



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 115<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 163

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  
Brooks  
Byrne

Palmer  
Roby  
Rogers

Sewell

### ALASKA

Young

### ARIZONA

Biggs  
Franks  
Gallego

Grijalva  
Gosar  
McSally

O'Halleran  
Sinema  
Schweikert

### ARKANSAS

Crawford  
Hill

Westerman  
Womack

### CALIFORNIA

Aguilar  
Barragán  
Bass  
Becerra  
Bera  
Brownley  
Calvert  
Carbajal

Cárdenas  
Chu, Judy  
Cook  
Correa  
Costa  
Davis  
Denham  
DeSaulnier

Eshoo  
Garamendi  
Huffman  
Hunter  
Issa  
Khanna  
Knight  
LaMalfa

Lee  
Lieu, Ted  
Lofgren  
Lowenthal  
Matsui  
McCarthy  
McClintock  
McNerney  
Napolitano  
Nunes

Buck  
Coffman  
DeGette

Courtney  
DeLauro

Panetta  
Pelosi  
Peters  
Rohrabacher  
Roybal-Allard  
Royce  
Ruiz  
Sanchez  
Schiff  
Sherman

### COLORADO

Lamborn  
Perlmutter  
Polis

Speier  
Swalwell  
Takano  
Thompson  
Torres  
Valadao  
Vargas  
Walters, Mimi  
Waters, Maxine

Tipton

### CONNECTICUT

Esty  
Himes

Larson

### DELAWARE

Blunt Rochester

### FLORIDA

Bilirakis  
Buchanan  
Castor  
Crist  
Curbelo  
Demings  
DeSantis  
Deutch  
Diaz-Balart  
Dunn

Frankel  
Gaetz  
Hastings  
Lawson  
Mast  
Murphy  
Posey  
Rooney, Francis  
Rooney, Thomas J.

Ros-Lehtinen  
Ross  
Rutherford  
Soto  
Wasserman  
Schultz  
Webster  
Wilson  
Yoho

### GEORGIA

Allen  
Bishop  
Carter  
Collins  
Ferguson

Graves  
Hice, Jody B.  
Johnson  
Lewis  
Loudermilk

Price, Tom  
Scott, Austin  
Scott, David  
Woodall

### HAWAII

Gabbard

Hanabusa

### IDAHO

Labrador

Simpson

### ILLINOIS

Bost  
Bustos  
Davis, Danny  
Davis, Rodney  
Foster  
Gutiérrez

Hultgren  
Kelly  
Kinzinger  
Krishnamoorthi  
LaHood  
Lipinski

Quigley  
Roskam  
Rush  
Schakowsky  
Schneider  
Shimkus

### INDIANA

Banks  
Brooks  
Bucshon

Carson  
Hollingsworth  
Messer

Rokita  
Visclosky  
Walorski

□ 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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H1

IOWA			OHIO		
Blum	Loeb sack		Beatty	Jordan	Stivers
King	Young		Chabot	Joyce	Tiberi
KANSAS			Davidson	Kaptur	Turner
Jenkins	Pompeo		Fudge	Latta	Wenstrup
Marshall	Yoder		Gibbs	Renacci	
KENTUCKY			Johnson	Ryan	
LOUISIANA			OKLAHOMA		
Barr	Guthrie	Rogers	Bridenstine	Lucas	Russell
Comer	Massie	Yarmuth	Cole	Mullin	
MAINE			OREGON		
Abraham	Higgins	Richmond	Blumenauer	DeFazio	
Graves	Johnson	Scalise	Bonamici	Walden	
MARYLAND			PENNSYLVANIA		
Pingree		Poliquin	Barletta	Doyle, Michael	Murphy
MASSACHUSETTS			Boyle, Brendan	F.	Perry
Brown	Harris	Ruppersberger	F.	Evans	Rothfus
Cummings	Hoyer	Sarbanes	Brady	Fitzpatrick	Shuster
Delaney	Raskin		Cartwright	Kelly	Smucker
MICHIGAN			Costello	Marino	Thompson
Capuano	Kennedy	Moulton	Dent	Meehan	
Clark	Lynch	Neal	RHODE ISLAND		
Keating	McGovern	Tsongas	Cicilline	Langevin	
MINNESOTA			SOUTH CAROLINA		
Amash	Huizenga	Moolenaar		Mulvaney	Wilson (SC)
Bergman	Kildee	Trott		Rice (SC)	
Bishop	Lawrence	Upton	Clyburn	Sanford	
Conyers	Levin	Walberg	Duncan (SC)		
Dingell	Mitchell		Gowdy		
MISSISSIPPI			SOUTH DAKOTA		
Ellison	McCollum	Peterson	Noem		
Emmer	Nolan	Walz	TENNESSEE		
Lewis	Paulsen		Cooper	Fleischmann	
MISSOURI			DesJarlais	Kustoff (TN)	
Harper	Palazzo		Duncan (TN)	Roe (TN)	
Kelly	Thompson		TEXAS		
MONTANA			Arrington	Flores	McCaul
Clay	Hartzler	Smith	Babin	Gohmert	Olson
Cleaver	Long	Wagner	Barton	Gonzalez	O'Rourke
Graves	Luetkemeyer		Brady	Granger	Poe
NEBRASKA			Burgess	Green, Al	Ratcliffe
Bacon	Zinke		Carter	Green, Gene	Sessions
NEVADA			Castro	Hensarling	Smith
Amodei	Rosen		Conaway	Hurd	Thornberry
Kihuen	Titus		Cuellar	Jackson Lee	Veasey
NEW HAMPSHIRE			Culberson	Johnson, E.B.	Vela
Kuster	Fortenberry	Smith	Doggett	Johnson, Sam	Weber
NEW JERSEY			Farenthold	Marchant	Williams
Frelinghuysen	MacArthur	Payne	UTAH		
Gottheimer	Norcross	Sires	Bishop	Love	
Lance	Pallone	Smith (NJ)	Chaffetz	Stewart	
LoBiondo	Pascrell	Watson Coleman	VERMONT		
NEW MEXICO			Welch		
Luján, Ben Ray	Pearce		VIRGINIA		
Lujan Grisham, M.			Garrett	Scott	
NEW YORK			Goodlatte	Taylor	
Clarke	King	Serrano	Griffith	Wittman	
Collins	Lowey	Slaughter	McEachin		
Crowley	Maloney,	Stefanik	WASHINGTON		
Donovan	Carolyn B.	Suozi	Kilmer	Newhouse	
Engel	Maloney, Sean	Tenney	Larsen	Reichert	
Esparillat	Meeks	Tonko	McMorris	Smith	
Faso	Meng	Velázquez	Rodgers		
Higgins	Nadler	Zeldin	WEST VIRGINIA		
Jeffries	Reed		McKinley	Mooney	
Katko	Rice		WISCONSIN		
NORTH CAROLINA			Kind	Ryan	
Adams	Hudson	Price	Moore	Sensenbrenner	
Budd	Jones	Rouzer	Pocan		
Butterfield	McHenry	Walker	WYOMING		
Fox	Meadows		Cheney		
Holding	Pittenger		ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CLERK		
NORTH DAKOTA			The CLERK. Credentials, regular in		
Cramer			form, have been received showing the		

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CLERK

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

The Honorable JENNIFFER 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