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

At midnight, there was an enactment of Harriet Tubman ringing the bell. And as she rang the bell, she said, “Now we are free.” It was quite an incredible moment, and it was one that ushered in what President Lincoln would call a “new birth of freedom” for his era and for generations to come.

That transformative moment in our history is a reminder of the best traditions we have as a people: the ability and obligation of each generation of Americans to renew the promise of our Founders and to carry forward the torch of progress to reignite the American Dream.

This is who we are as Americans. This is the character of our country. This is the strength of our democracy. The strength of our democracy rests in a strong and thriving middle class, the backbone of our democracy that middle class is, so we have a moral imperative to invest in good-paying jobs here at home and in the prosperity of our people as we build our infrastructure and we reduce the deficit.

We must ensure that innovation rests at the heart of our success, that we remain first in science, technology, engineering and energy, and that we educate and prepare our young people for the opportunities of tomorrow. And when we make it in America, all of America's families can make it in America.

The strength of our democracy also demands that we restore the confidence of the American people in our political process. We must empower the voters, and we must remove obstacles of participation in our democracy for all Americans. We must increase the level of civility and reduce the role of money in our elections. When we do, we will elect more women, more minorities, and more young people to public office. And that's a good thing.

The American people are what make our country great. By and large, the United States is a Nation of immigrants, built, enriched, and strengthened by men, women, and children who share our patriotism and seek the American Dream. The strength of our democracy will be advanced by bold actions for comprehensive immigration reform.

Today, we take an oath to protect and defend our Constitution, our people, and our freedom. To protect and defend, that is our first responsibility. And our democracy requires that we each uphold the duty of keeping Americans safe in their homes, in their schools, and in their neighborhoods.

As we mourn the families of Newtown, we know that ensuring the safety of all Americans will be a truly meaningful tribute to the children and teachers of Sandy Hook Elementary School. For the strength of our democracy and for the sake of our children, let us work together to protect and defend all of our people.

In the same year that President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, the Statue of Freedom was unveiled atop the Capitol Dome. And that dome continues to be a beacon of freedom to the world and a source of inspiration for all who have had the honor to serve in Congress.

As we take our oath of office today, let us renew the promise of freedom. Let us work in friendship and partnership to live up to the legacy of our Founders and the aspirations of our constituents. Let us renew the strength of our democracy by reigniting the American Dream.

As we celebrate this moment, let us honor and thank those Americans who protect our democracy and secure our

freedom: our veterans, our men and women in uniform and their families wherever they go. God bless them. God bless America. Thank you all.

Now the House will continue to be led by a proud son of Ohio, a man of conviction and a public servant of resolve. Speaker BOEHNER is a leader who has earned the confidence of his conference and the respect of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

He is a man of faith: faith in God, faith in our country, and faith in his family. And as we congratulate him, we also congratulate and thank his wife, Debbie, and their two daughters, Lindsay and Trisha, and the entire Boehner family.

Speaker BOEHNER, I know all too well that we will not always agree, but I hope with all my heart that we will find common ground that is a higher, better place for our country.

□ 1400

Surely we can be touched by the better angels of our nature. Surely we can be touched by the better angels of our nature. So beautifully expressed by President Lincoln.

This is the people's House; this is the people's gavel. It represents a sacred trust. May we all fulfill that trust and make real the ideals of democratic government.

With respect for our Constitution, with faith in the American people, with hope for the future of our country, I present the people's gavel to the Speaker of the House, JOHN BOEHNER.

May God bless you.

May God bless you, Speaker BOEHNER. May God bless this Congress. May God always bless the United States of America.

My colleagues, the Speaker of the House, JOHN BOEHNER.

Mr. BOEHNER. Leader PELOSI, thank you for your kind words.

Members of the House, the Senate, my wife Debbie, who is with us today—thankfully the girls are working—and all of you and our fellow countrymen, we meet again at democracy's great port of call.

Every 2 years, at this hour, the Constitution brings a new order to this House, and it's an interlude for reflection, a glimpse of old truths. To our new Members and their families, let me just say "welcome."

I know you're feeling a bit awestruck at this moment. History runs through this building. Now you're among a select few to share in this privilege. For those of you who are returning, who've walked these aisles before, maybe it's time we get a little awestruck again.

The way our Founders envisioned it, the Republic would be led by citizens who recognize the blessings that we receive by governing ourselves, and it requires that we give something of ourselves. Everything depended on this. So they made each other and their successors swear an oath of allegiance.

In a few moments, I'll take this oath for the 12th time as the representative

from the Eighth District of Ohio. It is word for word the same oath that we all take. Note that it makes no mention of party or faction or title. It contains no reference to agendas or to platforms, only to the Constitution. The one addition we dare make, as George Washington did at the very first inaugural, is to invoke the assistance of our Heavenly Father.

This covenant makes us servants of posterity. It calls us to refuse the pull of passing interest and follow the fixed star of a more perfect union. Put simply, we're sent here not to be something, but to do something. Or as I like to call it, "doing the right thing."

It's a big job, and it comes with big challenges. Our government has built up too much debt. Our economy is not producing enough jobs. And these are not separate problems. At \$16 trillion and rising, our national debt is draining free enterprise and weakening the ship of state. The American Dream is in peril so long as its namesake is weighed down by this anchor of debt. Break its hold, and we begin to set our economy free, jobs will come home, and confidence will come back. We do this not just to boost GDP or reduce unemployment, but to secure for our children a future of freedom and opportunity, and, frankly, nothing is more important.

As Washington wrote in his farewell address, "We should not throw upon posterity the burden which we ourselves ought to bear." Well, that burden is ours, and so is the opportunity.

There's no substitute for the wisdom of the people. We here are their servants. As Speaker, I pledge to listen and to do all I can to help all of you carry out your oath of office that we're all about to take. Because in our hearts we know it's wrong to pass this debt on to our kids and our grandkids. Now, we have to be willing, truly willing to make this problem right.

Public service was never meant to be an easy living. Extraordinary challenges demand extraordinary leadership. So if you've come here to see your name in the lights or to pass off a political victory as some accomplishment, you've come to the wrong place. The door is right behind you. If you come here humbled by the opportunity to serve, if you've come here to be the determined voice of the people, if you've come here to carry the standard of leadership demanded not by our constituents but by the times, then you've come to the right place.

There is a time for every purpose under Heaven. For the 113th Congress, it is a time to rise. When the day is over and the verdict is read, maybe it's said that we well and faithfully did our duty to ensure that freedom will endure and prevail, so help us God.

I am now ready to take the oath of office.

I ask the Dean of the House of Representatives, the Honorable JOHN D. 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.

□ 1410

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 113th Congress.

MAJORITY LEADER

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, as chair of the Republican Conference, I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as majority leader the gentleman from Virginia, the Honorable ERIC CANTOR.

MINORITY LEADER

Mr. BECERRA. 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 gentlewoman from California, the Honorable NANCY PELOSI.

MAJORITY WHIP

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, as chair of the Republican Conference, I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as majority whip the gentleman from California, the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY.

MINORITY WHIP AND ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Democratic Caucus, I