

□ 1331

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 1 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, August 31, 2026.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter received from Mr. J. Blake Evans, Elections Director, with the Georgia Office of the Secretary of State indicating that, according to the unofficial results for the Special Election Runoff held on August 25, 2026, the Honorable Everton "EJ" Blair was elected Representative to Congress for the Thirteenth Congressional District of Georgia.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.

Enclosure.

THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,
Atlanta, GA, August 26, 2026.

Hon. KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. MCCUMBER: This is to advise you that the unofficial results of the Special Election Runoff held on Tuesday, August 25, 2026, for Representative in Congress from the Thirteenth Congressional District of Georgia, show that Everton "EJ" Blair received 9,891 votes or 53.95% of the total number of votes cast for that office.

It would appear from these unofficial results that Everton "EJ" Blair was elected as Representative in Congress from the Thirteenth Congressional District of Georgia. To the best of our knowledge and belief at this time, there is no contest to this election.

As soon as the official results are certified to this office by all jurisdictions involved, an official Certificate of Election will be prepared for transmittal as required by law.

Best,

J. BLAKE EVANS,
Elections Director.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE
EVERTON BLAIR, JR., OF GEORGIA,
AS A MEMBER OF THE
HOUSE

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Georgia, the Honorable Everton Blair, Jr., be permitted to take the oath of office today.

His certificate of election has not arrived, but there is no contest and no question has been raised with regard to his election.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. Will the Representative-elect and the members of the Georgia delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise his right hand.

Everton Blair, Jr., 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, you are now a Member of the 119th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE
EVERTON BLAIR, JR., TO THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, as dean of the Georgia congressional delegation, I am pleased to welcome Dr. EVERTON BLAIR, JR., as the newest member of our delegation, representing Georgia's 13th Congressional District.

Our delegation is diverse, consisting of ordinary citizens with an extraordinary passion for improving lives and representing the great State of Georgia. Most of all, regardless of our differences, we consistently and tirelessly pursue common ground, uplifting our communities and addressing their needs and interests.

EVERTON is 34 years old, born and raised in Gwinnett County in the metro Atlanta area. His parents are both Jamaican immigrants. His father is a computer scientist and his mother a pediatrician.

EVERTON earned a B.A. in mathematics from Harvard College; a master's in policy, organization, and leadership from Stanford University; and a doctorate of educational leadership from the Harvard Graduate School as a Presidential Public Service Fellow.

He taught for 2 years in the Atlanta public school system through the Teach America Program, and in 2018, at the young age of 26, he ran for a seat on the Gwinnett County Board of Education, defeating a longtime incumbent and becoming the youngest and first person of color to serve on the board. Moreover, he was unanimously selected to chair that board and led the Gwinnett system through the COVID-19 pandemic.

In April 2025, along with several others, he filed to run for a seat in the 120th Congress for the 13th Congressional District that was represented by our late colleague David Scott.

Sadly, David passed and EVERTON announced that he would run in the special election for the remainder of David Scott's unexpired term, which he won last month.

We welcome this dynamic, young leader to the Georgia delegation and to this House as he begins his service to the people of Georgia's 13th Congress-

sional District for the remainder of this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BLAIR).

Mr. BLAIR. Mr. Speaker, it is such an honor and a privilege to be here.

Mr. Speaker, growing up in Gwinnett County, my parents, who are here, imbued in us a real responsibility.

I know that they are proud of me, but above all, I thank them for how tirelessly they worked to support me, even when I had these crazy ideas to do things that I didn't even ask their permission for. They showed up and made it all possible. I thank them again.

I also acknowledge and thank a colleague, a dear mentor and friend of mine without whom I don't even know if I would have known anything about running for Congress, and that is Congresswoman LUCY MCBATH.

LUCY MCBATH sees in young people an ability and a prospect of leadership that I think a lot of us should adopt. I was so fortunate to have had her as my Congresswoman and to now be her colleague. I thank her again for all of the things that she has done.

Mr. Speaker, I will briefly acknowledge that my story is not really that unique. Born and raised in a very American household with immigrant parents, we acclimated.

So many of the things that I have been able to achieve and accomplish, I have just sought to try and do and make sure everybody else can. The reality is that it is getting a lot harder for way too many of us, especially in younger generations, to fulfill that American Dream.

My mandate here is clear: I will do everything in my capacity to make life more affordable for the hardworking Americans in Georgia's 13th Congressional District. I will do everything in my capacity to make sure that district maintains its representation and retains the majority Black representation that it currently has.

There are too many Black Americans who look at the progress that we have had over decades and wonder if their children and grandchildren are going to have as much access to prosperity, economic opportunity, voting rights, and the American systems that we know to be dear and true writ large.

It is up to us now. I didn't get here by accident. I got here by working really, really hard to earn the support of a lot of people and to introduce myself again and again. I will continue to do that as I work to build relationships with all of you and partner in the good work ahead of us. I cannot wait to spend the remainder of this term with all of you. I am thankful for the opportunity.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentleman from Georgia the whole number of the House is 432.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas). Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 6500;

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1499; and

Adoption of House Resolution 1499, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

AGOA EXTENSION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 6500) to extend duty-free treatment provided with respect to imports from certain countries in Africa under the African Growth and Opportunity Act, to extend customs user fees, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 370, nays 48, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 286]

YEAS—370

Adams	Cammack	DesJarlais
Aderholt	Carbajal	Diaz-Balart
Aguilar	Carey	Dingell
Alford	Carter (GA)	Doggett
Allen	Carter (LA)	Downing
Amo	Carter (TX)	Edwards
Amodoi (NV)	Case	Elfreth
Arrington	Casten	Ellzey
Auchincloss	Castor (FL)	Emmer
Babin	Chu	Escobar
Bacon	Ciscomani	Estes
Baird	Cisneros	Evans (CO)
Balderson	Clark (MA)	Evans (PA)
Balint	Clarke (NY)	Ezell
Barr	Cleaver	Fallon
Barragán	Cline	Fedorchak
Barrett	Clyburn	Feenstra
Baumgartner	Cohen	Fields
Bean (FL)	Cole	Figures
Beatty	Collins	Fine
Begich	Comer	Finstad
Bell	Conaway	Fischbach
Bentz	Correa	Fitzgerald
Bera	Costa	Fitzpatrick
Bergman	Courtney	Fleischmann
Beyer	Crank	Fletcher
Bice	Crawford	Flood
Bilirakis	Crenshaw	Fong
Bishop	Crockett	Foster
Blair	Crow	Foushee
Boebert	Cuellar	Fox
Bonamici	Davids (KS)	Frankel, Lois
Bost	Davis (IL)	Franklin, Scott
Bresnahan	Davis (NC)	Friedman
Brown	De La Cruz	Fry
Brownley	Dean (PA)	Fulcher
Buchanan	DeGette	Fuller
Budzinski	DeLauro	Gallagher
Burchett	DelBene	Garbarino
Bynum	Deluzio	Garcia (TX)
Calvert	DeSaulnier	Gill (TX)

Gillen	Liccardo	Ruiz
Gimenez	Lieu	Rulli
Golden (ME)	Lofgren	Rutherford
Goldman (NY)	Loudermilk	Ryan
Goldman (TX)	Lucas	Salazar
Gonzalez, V.	Luna	Salinas
Gooden	Luttrell	Sánchez
Goodlander	Mace	Scalise
Gosar	Mackenzie	Scanlon
Gottheimer	Malliotakis	Schakowsky
Graves	Maloy	Schmidt
Gray	Mann	Schneider
Green, Al (TX)	Mannion	Scholten
Griffith	Mast	Schrier
Grijalva	McBath	Scott (VA)
Grothman	McBride	Scott, Austin
Guest	McClain	Sewell
Guthrie	McClain Delaney	Sherman
Hagamen	McClellan	Shreve
Hamadeh (AZ)	McClintock	Simpson
Harder (CA)	McCollum	Smith (MO)
Haridopolos	McCormick	Smith (NE)
Harrigan	McDonald Rivet	Smith (NJ)
Harris (NC)	McDowell	Smucker
Harshbarger	McGuire	Sorensen
Hayes	McIver	Soto
Hern (OK)	Meeks	Spartz
Hill (AR)	Mejia	Stansbury
Himes	Menefee	Stanton
Hinson	Menendez	Staubert
Horsford	Meng	Stefanik
Houchin	Messmer	Steil
Houlahan	Meuser	Stevens
Hoyer	MFume	Strickland
Hoyle (OR)	Miller (OH)	Strong
Hudson	Miller (WV)	Stutzman
Huffman	Miller-Meeks	Subramanyam
Huizenga	Moolenaar	Suozi
Hunt	Moore (AL)	Sykes
Hurd (CO)	Moore (NC)	Takano
Issa	Moore (UT)	Taylor
Ivey	Moore (WI)	Tenney
Jack	Moore (WV)	Thompson (MS)
Jackson (IL)	Moran	Thompson (PA)
Jackson (TX)	Morelle	Tiffany
Jacobs	Morrison	Timmons
James	Moskowitz	Titus
Jeffries	Mrvan	Tokuda
Johnson (GA)	Mullin	Torres (CA)
Johnson (LA)	Murphy	Torres (NY)
Johnson (SD)	Nadler	Trahan
Johnson (TX)	Neguse	Tran
Jordan	Nehls	Turner (OH)
Joyce (OH)	Newhouse	Valadao
Joyce (PA)	Norcross	Van Drew
Kamlager-Dove	Nunn (IA)	Van Duyne
Kean	Ogles	Van Epps
Keating	Olzewski	Van Orden
Kelly (IL)	Onder	Vargas
Kelly (MS)	Owens	Vasquez
Kelly (PA)	Pallone	Veasey
Kennedy (NY)	Palmer	Vindman
Kennedy (UT)	Panetta	Wagner
Kiggans (VA)	Pappas	Walberg
Kiley (CA)	Patronis	Walkinshaw
Kim	Pelosi	Wasserman
Knott	Perez	Schultz
Krishnamoorthi	Peters	Waters
Kustoff	Pettersen	Watson Coleman
LaHood	Pfluger	Weber (TX)
LaLota	Pingree	Webster (FL)
Landsman	Pocan	Westerman
Langworthy	Pou	Whitesides
Larsen (WA)	Quigley	Wied
Larson (CT)	Randall	Williams (GA)
Latimer	Raskin	Williams (TX)
Latta	Reschenthaler	Wilson (FL)
Lawler	Riley (NY)	Wilson (SC)
Lee (FL)	Rivas	Wittman
Lee (NV)	Rogers (AL)	Womack
Leger Fernandez	Rogers (KY)	Yakym
Letlow	Ross	Zinke
Levin	Rouzer	

NAYS—48

Ansari	Espallat	McGovern
Biggs (AZ)	Frost	Min
Biggs (SC)	Garcia (CA)	Norman
Boyle (PA)	Garcia (IL)	Ocasio-Cortez
Brecheen	Gomez	Omar
Burlison	Harris (MD)	Perry
Carson	Higgins (LA)	Pressley
Casas	Jayapal	Ramirez
Castro (TX)	Khanna	Rose
Cloud	Lee (PA)	Roy
Clyde	Magaziner	Schweikert
Crane	Massie	Self
Davidson	Matsui	Sessions
Dexter	McGarvey	Simon

Steube	Thompson (CA)	Tonko
Thanedar	Tlaib	Underwood

NOT VOTING—14

Craig	Lynch	Neal
Donalds	McCaul	Oberholte
Dunn (FL)	Miller (IL)	Smith (WA)
Garamendi	Mills	Velázquez
Kaptur	Moulton	

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Messrs. SCHWEIKERT, GARCIA of California, MIN, and THANEDAR changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. MFUME and Mrs. McCLAIN changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1501, PROTECTING DOMESTIC MINING ACT OF 2025; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 9436, NORTHEAST LOBSTERMAN PROTECTION ACT OF 2026; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 1490, PROVIDING FOR THE CONDEMNATION AND DENOUNCEMENT OF SOCIALISM IN ALL ITS FORMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4795, PROTECT ECONOMIC AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM ACT OF 2026; AND RELATING TO CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 1499) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1501) to amend the FAST Act to include certain mineral production activities as a covered project, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (9436) to amend the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 to extend the time period for which certain regulations concerning the North Atlantic right whale are effective; providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1490) providing for the condemnation and denouncement of socialism in all its forms, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4795) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit an institution that participates in a non-expressive commercial boycott of Israel from being eligible for certain funds under that Act, to require an institution that participates in certain programs under that Act to certify that students are not unreasonably obstructed from participating in academic programs in Israel, and for other purposes; and relating to consideration of motions to suspend the rules, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.