

Congressional Record

United States of America

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118^{th} congress, first session

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2023

No. 6

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 p.m., and was called to order by the Clerk.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following

Dear God, it seems this evening we may be at last standing at the threshold of a new Congress.

I am not done yet. Should we, with Your blessing, find our way through the doorway this night, cause us to consider carefully what we have learned on the way.

Turning to You each day, we asked for Your help in our deliberations, and You answered us. But Your answer was to allow us to suffer the anxiety, uncertainty, and aggravation that follows when we choose to allow healthy debate to devolve into contentious and unproductive argument.

And yet, in Your mercy, You transformed this foray into discord into an opportunity to learn to find common ground with unlikely partners. Would that this be a habit we continue.

Remind us that while the spirit of dispute can be traced to our government's earliest days, we have served this country best when we sought to reconcile our differences with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. May we be more willing to wield these fruits of Your spirit in our future discourse with one another.

We pray Your continued mercy on us. May Your anger with us last but a moment and Your favor a lifetime. And for all that we endure this night, allow joy to come in the morning.

In the hope found in Your name, we pray.

THE JOURNAL

The CLERK. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The CLERK. The Representativeselect 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. The question recurs upon the election of a Speaker. The tellers will please come forward and take their seats.

The Clerk recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY).

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Clerk, I am honored to rise tonight to nominate my good friend, the gentleman from California, KEVIN McCARTHY, to serve as Speaker of this House.

Madam Clerk, it has been a long week, and a lot of attention has been placed upon us here in the House, but then again, I state that to the most famous woman in Washington this week. It was a better joke as written, actually, than delivered.

I want to start by thanking the men and women who make this House run. From the janitorial staff to the parliamentarians, to the doorkeepers, to the Sergeant at Arms, to the Capitol Police officers, to the men and women that make this institution run, we thank you.

On this day and as a source of charity, we would even thank the Capitol press corps for sitting on floors. That, too, was actually funnier on paper than how it delivered. I don't know why you asked me to do this, KEVIN.

Look, the President has called this process an embarrassment. Talking heads have labeled this chaos and a mess, and some would call it shambolic, even. But it is called democracy, and this is a hallmark of a free society where every voice and every vote counts.

We know it is messy, but open and transparent debate is what sets us apart from authoritarian regimes.

In order to outcompete our adversaries, we must adhere to the principles that make our Nation, this Naour constitutional Republic, tion. great. That starts with a free and open exchange of ideas, and that is exactly what we have done this week.

To some, it may have felt like Congress was on hold, but the alternative, a government that assembles with no input from the Representatives elected by the people, is a far worse alternative than these constitutional principles we are adhering to in this complicated process of setting up the House.

Over these last few days, KEVIN McCarthy has allowed this process to work among House Republicans, and he has empowered Members to come together to find consensus on behalf of conservative policy and a greater involvement of all voices throughout our Conference.

□ 2210

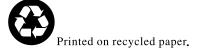
We have all played a part, whether you are the dean or a Member who has just been waiting for 4 days and voting loyally. It is KEVIN's leadership style, a leadership style that has been lacking in this institution for too long.

It is the same style KEVIN employed with each of us as we developed our policy proposal, a Commitment to America, a plan that works to secure our border and stop the flow fentanyl into our communities; to give Chairman Comer and Chairman Jor-DAN the tools they need to hold the Biden administration accountable for their failures; to take China on and end the President's COVID emergency powers that have been abused far too many times; to finally reopen the people's House, empower our standing committees, and get people back to regular order here on the House floor; and countless other conservative solutions that are very powerful and good for constituents in Bakersfield, California, or Lincolnton, North Carolina.

Madam Clerk, I am one of the few Members left on the Republican side

☐ 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.



who has had the pleasure of serving with KEVIN for the entirety of his tenure in the House.

In those years, I have worked closely with KEVIN in a variety of different capacities, and he is a good friend. But serving with him in these capacities has meant that I have heard every one of his stories. I have heard the story of Kevin O's Deli way too many times. I don't know if you have heard, but he won the lottery as well. I could recount those stories chapter and verse. He is a dear friend. But all of you have heard these stories, too.

Also, I have been able to watch him from a front-row seat as he has grown as a leader and especially this week how he has grown as a leader.

He knows more about Members than they know about themselves. If your spouse is sick, he may send flowers or fruit before I did, actually, on that story. But he cares so much about Members, not for politics, but because he cares about people.

He is unflinchingly optimistic. The glass is always half full. That is a hell of a trait, especially this week. He is relentless. The man does not quit.

It was KEVIN that led Republicans back to the majority in this House, the only Republican institution in Washington this day. KEVIN has led us through these challenges the last few days, and KEVIN is the right person to lead us over the coming 2 years.

That is why, at the direction of the Republican Conference, I advance the name of KEVIN McCarthy as the next Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.

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

Mr. AGUILAR, Madam Clerk, I rise to nominate HAKEEM JEFFRIES for Speaker of the House.

Madam Clerk, House Democrats are united behind the son of a social worker and substance abuse counselor, a leader who is deeply involved in his community and a tireless advocate for the least, the lost, and the left behind. He is a voice for the people. Madam Clerk, this is the people's House.

Two years ago today, duly elected Members of this body gathered here to certify the results of a free and fair election. In doing so, we participated in a tradition that makes our democracy a marvel and the envy of the world, a peaceful transfer of power.

But this body is more than a ceremonial Chamber, Madam Clerk. This is a workplace where hundreds of men and women endure long, difficult hours before they punch out and go home to their families, where good people come to work each day and maybe steal a quiet moment to themselves to look up at the ceiling or to look at the paintings or the statue of Abraham Lincoln and to thank God for the blessings of liberty because this place is so much more than a Chamber or even a workplace. "It is," in Lincoln's words, "a sign we intend the Union shall go on."

I am not just talking about the Members either, Madam Clerk. I am talking about you and your staff, the custodial staff, the floor staff, the institutional staff, our congressional staff, the Sergeant at Arms, our beloved Chaplain, and the Capitol Police. I am talking about the people who make this House work, the people who HAKEEM JEFFRIES will never take for granted.

Two years ago, Madam Clerk, we witnessed this place under siege by a violent mob who desecrated this building and the other Chamber. But this feels a little familiar. Today, we adjourned amidst utter confusion, only this time we are returning in the dark of night not to cast a vote to bring this country together and to do our jobs, but one that will set the path toward division and default.

So if we are forced to be here this evening because of the chaos and crisis on the other side, it is only fair to point out, Madam Clerk, that the same individuals who fanned the flames of January 6, who told their followers and their followers' followers that they needed to fight back, and who challenged the swearing in of Members based on a bogus claim of fake electors, may well be in charge of the people's House, if they can ever agree on who can lead them.

That is why House Democrats stand united behind Hakeem Jeffries. HAKEEM is the only candidate in this race for Speaker who will defend this democracy. He is the only candidate in this race willing to call out the lie that the election was stolen, and he is the only candidate in this race who thinks that everyone involved on January 6 ought to be held accountable, regardless of the positions they hold in power.

For justice and truth, and in memory of the lives lost on January 6, I nominate Hakeem Jeffries for Speaker of the House.

The CLERK. 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. 18]

McCARTHY-216

Burchett DesJarlais Aderholt Alford Burgess Diaz-Balart Allen Burlison Donalds Amodei Calvert Duarte Armstrong Cammack Duncan Dunn (FL) Carey Arrington Babin Carl Edwards Carter (GA) Bacon Ellzev Baird Carter (TX) Emmer Balderson Chavez-DeRemer Estes Banks Ciscomani Ezell Barr Cline Fallon Bean (FL) Cloud Feenstra Bentz Clyde Ferguson Bergman Cole Finstad Bice Bilirakis Collins Fischbach Comer Fitzgerald Bishop (NC) Crawford Fitzpatrick Crenshaw Fleischmann Bost. Brecheen Flood Curtis D'Esposito Buchanan Foxx Davidson Franklin, C. Buck Bucshon De La Cruz Scott

Fulcher Gallagher Garbarino Garcia, Mike Gimenez Gonzales Tony Gooden (TX) Gosar Granger Graves (LA) Graves (MO) Green (TN) Greene (GA) Griffith Grothman Guthrie Hageman Harshbarger Hern Higgins (LA) Hill Hinson Houchin Hudson Huizenga Hunt Issa. Jackson (TX) James Johnson (LA) Johnson (OH) Johnson (SD) Jordan Joyce (OH) Joyce (PA) Kean (NJ) Kelly (MS) Kelly (PA) Kiggans (VA) Kiley Kim (CA) Kustoff LaHood LaLota LaMalfa Langworthy

Rogers (KY) Latta LaTurner Rose Lawler Rouzer Lee (FL) Roy Lesko Rutherford Letlow Salazar Loudermilk Santos Lucas Scalise Luetkemeyer Schweikert Luna Scott, Austin Luttrell Self Mace Sessions Malliotakis Simpson Mann Smith (MO) Massie Smith (NE) Mast Smith (NJ) McCarthy Smucker McCaul Spartz McClain McClintock Stauber Steel McCormick Stefanik McHenry Steil Meuser Miller (II.) Steube Stewart Miller (OH) Miller (WV) Strong Miller-Meeks Tennev Mills Thompson (PA) Molinaro Tiffany Moolenaar Timmons Mooney Turner Moore (AL) Valadao Moore (UT) Van Drew Moran Van Duvne Murphy Van Orden Nehls Wagner Newhouse Walberg Norman Waltz Nunn (IA) Weber (TX) Obernolte Webster (FL) Ogles Wenstrup Owens Westerman Palmer Williams (NY) Pence Williams (TX) Perry Wilson (SC) Pfluger Wittman Posev Reschenthaler Womack Rodgers (WA) Yakym Rogers (AL) Zinke

JEFFRIES-212

Davids (KS) Adams Javapal Davis (IL) Aguilar Allred Davis (NC) Auchincloss Dean (PA) Balint DeGette Barragán DeLauro Beatty DelBene Deluzio Bera DeSaulnier Rever Bishop (GA) Dingell Blumenauer Doggett Blunt Rochester Escobar Eshoo Bonamici Bowman Espaillat Boyle (PA) Evans Brown Fletcher Brownley Foster Budzinski Foushee Bush Frankel, Lois Caraveo Frost Carbajal Gallego Cárdenas Garamendi Carson García (IL) Carter (LA) Garcia (TX) Garcia, Robert Cartwright Casar Golden (ME) Case Goldman (NY) Casten Gomez Castor (FL) Gonzalez. Castro (TX) Vicente Cherfilus-Gottheimer McCormick Green (TX) Chu Grijalva Cicilline Harder (CA) Clark (MA) Haves Clarke (NY) Higgins (NY) Cleaver Himes Horsford Clyburn Cohen Houlahan Connolly Hoyer Hoyle (OR) Correa Costa Huffman Courtney Ivey Jackson (IL) Craig Crockett Jackson (NC) Crow Jackson Lee Cuellar Jacobs Norcross

Johnson (GA) Kamlager-Dove Kaptur Keating Kelly (IL) Khanna Kildee Kilmer Kim (NJ) Krishnamoorthi Kuster Landsman Larsen (WA) Larson (CT) Lee (CA) Lee (NV) Lee (PA) Leger Fernandez Levin Lieu

Lofgren Lvnch Magaziner Manning Matsui McBath McCollum McGarvey McGovern Meeks Menendez Meng Mfume Moore (WI) Morelle Moskowitz Moulton Mrvan Mullin Nadler Napolitano Neal Neguse Nickel

Jordan

Joyce (PA)

Kelly (MS) Kelly (PA)

Kim (CA)

Kustoff

LaHood

Lamborn

LaTurner

Lee (FL)

Lesko

Letlow

Lucas

Mace

Mann

Massie

McCaul

McHenry

Mills

Miller (IL)

Moolenaar

Mooney

Moran

Nehls

Ogles

Owens

Newhouse

Norman

Luttrell

Ocasio-Cortez Sánchez Thanedar Omar Sarbanes Thompson (CA) Pallone Scanlon Thompson (MS) Panetta Schakowsky Schiff Pappas Tlaib Pascrell Schneider Tokuda Pavne Scholten Tonko Pelosi Schrier Torres (CA) Peltola Scott (VA) Torres (NY) Scott, David Perez Trahan Peters Sewell Trone Pettersen Sherman Underwood Sherrill Phillips Vargas Pingree Vasquez Smith (WA) Pocan Veasev Porter Sorensen Velázquez Pressley Wasserman Quigley Spanberger Schultz Stansbury Ramirez Waters Raskin Stanton Watson Coleman Ross Stevens Strickland Wexton Ruiz Ruppersberger Swalwell Wild Williams (GA) R.va.n Sykes Salinas Takano Wilson (FL) JORDAN-2 Good (VA) Biggs BIGGS-2Rosendale Crane

ANSWERED "PRESENT"-2

Boebert Gaetz

NOT VOTING-0

□ 2315

The CLERK. The tellers agree in their tallies that the total number of votes cast is 432, of which the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY of the State of California has received 216, the Honorable HAKEEM JEFFRIES of the State of New York has received 212, the Honorable JIM JORDAN of the State of Ohio has received 2, the Honorable ANDY BIGGS of the State of Arizona has received 2, with 2 Members-elect voting present.

No Member-elect having received a majority of the votes cast, a Speaker has not been elected.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Clerk, I move that the House do now adjourn until noon Monday

The CLERK. The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from North Carolina MCHENRY).

The question was taken; and the announced that the noes peared to have it.

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Clerk, that I demand the year and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 155, nays 279, as follows:

[Roll No. 19] YEAS-155

Alford Bishop (NC)	Ciscomani Cloud Clvde
Amodei Brecheen	Cole
Armstrong Buchanan	Collins
Arrington Buck	Comer
Babin Bucshon	Crawford
Bacon Burlison	Crenshaw
Baird Calvert	Curtis
Balderson Carey	De La Cruz
Banks Carter (GA)	DesJarlais
Barr Carter (TX)	Diaz-Balart
Bean (FL) Chavez-DeRemer	Donalds

Dunn (FL) Edwards Ellzey Estes Ezell Feenstra. Ferguson Finstad Fischbach Flood Foxx Frv Fulcher Gallagher Garcia, Mike Gonzales, Tony Gooden (TX) Gosar Granger Graves (LA) Green (TN) Greene (GA) Grothman Guest Hageman Harris Harshbarger Hern Higgins (LA) Hill Hinson Houchin Hudson Hunt Jackson (TX) James Johnson (LA)

Adams

Allred

Balint.

Bentz

Bera.

Bice

Biggs

Bilirakis

Boebert.

Brown

Bonamici

Boyle (PA)

Brownley

Budzinski

Cammack

Caraveo

Carbajal

Cárdenas

Carter (LA)

Cartwright

Castor (FL)

Castro (TX)

McCormick

Cherfilus-

Cicilline

Cleaver

Clyburn

Connolly

Courtney

Crockett

Cohen

Correa

Costa

Craig

Crane

Crow

Cuellar

Cline

Clark (MA)

Clarke (NY)

Burchett

Bush

Carl

Carson

Casar Case

Casten

Bishop (GA)

Blumenauer

Blunt Rochester

Beyer

Barragár

Aguilar

Auchincloss

Duarte

Johnson (OH) Palmer Pence Perry Pfluger Posev Kiggans (VA) Rogers (AL) Rouzer Rutherford Salazar Santos Schweikert Scott, Austin Self Loudermilk Sessions Simpson Luetkemeyer Smith (MO) Smith (NE) Smith (NJ) Spartz Stee1 Stefanik McClintock Steube McCormick Stewart Thompson (PA) Tiffany Timmons Miller (WV Valadao Weber (TX) Webster (FL) Moore (AL) Westerman Williams (NY) Moore (UT) Williams (TX) Wilson (SC) Wittman Womack Yakvm Zinke

NAYS-279

D'Esposito Huffman Davids (KS) Huizenga Davidson Ivev Davis (IL) Jackson (IL) Davis (NC) Jackson (NC) Dean (PA) Jackson Lee Jacobs Jayapal Jeffries DeLauro DelBene Johnson (GA) DeSaulnier Johnson (SD) Dingell Joyce (OH) Kamlager-Dove Doggett Duncan Kaptur Kean (NJ) Emmer Escobai Keating Eshoo Kelly (IL) Espaillat Khanna Kildee Fallon Kilev Fitzgerald Kilmer Fitzpatrick Kim (NJ) Fleischmann Krishnamoorthi Fletcher Kuster Foster LaLota Foushee LaMalfa Frankel, Lois Landsman Franklin, C Langworthy Larsen (WA) Scott Frost Larson (CT) Gaetz Latta Gallego Lawler Garamendi Lee (CA) Garbarino Lee (NV Lee (PA) García (IL) Garcia (TX Leger Fernandez Garcia, Robert Levin Gimenez Lieu Golden (ME) Lofgren Goldman (NY) Luna Lynch Gomez Gonzalez, Magaziner Vicente Malliotakis Good (VA) Manning Gottheimer Mast Graves (MO) Matsui Green (TX) McBath Griffith McCarthy Grijalya McClain Guthrie McCollum Harder (CA) McGarvey Hayes McGovern Higgins (NY) Meeks Himes Horsford Menendez Meng Houlahan Mfume Miller (OH) Hoyer Hoyle (OR) Miller-Meeks

Rodgers (WA) Molinaro Moore (WI) Rogers (KY Morelle Rosendale Moskowitz Ross Moulton Roy Mrvan Ruiz Ruppersberger Mullin Murphy Ryan Nadler Salinas Napolitano Sánchez Neal Sarbanes Neguse Scalise Nickel Scanlon Norcross Schakowsky Nunn (IA) Schiff Obernolte Schneider Ocasio-Cortez Scholten Omar Schrier Pallone Scott (VA) Panetta Scott, David Pappas Sewell. Pascrell Sherman Sherrill Payne Pelosi Slotkin Smith (WA) Peltola Perez Smucker Peters Sorensen Pettersen Soto Phillips Spanberger Pingree Stansbury Pocan Stanton Porter Stauber Steil Presslev Quigley Stevens Ramirez Strickland Raskin Strong Swalwell Reschenthaler

Sykes Takano Tenney Thanedar Thompson (CA) Thompson (MS) Titus Tlaib Tokuda Tonko Torres (CA) Torres (NY) Trahan Trone Turner Underwood Van Drew Van Duyne Van Orden Vargas Vasquez Veasev Velázquez Wagner Walberg Waltz Wasserman Schultz Waters Watson Coleman Wenstrup Wexton Wild Williams (GA) Wilson (FL)

□ 2340

Mr. GAETZ, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mrs. BOEBERT, Messrs. ROY, STEIL, BURCHETT, McCARTHY, LATTA. STAUBER, LAWLER, Mrs. McCLAIN, Messrs. CRANE, BIGGS, GOOD of Vir-HUIZENGA. ROSENDALE, ginia. GRIFFITH, KEAN of New Jersey, TUR-NER, EMMER, Mrs. LUNA, Messrs. DUNCAN, VAN DREW, CLINE, NUNN of Iowa, GIMENEZ, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Messrs. CARL, DAVIDSON, STRONG, Ms. TENNEY, Messrs. BILIRAKIS. VAN ORDEN, WENSTRUP, BURGESS, WAGNER, Messrs. WALBERG. Mrs. **JOHNSON** of South Dakota. SMUCKER, MAST. SCALISE. MOLINARO, Mrs. CAMMACK, Messrs. GUTHRIE, FLEISCHMANN, ROGERS Kentucky, MURPHY. RESCHENTHALER, LANGWORTHY, JOYCE of Ohio, KILEY, FALLON. LAMALFA, GRAVES of Missouri, BENTZ, C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mmes. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Messrs. OBERNOLTE, D'ESPOSITO, and FITZPATRICK changed their vote from "yea" ʻʻnay.

So the motion to adjourn was reiected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

THE CLERK. The Clerk recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Clerk, I rise to nominate KEVIN McCarthy as the Speaker of the House of Represent-

Madam Clerk, the eyes of the world and eyes of America are on this body right now. What America needs and what this body needs is a lot less talk and a lot more action.

At the direction of the Republican Conference, I advance the name