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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017

No. 1

House of Representatives

This being the day fixed by the 20th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, for the meeting of the 115th Congress of the United States, the Representatives-elect met in their Hall, and at noon were called to order by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, Hon. Karen L. Haas.

Very Reverend Paul Ugo Arinze, St. John Vianney Roman Catholic Church, Janesville, Wisconsin, offered the following prayer:

Almighty and ever-living God, as this 115th Congress is gaveled in to begin their work for the people of this great Nation, we ask You to send down Your spirit upon the men and women of this House.

Give them wisdom, so that they may lead the people of our country into peace and prosperity. Grant them an open spirit to listen to each other and to work with each other.

Endow them with courage that is borne of loyalty to all that is noble and worthy; loyalty to their families, loyalty to their constituents, loyalty to the Constitution, and loyalty to our country—loyalty that scorns to compromise with vice and injustice and knows no fear when truths and rights are in jeopardy.

Grant them new forms of friendship and new opportunities for service.

May they always show forth in their lives and works the ideals of our country: one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The CLERK. The Representatives-elect and their guests will please remain standing and join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

The CLERK. As directed by law, the Clerk of the House has prepared the official roll of the Representatives-elect.

Certificates of election covering 435 seats in the 115th Congress have been received by the Clerk of the House, and the names of those persons whose credentials show that they were regularly elected as Representatives in accordance with the laws of their respective States or of the United States will be called.

The Representatives-elect will record their presence by electronic device and their names will be reported in alphabetical order by State, beginning with the State of Alabama, to determine whether a quorum is present.

Representatives-elect will have a minimum of 15 minutes to record their presence by electronic device.

Representatives-elect who have not obtained their voting ID cards may do so now in the Speaker's lobby.

The call was taken by electronic device, and the following Representatives-elect responded to their names:

[Roll No. 1]

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—434

ALABAMA

Aderholt	Palmer	Sewell
Brooks	Roby	
Byrne	Rogers	

Allen	
Bishop	
Carter	
Collins	
Ferguson	

Graves	
Hice, Jody B.	
Johnson	
Lewis	
Loudermilk	

Price, Tom	
Scott, Austin	
Scott, David	
Woodall	

ALASKA

Young

Gabbard

HAWAII

Hanabusa

ARIZONA

Biggs	Grijalva	O'Halleran
Franks	Gosar	Sinema
Gallego	McSally	Schweikert

Labrador	
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IDAHO

Simpson

ARKANSAS

Crawford	Westerman	
Hill	Womack	

Bost	
Bustos	

Hultgren	
Kelly	

Quigley	
Roskam	

CALIFORNIA

Aguilar	Cárdenas	Eshoo
Barragán	Chu, Judy	Garamendi
Bass	Cook	Huffman
Becerra	Correa	Hunter
Bera	Costa	Issa
Brownley	Davis	Khanna
Calvert	Denham	Knight
Carbajal	DeSaulnier	LaMalfa

Davis, Danny	
Davis, Rodney	
Foster	
Gutiérrez	
Banks	
Brooks	
Bucshon	

Kinzinger	
Krishnamoorthi	
LaHood	
Lipinski	
Carson	
Hollingsworth	
Messer	

Rush	
Schakowsky	
Schneider	
Shimkus	
Rokita	
Visclosky	
Walorski	

INDIANA

H1	
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This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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IOWA			OHIO		
Blum	Loebssack		Beatty	Jordan	Stivers
King	Young		Chabot	Joyce	Tiberi
KANSAS					
Jenkins	Pompeo		Davidson	Kaptur	Turner
Marshall	Yoder		Fudge	Latta	Wenstrup
KENTUCKY					
Barr	Guthrie	Rogers	Bridenstine	Lucas	Russell
Comer	Massie	Yarmuth	Cole	Mullin	
LOUISIANA					
Abraham	Higgins	Richmond	Blumenauer	DeFazio	
Graves	Johnson	Scalise	Bonamici	Walden	
MAINE					
Pingree		Poliquin	Barletta	Doyle, Michael	Murphy
MARYLAND					
Brown	Harris	Ruppersberger	Boyle, Brendan	F.	Perry
Cummings	Hoyer	Sarbanes	Brady	Evans	Rothfus
Delaney	Raskin		Cartwright	Fitzpatrick	Shuster
MASSACHUSETTS					
Capuano	Kennedy	Moulton	Dent	Kelly	Smucker
Clark	Lynch	Neal		Marino	Thompson
Keating	McGovern	Tsangas		Meehan	
MICHIGAN					
Amash	Huizenga	Moolenaar			
Bergman	Kildee	Trott	Clyburn	Mulvaney	Wilson (SC)
Bishop	Lawrence	Upton	Duncan (SC)	Rice (SC)	
Conyers	Levin	Walberg	Gowdy	Sanford	
Dingell	Mitchell				
MINNESOTA					
Ellison	McCollum	Peterson			
Emmer	Nolan	Walz			
Lewis	Paulsen				
MISSISSIPPI					
Harper	Palazzo		Black	Cooper	Fleischmann
Kelly	Thompson		Blackburn	DesJarlais	Kustoff (TN)
MISSOURI					
Clay	Hartzler	Smith	Cohen	Duncan (TN)	Roe (TN)
Cleaver	Long	Wagner			
Graves	Luetkemeyer				
MONTANA					
	Zinke		Arrington	Flores	McCaull
NEBRASKA					
Bacon	Fortenberry	Smith	Babin	Gohmert	Olson
NEVADA					
Amodei	Rosen		Barton	Gonzalez	O'Rourke
Kihuen	Titus		Brady	Granger	Poe
NEW HAMPSHIRE					
Kuster		Shea-Porter	Burgess	Green, Al	Ratcliffe
NEW JERSEY					
Frelinghuysen	MacArthur	Payne	Carter	Green, Gene	Sessions
Gottheimer	Norcross	Sires	Conaway	Hensarling	Smith
Lance	Pallone	Smith (NJ)	Cuellar	Hurd	Thornberry
LoBiondo	Pascarella	Watson Coleman	Culberson	Jackson Lee	Veasey
NEW MEXICO					
Luján, Ben Ray	Pearce		Doggett	Johnson, E.B.	Vela
Lujan Grisham, M.			Farenthold	Johnson, Sam	Weber
NEW YORK					
Clarke	King	Serrano		Marchant	Williams
Collins	Lowey	Slaughter			
Crowley	Maloney,	Stefanik			
Donovan	Carolyn B.	Suozzi			
Engel	Maloney, Sean	Tenney			
Espaiat	Meeks	Tonko			
Faso	Meng	Velázquez			
Higgins	Nadler	Zeldin			
Jeffries	Reed				
Katko	Rice				
NORTH CAROLINA					
Adams	Hudson	Price			
Budd	Jones	Rouzer			
Butterfield	McHenry	Walker			
Foxx	Meadows				
Holding	Pittenger				
NORTH DAKOTA					
	Cramer				

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CLERK

The CLERK. Credentials, regular in form, have been received showing the election of:

The Honorable JENNIFER GONZALEZ-COLON as Resident Commissioner from the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for a term of 4 years beginning January 3, 2017;

The Honorable ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON as Delegate from the District of Columbia;

The Honorable MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO as Delegate from Guam;

The Honorable STACEY E. PLASKETT as Delegate from the Virgin Islands;

The Honorable AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN as Delegate from American 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 115th Congress.

Nominations are now in order.

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

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Whether you are from the Evergreen State or the Badger State, we gather here on the House floor representing very diverse backgrounds and walks of life.

This House, the people's House, the center of our government, is where views and beliefs of millions are represented, where ideas are considered, debated, and crafted into laws. No one understands this better than our Speaker of the House, PAUL RYAN. He truly is the people's Speaker because he understands the responsibility given to this body by our Founders.

It is our responsibility to protect the Constitution and the balance of power so that representative government, the rule of law, and equal opportunity for all is protected here in this Chamber by the people and for the people.

Just over a year ago, when he picked up that gavel, Speaker RYAN challenged us to raise our gaze, to respect this institution and open up the legislative process which best represents the will of the people, to be accountable to the people we represent, to be men and women of integrity, to serve our country with a sense of purpose, and to empower everyone to reach their full potential.

Speaker RYAN knows that the healthy competition of ideas between our passionate and talented Members is an asset of representative government. As Speaker, PAUL RYAN made a commitment to getting this institution working, and as a result, we have had more conference committees and more bipartisan achievements. He put this majority to work on bold policy solutions that united us. Under his leadership, this think tank of ideas was able