

Liver Capitol Hill Day 2017 – Congressional Biographies

State: Arizona

Senator John McCain (R-AZ) 6th Term

John McCain entered the Naval Academy in June of 1954. He served in the United States Navy until 1981. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Arizona in 1982 and elected to the United States Senate in 1986. He was the Republican Party's nominee for president in the 2008 election. He currently serves as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services.

State: California

Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) 4th Term

As California's senior Senator, Dianne Feinstein has built a reputation as an independent voice, working with both Democrats and Republicans to find commonsense solutions to the problems facing California and the nation.

Since her election to the Senate in 1992, Senator Feinstein has worked in a bipartisan way to build a significant record of legislative accomplishments, helping strengthen the nation's security at home and abroad, combat crime and violence, battle cancer and protect natural resources in California and across the country.

In 2009, Senator Feinstein assumed chairmanship of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, where she oversaw the nation's 16 intelligence agencies. She was the first female Senator to hold that position. As chairman, Feinstein oversaw the passage of six intelligence authorization bills following a five-year drought. The committee also approved a key bipartisan report on the Benghazi attacks and released key information about the CIA's detention and interrogation program following a six-year review. Today, Senator Feinstein serves as vice chairman of the committee, during which time the committee passed the first significant congressional legislation to address security flaws in our nation's cybersecurity.

Senator Feinstein is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee where she is ranking member on the Subcommittee on Energy and Water. She is also a senior member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, which she chaired during the 110th Congress. In that capacity, Senator Feinstein was the first woman to chair the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies and presided over the inauguration of President Barack Obama on January 20, 2009.

In addition to her official committee assignments, Senator Feinstein is co-chairman of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, co-chairman of the Senate Cancer Coalition and co-chairman of the Senate Women's Caucus on Burma. She is also a member of the Anti-Meth Caucus, the Congressional Dairy Caucus and the Congressional Former Mayors Caucus. She has served as a member of the Aspen Strategy Group since 1997.

Member: Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA) 1st Term

A lifelong public safety and civil rights leader, Senator-elect Kamala D. Harris is the first African American and first woman to serve as Attorney General of California and the second African American woman to be elected to the United States Senate in history.

Throughout her career as a prosecutor, Harris has been a tireless advocate for the most voiceless and vulnerable Californians.

As California's Attorney General, Harris prosecuted transnational gangs exploiting women and children and trafficking in guns and drugs and led comprehensive studies on the impacts of transnational criminal organizations and human trafficking in California.

Harris fought for Californians hit hardest during the state and national mortgage crisis, won \$20 billion for homeowners, created a multidivisional Mortgage Fraud Strike Force to crack down on fraud and passed the "Homeowners Bill of Rights," establishing the nation's most comprehensive anti-foreclosure protections.

Harris has worked intensively to protect children and students. She established California's Bureau of Children's Justice and fought to reduce elementary school truancy so that every California child can exercise his or her constitutional right to an education. As Attorney General, Harris successfully sued predatory for-profit colleges scamming students and veterans.

Harris aggressively defended the rights of consumers. She won major settlements for consumers, forged innovative agreements with the technology industry to improve privacy protections and cracked down on piracy and online crime. Harris also fought to protect California's environment, prosecuted polluters, helped win marriage equality for all Californians and defended the Affordable Care Act.

Throughout her career, Harris has been a leading advocate for innovation and reform in the criminal justice system. Harris worked to increase the adoption of technology and data-driven policing to assist law enforcement in the efficient investigation and prosecution of crime, established the first Office of Recidivism Reduction and Reentry and pioneered the nation's first open data initiative to expose racial disparities in the criminal justice system.

Harris served two terms as District Attorney of San Francisco. Defeating a two-term incumbent, she was first elected DA in 2003, and was overwhelmingly elected to a second term in November 2007. Harris began her career in the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, where she specialized in prosecuting child sexual assault cases. In 1998, she joined the San Francisco District Attorney's Office, where she led the Career Criminal Unit. She also served as the head of the San Francisco City Attorney's Division on Children and Families.

Representative Mike Thompson (D-CA-5) 10th Term

Mike Thompson represents California's 5th Congressional District. The district includes all of Napa and parts of Contra Costa, Lake, Solano and Sonoma Counties. He was first elected in 1998. Prior to serving in Congress, Thompson represented California's 2nd District in the California State Senate where he chaired the powerful Budget Committee.

Thompson is a member of the House Committee on Ways and Means where he serves on the Health and Select Revenue subcommittees. Thompson is the co-founder and co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Wine Caucus, which consists of over 215 U.S. Senators and House members. He is a member and was twice co-chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus. He is also a member of the Blue Dog Coalition, which is composed of Democrats committed to bipartisan problem solving and fiscal responsibility.

In 1990, Thompson was the first Vietnam veteran elected to the California State Senate. He served in combat with the U.S. Army as a staff sergeant/platoon leader with the 173rd Airborne Brigade where he was wounded and received a Purple Heart. He was also an instructor at the Army's Airborne School.

Thompson is recognized in Congress and throughout his district as a strong leader for Democratic principles who has built a solid reputation for bipartisan problem solving.

Thompson's number one priority in Congress is to create jobs and grow our economy. He has co-authored numerous pieces of legislation to improve our nation's infrastructure, boost our renewable energy economy, and better our education system.

As Co-chair of the bipartisan Military Veterans Caucus, he led the effort to improve treatment options for service members suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury. He has authored bills to help veterans find work as they make the transition back to civilian life. And, as someone who went to college on the GI Bill himself, he helped lead the effort in Congress to pass the 21st Century GI Bill.

With a national debt of more than \$17 trillion, Thompson is working on a balanced approach to get our fiscal house in order that includes creating jobs, cutting spending, asking everyone to pay their fair share, and requiring Congress to pay for the bills it passes.

In the wake of the school shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, Thompson was named Chair of the House Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. Thompson is a hunter, gun owner and strong supporter of the Second Amendment. He also believes that Congress should do more to reduce gun violence. In February of 2013, Thompson's task force released a comprehensive set of policy principles that will reduce gun violence and respect the Second Amendment, including expanding the criminal background check system to all commercial firearm sales.

Thompson is the husband of a family nurse practitioner. He knows firsthand of the challenges that exist in our health care system. That is why he voted to pass the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and is working to build on the reforms made in the ACA to further improve everyone's access to affordable, quality health care.

As an avid outdoorsman, Thompson is committed to preserving our district's beautiful lands. Thompson was awarded the Sierra Club's Edgar Wayburn Award for passing legislation that permanently protects 273,000 acres of wilderness in Northern California. The award is given in recognition of service to the environment by a person in government. Thompson was joined by other Sierra Club award winners, including former Vice President Al Gore and author and New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman.

Thompson is the co-author of comprehensive immigration reform. He also has worked to ensure equal rights for same sex couples, and has co-authored legislation that gives state and local law enforcement the tools to prosecute hate crimes based on sexual orientation. As a combat veteran, Thompson worked to end the discriminatory policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell."

Thompson is a small vineyard owner and was the maintenance supervisor for the Beringer Winery. He has taught Public Administration and State Government at San Francisco State University and California State University, Chico. He received his Master's of Public Administration from California State University, Chico. He is married to Janet Thompson. They have two sons, a firefighter and a deputy sheriff, and three wonderful granddaughters.

Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA-13) 11th Term

Congresswoman Barbara Lee was born in segregated El Paso, TX and attended St. Joseph's Catholic School, where she was taught by the Sisters of Loretto, an order dedicated to promoting justice and peace. Her father was a veteran of two wars and her mother broke many glass ceilings and racial barriers. After grammar school, Congresswoman Lee moved to San Fernando, California and worked with the local NAACP to integrate her high school cheerleading squad.

As a single mother raising two sons, Congresswoman Lee attended Mills College and received public assistance while building a better life for her family. As president of Mills College's Black Student Union, she invited Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman elected to Congress, to speak on campus. As a result of this meeting, Congresswoman Lee registered to vote for the first time and worked on Congresswoman Chisholm's historic presidential campaign, including serving as her delegate at the 1972 Democratic National Convention in Miami, FL.

Congresswoman Lee received her Masters of Social Work from the University of California, Berkeley, specializing in psychiatric social work. During her graduate work, Congresswoman Lee founded the Community Health Alliance for Neighborhood Growth and Education (CHANGE, Inc.) which provided mental health services to many of the East Bay's most vulnerable individuals.

In 1975, Congresswoman Lee joined the staff of Congressman Ron Dellums, where she eventually rose from an intern to chief of staff. During the eleven years she worked for Congressman Dellums, Congresswoman Lee was one of only a few women and persons of color to hold a senior position on Capitol Hill.

In 1990, Congresswoman Lee was elected to the California State Assembly, where she served until 1996 when she was elected to the State Senate. As a California legislator, Congresswoman Lee authored 67 bills and resolutions that were signed into law by Republican Governor Pete Wilson. This legislation addressed a wide spectrum of issues, including public safety, education, healthcare, and environmental protections. In the legislature, Congresswoman Lee was an early champion of LGBT issues and authored

the 1995 California Schools Hate Crimes Reduction Act. As the first African American woman elected to the State Senate from Northern California, Congresswoman Lee created and presided over the California Commission on the Status of African American Males and the California Legislative Black Caucus, while working to defeat the punitive "three strikes law." Congresswoman Lee also served as a strong advocate for women in the legislature, where she authored and passed the first California Violence Against Women Act and served as a member of the California Commission on the Status of Women.

In 1998, Congresswoman Barbara Lee was elected to serve California's 9th congressional district (now the 13th) in a special election. In 2001, Congresswoman Lee received national attention as the only Member of Congress to oppose the authorization for the use of military force (AUMF) in the wake of the horrific events on September 11th. The Congresswoman believed this AUMF would become a blank check for endless war. As of 2013, this authorization had been used more than 30 times to engage in military action without Congressional oversight. Congresswoman Lee is working to repeal this blank check and restore Congress's constitutional oversight to matters of war and peace. She was also an outspoken opponent of the Iraq War.

Since her time in the California legislature, Congresswoman Lee has been a fierce advocate for ending HIV and ensuring an AIDS-free generation. Since entering Congress, she has authored or co-authored every major piece of HIV/AIDS legislation including the legislative frameworks for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Congresswoman Lee's legislation establishing a USAID special advisor for orphans and vulnerable children was enacted into law in 2009. In 2011, Congresswoman Lee formed the bipartisan and bicameral Congressional HIV/AIDS Caucus, which she co-chairs.

Currently, Congresswoman Lee serves on the Budget Committee and the powerful Appropriations Committee, which oversees all federal government spending. She serves on three subcommittees (State and Foreign Operations; Labor, Health and Human Services, Education; and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs) of the Appropriations Committee. She is the former chair of the Congressional Black Caucus (111th Congress) and co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus (109th & 110th Congresses).

Representative Nancy Pelosi (D-CA-12) 16th Term

Nancy Pelosi is the Democratic Leader of the U.S. House of Representatives for the 114th Congress. From 2007 to 2011, Pelosi served as Speaker of the House, the first woman to do so in American history. As the Democratic Leader, Pelosi is fighting for bigger paychecks and better infrastructure for America's middle class families. In 2013, she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Seneca Falls, the birthplace of the American women's rights movement.

For 29 years, Leader Pelosi has represented San Francisco, California's 12th District, in Congress. She has led House Democrats for more than 12 years and previously served as House Democratic Whip.

Under the leadership of Pelosi, the 111th Congress was heralded as "one of the most productive Congresses in history" by Congressional scholar Norman Ornstein. President Barack Obama called Speaker Pelosi "an extraordinary leader for the American people," and the Christian Science Monitor wrote: "...make no mistake: Nancy Pelosi is the most powerful woman in American politics and the most powerful House Speaker since Sam Rayburn a half century ago."

Working in partnership with President Obama, Speaker Pelosi led House passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in early 2009 to create and save millions of American jobs, provide relief for American families, and provide a tax cut to 95 percent of working Americans. With the House Democratic Caucus, Pelosi continues to focus on the need to create jobs in America and prevent them from being shipped overseas.

Speaker Pelosi achieved passage of historic health insurance reform legislation in the House which establishes a Patients' Bill of Rights and will provide insurance for tens of millions more Americans while lowering health care costs over the long term. The new law provides patients with affordable insurance choices, curbs abuses by the insurance industry, strengthens Medicare, and reduces the deficit by more than \$100 billion over the next 10 years.

In the 111th Congress, Speaker Pelosi also led the Congress in passing strong Wall Street reforms to rein in big banks and protect consumers as well as the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act, which expands educational opportunities and reforms the financial aid system to save billions of taxpayers' dollars. Additional key legislation passed into law included the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act to restore the ability of women and all workers to access our judicial system to fight pay discrimination; legislation to provide health care for 11 million American children; national service legislation; and hate crimes legislation. In late 2010, Pelosi led the Congress in passing child nutrition and food safety legislation as well as repealing the discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, which prohibited gays and lesbians from serving openly in the military.

Pelosi has made energy security her flagship issue, enacting comprehensive energy legislation in 2007 that raised vehicle fuel efficiency standards for the first time in 32 years and making an historic commitment to American home grown biofuels. In 2009, under her leadership, the House passed the landmark American Clean Energy and Security Act – a comprehensive bill to create clean energy jobs, combat climate change, and transition America to a clean energy economy. The legislation was blocked by Republicans in the United States Senate, but sent a strong signal to the world about the United States' commitment to fighting the climate crisis.

Representative Dana Rohrabacher (D-CA-48) 13th Term

Currently serving his 13th term in Congress, Dana Rohrabacher represents California's scenic 48th District. Stretching along the Pacific coastline of Orange County from Seal Beach to Laguna Beach, the district includes Seal Beach, Sunset Beach, Surfside, Corona del Mar, Costa Mesa, Huntington Beach, Laguna Beach, Aliso Viejo, Newport Coast, Newport Beach, Laguna Niguel, Fountain Valley as well as portions of Midway City, Westminster, Santa Ana and Garden Grove.

As Chairman of the Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats Subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Rohrabacher is a most forceful spokesman for human rights and democracy around the world. For example, during the 110th Congress, Rep. Rohrabacher championed the effort to boycott the 2008 Beijing Olympics by introducing a resolution to that effect emphasizing China's litany of human rights violations. Rohrabacher is also committed to securing our borders and a staunch opponent of amnesty for illegal immigrants. During his tenure as Chairman, one of his first priorities was to investigate the U.N. Oil for Food program and potential foreign influence in the Oklahoma City Bombing. Rep. Rohrabacher will continue to look into technology transfer issues, visa policies practiced by the

State Department, Chinese proliferation of nuclear weapons technology as well as other volatile areas of concern such as the massive cultivation of opium poppies in Afghanistan. As a senior member of the International Relations Committee, Rohrabacher led the effort to deny Most Favored Nation trading status to Communist China, citing the rogue nation's dismal human rights record and opposition to democracy.

Rohrabacher is a strong voice for lower government spending and taxes. His record of fiscal restraint and pro-growth policies has won him acclaim from the National Taxpayers Union, Citizens Against Government Waste, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Federation of Independent Business.

Rohrabacher served as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics from 1997 to January 2005, having been given a two-year waiver to serve beyond the normal six-year term limit. His final achievement as chairman was to secure the enactment of his Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act, signed into law by President Bush on December 23, 2004. The law clears the way for small and middle-sized entrepreneurs to build commercial space passenger vehicles and bolsters private sector participation in space travel.

The 48th congressional district is the birthplace of California's Proposition 187, a reform initiative which removes illegal aliens from the state's welfare and education rolls. Rohrabacher inspired the grassroots movement and, as a principal congressional spokesman for Prop. 187, framed the debate that led to the passage of the popular measure.

Prior to his first election to Congress in 1988, Dana served as Special Assistant to President Reagan. For seven years he was one of the President's senior speechwriters. During his tenure at the White House, Rohrabacher played a pivotal role in the formulation of the Reagan Doctrine and in championing the cause of a strong national defense. He also helped formulate President Reagan's Economic Bill of Rights, a package of economic reforms that the President introduced in a historic speech before the Jefferson Memorial.

Rohrabacher's roots in Orange County run deep. He attended elementary school locally and during his college days, he resided in Sunset Beach. Prior to joining Ronald Reagan's White House staff, he was an editorial writer for the Orange County Register. Rohrabacher was born June 21, 1947, in Coronado, California. He graduated from Palos Verdes High School, attended Harbor Junior College and received his bachelor degree in history from Long Beach State College in 1969. He received his master's degree in American Studies from the University of Southern California. In 1997, he married his wife, Rhonda, and in 2004, they became parents of triplets, Annika, Tristen, and Christian.

Representative Ted Lieu (D-CA-33) 2nd Term

In 2014, Ted W. Lieu was elected to California's 33rd Congressional District, succeeding retiring 40-year incumbent Henry Waxman. In the 114th Congress, Ted was elected president of the Democratic Freshman class by his colleagues. Today he serves on the House Judiciary Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee. He is also an Assistant Whip for the Democratic Caucus.

Ted is a former active duty officer in the US Air Force and currently serves as a Colonel in the Reserves.

In Congress, Ted has established himself as a leader on protecting the environment; Social Security and Medicare; civil liberties; and veterans.

He has been an outspoken proponent for tackling climate change. The first bill Ted wrote and introduced after coming to Congress was the Climate Solutions Act, which aims to make California's ground-breaking renewable energy goals and climate emissions reduction targets a national model.

As one of only four computer science majors currently serving in Congress, and as a member of the House Oversight and Government Reform's Subcommittee on Information Technology, Ted is frequently sought out for his insight on technology and innovation matters including cybersecurity, cloud computing and innovation as well as the sharing and creative economy.

Ted has been a leader in Congress against ethnic and racial profiling, and discrimination against the LGBT community. He serves as Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus task force on armed services and veterans, Co-Chair of the LGBT Equality Caucus, and Co-Chair of the Cloud Computing Caucus.

In just his first year in Congress, Ted successfully passed three laws. He successfully fought for \$35 million in funding to the West Los Angeles VA for essential seismic retrofits; reauthorized the Advisory Committee in Homeless Veterans; and restored the Quarterly Financial Report, one of our nation's principal economic indicators used by both businesses and the public sector.

Prior to serving in Congress, Ted was elected to the California State Senate in 2011 and the State Assembly in 2005. Ted's legislative accomplishments include authoring landmark legislation regulating the subprime mortgage industry; a first-in-the-nation ban on gay conversion therapy for children; and a first-in-the-nation ban on the use of tanning beds for minors.

Ted fought for California state tax reform that saved small businesses from millions in retroactive taxes, and tax incentives for film and TV production. Ted also co-authored California's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act and co-authored the law banning state pension funds from investing in Iran's nuclear and energy industries.

Ted started his elected service as a Member of the Torrance City Council in 2002. Prior to serving on the Council, Ted was a Torrance Environmental Quality Commissioner.

Looking for a better life and opportunity, Ted and his family immigrated to the United States when he was three years old. His parents went to flea markets and sold gifts and jewelry to make ends meet. Ted's family went from being poor and not speaking English well to opening up a gift store where Ted and his brother would help out in the family business. After many years of perseverance his parents were eventually able to expand to six stores.

With the support of hard-working parents and a country that provided limitless opportunity, Ted would go on to attend Stanford for his undergraduate degrees in Computer Science and Political Science, and then Georgetown University, where he received his law degree magna cum laude after serving as Editor-in-Chief of the law review. Ted also received four American Jurisprudence Awards.

Recognizing the great opportunities America had given to his family, Ted wanted to serve his country to preserve the American Dream. He joined the United States Air Force, where he served in the JAG corps. After serving on active duty for four years, Ted wanted to continue to serve his country and joined the Reserves. Ted has received numerous medals for his outstanding military service, including the Air Force Humanitarian Service Medal and multiple Meritorious Service Medals.

After serving active duty, Ted joined the law firm of Munger, Tolles & Olson as a litigator. In 2003, Ted joined the legal office at UBS Financial Services. Ted's wife, Betty, is a Water Commissioner and a former California Deputy Attorney General. They live in Torrance with their two sons, Brennan and Austin.

Representative Karen Bass (D-CA-37) 4th Term

Congress member Karen Bass was re-elected to her fourth term representing the 37th Congressional District in November 2016. Congress member Bass serves on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs where she is Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations. As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, Congress member Bass is also working to craft sound criminal justice reforms as well as protect intellectual property right infringements that threaten the economic health of the 37th District.

She was selected by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi to serve on the prestigious Steering and Policy Committee, which sets the policy direction of the Democratic Caucus, as Organization, Study and Review Chair. Congress member Bass is also playing a leadership role in the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), where she serves as 2nd Vice-Chair for the 115th Congress.

In her fourth term, Congress member Bass is solidifying leadership positions on two issues very close to her heart: reforming America's foster care system and strengthening the United States' relationship with Africa. In her first term, Congress member Bass created the bipartisan Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth along with co-chair U.S. Representative Tom Marino (R-Pa.), and intends to examine national standards of care in the child welfare system.

In January 2013, President Obama signed into law the Uninterrupted Scholars Act (USA) which was the first major piece of legislation shepherded through the House under the Caucus' leadership. USA makes it easier for caregivers to access educational records so they can assist foster youth with school enrollment and provide additional academic support in an effort to reduce school dropout rates. Since 2012, she has joined Members of the Caucus for a Nationwide Foster Youth Listening Tour traveling the nation to examine best practices and the challenging conditions that foster youth face in our country. She is also a co-chair of the bipartisan, bicameral Congressional Coalition on Adoption.

On Africa, Congress member Bass acted swiftly during her first term to bring legislators, advocacy groups and international leaders together to extend the third country fabric provision of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The provision supports stability, development, and economic growth of sub-Saharan African countries by protecting jobs in the apparel sector and providing some of the best markets for American businesses to sell their goods and services.

In an effort to be responsive to the people in her district, Congress member Bass created the Congressional Council, which provides an opportunity for constituents to learn firsthand about the issues in Congress and how to become involved in the legislative process. The Council, composed of all volunteers, seeks to engage other District residents in public policy, both domestic and internationally.

Prior to serving in Congress, Congress member when the California Assembly elected her to be its 67th Speaker, catapulting her to become the first African American woman in U.S. history to serve in this powerful state legislative role. Congress member Bass served as speaker during California's greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression. In addition to helping to navigate the state through a very difficult time, she also championed efforts to improve foster care and quality healthcare for Californians. Also, under her leadership the Assembly fast-tracked federal economic stimulus legislation that aided Californians who have been affected by the national economic crisis as well as jumpstarted billions of dollars of infrastructure projects.

Before serving as an elected official, Congress member Bass became interested in community activism as a child watching the Civil Rights Movement with her father. It was at that time that she made a lifetime commitment to effecting social change in her community and abroad. She worked for nearly a

decade as a Physician Assistant and served as a clinical instructor at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program.

In 1990, in response to the crisis that was gripping inner-city America, which in Los Angeles was crack-cocaine and gang violence, Congress member Bass started and ran the Community Coalition, a community-based social justice organization in South Los Angeles that empowers residents to become involved in making a difference. Through her leadership at the Community Coalition, Congress member Bass worked to address the drug and violence epidemic and to engage community residents in addressing the root causes of injustice.

Congress member Bass had one daughter, Emilia Bass-Lechuga and son-in-law Michael Wright. She continues to be inspired by Emilia and Michael's passion for life. Emilia planned to follow in her mother's footsteps working for social change. Congress member Bass also has four step children.

She grew up with three brothers in the Venice/Fairfax area of Los Angeles and is the only daughter of DeWitt and Wilhelmina Bass. She graduated from Hamilton High School, Cal State Dominguez Hills, and the University of Southern California's School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program.

State: Colorado

Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO) 2nd Term

Michael F. Bennet was elected United States Senator for Colorado in November 2010. A newcomer to politics with experience in business and public service, he is widely-recognized as a pragmatic, innovative and independent thinker driven by a deep-seated obligation to create more opportunity for the next generation.

Before his appointment to the Senate in 2009 and subsequent election to a full six year term in 2010, Michael served as Superintendent of Denver Public Schools where he led a bold and inclusive reform effort that improved student achievement, helped turn around failing schools, and brought a halt to a seemingly endless cycle of annual budget cuts.

Prior to his time at the Denver Public Schools, Michael was widely credited with balancing a historic budget deficit and implementing innovative reforms as Chief of Staff to then-Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper. In that role, he also implemented innovative reforms that made city government more responsive to the needs and concerns of the greater Denver community.

Michael's experience saving jobs and turning around failing companies has also served him well in the U.S. Senate. As Managing Director at the Anschutz Investment Company, Michael managed the successful restructuring of more than \$3 billion in corporate debt.

Since arriving in Washington, Michael hasn't wasted a moment. In his unrelenting fight to create good-paying jobs for Coloradans and restore fiscal responsibility to Washington, Michael has emerged as an effective leader with a proven record of bringing people together to deliver results for working families. He was a member of the bipartisan "Group of 8" -- four Democrats and four Republicans -- that introduced a bill to fix our broken immigration system in a way that boosts the economy, strengthens national security, and provides a tough but fair path to citizenship for millions undocumented immigrants. The Senate passed the bill with overwhelming bipartisan support.

A former businessman, Michael has led the fight in Washington to create jobs, support middle-class families and grow our economy. A champion for small business, Michael led the fight in the Senate to pass a bill that boosted small business investments and provided more than \$12 billion in targeted tax relief for Colorado job creators.

We must meet the promise each generation has made to the next - to leave more opportunity, not less, to our kids and grandkids.

Senator Cory Gardner (R-CO) 1st Term

Senator Cory Gardner is a fifth-generation Coloradan who was born and raised in Yuma, a small town on the Eastern Plains of Colorado where his family has owned a farm implement dealership for over a century. He lives in the same house his great-grandparents lived in. Cory graduated summa cum laude from Colorado State University and received his law degree from the University of Colorado Boulder. After working at his family implement business and the National Corn Growers Association, Cory took a position as a Legislative Assistant for Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) and quickly advanced to his Legislative Director.

He began serving in the Colorado House of Representatives in 2005 where he spent time as the Minority Whip and became known for his expertise in natural resource and agriculture policy. Cory was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2010. As a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Cory championed a true all-of-the-above energy strategy that promoted traditional resources as well as renewable energy. In addition, Cory is a national leader on energy efficiency initiatives and founded a bipartisan energy efficiency caucus in the House.

In the Senate, Cory continues to pursue common sense energy policy as a member of the Senate Energy & Natural Resource Committee and Chairman of the Energy Subcommittee. In addition, Cory serves on the Foreign Relations Committee, the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, and the Budget Committee. He also serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy.

As Chairman of the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, Cory led the effort to impose broad new sanctions against North Korea, as the regime continues to be a leading abuser of human rights and its reckless advancement of nuclear weapons threatens our national security.

Cory is focused on expanding the economy, creating jobs, and making life better for all Coloradans.

He lives in Yuma with his wife Jaime and their three children: Alyson, Thatcher, and Caitlyn.

Representative Dianna DeGette (D-CO-1) 11th Term

Chief Deputy Whip Diana DeGette is serving her 11th term in Congress as Representative for the First District of Colorado. As a member of the powerful Committee on Energy and Commerce, an exclusive congressional committee with vast jurisdiction over health care, trade, business, technology, food safety, and consumer protection, she is one of the leading voices in the health care debate in this country. She also serves as the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations,

which conducts the oversight of, and investigations into, issues falling under the jurisdiction of the full committee. As a member of the Democratic leadership, she played a vital role in the reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program, has fought for tough food safety legislation, and was a key player in crafting a comprehensive consumer product safety bill.

Rep. DeGette played a pivotal role in the development of comprehensive health reform, and she led the overhaul of our nation's food safety system. She is one of Congress's leading experts on cutting-edge scientific research and is a recognized leader on the subject of human embryonic stem cell research. As the Democratic leader of the bipartisan 21st Century Cures Act, which became law in December 2016, Rep. DeGette helped modernize medical research to enable more discoveries in the lab that could lead to treatments and cures for patients. This law seeks to remake our medical research system to reflect the current environment for researchers, patients, doctors, drug and medical device developers, and everyone involved in treating diseases.

U.S. Rep. DeGette is committed to expanding access to health care and improving public health. She has led efforts to expand the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), which provides health insurance to low-income children up to age 18. Appointed as lead whip by the Democratic Leadership, Rep. DeGette played a central role in passing legislation to reauthorize and enhance SCHIP during the 110th Congress. In the 111th Congress, she was a leader in the expansion of this program that was signed into law by President Obama in February of 2009. As co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Diabetes Caucus, Rep. DeGette has also been a long-time advocate for the expansion of diabetes care and research, particularly for lower-income and minority communities.

Rep. DeGette also played a key role in the drafting and passage of The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which was signed into law by President Obama in 2010.

Ranking Republican Member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, said that Congresswoman DeGette deserved the Henry Kissinger Award for brokering the ban on the dangerous chemical.

Representative Mike Coffman (R-CO-6) 5th Term

Mike Coffman began his distinguished career of serving our nation at a very young age. At age seventeen, after finishing his junior year at Aurora Central High School in 1972, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Through the Army, Coffman was able to earn a high school diploma. In 1974, he left active duty to attend the University of Colorado under the G.I. Bill where he continued his military career by serving in the U.S. Army Reserve. Coffman took a leave of absence from the U.S. Army Reserve and the University of Colorado to attend D.G. Vaishnav College in Chennai, India in 1976 and the University of Veracruz in Xalapa, Mexico in 1977. Coffman graduated from the University of Colorado in 1979 and immediately transferred from the U.S. Army Reserve to the U.S. Marine Corps where he served as an infantry officer.

In 1983, Coffman came back home to Colorado and started a small business, an Aurora-based property management company, that would grow to over 20 employees. He remained the senior share holder of the firm for the next seventeen years until selling his interest in 2000. While in business, he continued serving in the military by joining the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

In his role as a Colorado small business owner, Coffman saw the need to bring more common sense pro-growth economic policies to state government so he ran and was elected to the State House of

Representatives in 1988 and re-elected in 1990. Shortly after his 1990 re-election, Coffman took an unpaid leave of absence from the state legislature and volunteered to return to active duty for the first Gulf War where he served as the executive officer for a light armored infantry company. The battalion that Coffman served in was ordered to attack and defend positions inside of Kuwait, for three consecutive days prior to the main ground attack, as part of a deception and reconnaissance-by-fire operation. Coffman retired from the military in 1994 after having served for seven years between the U.S. Army and the Army Reserve and thirteen years between the U.S. Marine Corps and the Marine Corps Reserve.

In 1994, Coffman was elected to the State Senate where he served as the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. While in the State Senate, he completed the Senior Executive Program for State and Local Government at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. In 1998, Coffman was elected to the office of State Treasurer and re-elected in 2002. In 2005, the U.S. Marine Corps was under strength in meeting their requirements for the Iraq War and begun to extend Marines beyond their active duty enlistments, recall Marines recently released from active duty, and selectively reach out to retired Marines and request their return to active duty. Coffman resigned his position as the State Treasurer and volunteered to return to the U.S. Marine Corps for an assignment in Iraq. In Iraq, Coffman was a civil affairs officer where he worked in support of the Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq (IECI) in 2005 and in 2006 he was reassigned to help establish interim local governments in the Western Euphrates River Valley.

In 2006, Coffman came home after completing a full tour of duty in Iraq and was appointed by Governor Bill Owens to serve out the remainder of his term as the State Treasurer. In that same year, he ran and was elected to the Office of Secretary of State and served in that capacity until he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2008.

Coffman is the only veteran in the Colorado delegation and the only Member of Congress to have served in both Iraq Wars. Congressman Coffman represents the 6th Congressional District of Colorado and serves on the Veteran's Affairs Committee and the Armed Services Committee where he is the Chairman for the Subcommittee on Military Personnel.

Coffman and his wife Cynthia were married in 2005 just before he deployed to Iraq with the U.S. Marine Corps. Cynthia Coffman was the Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Bill Owens before becoming the Attorney General for the State of Colorado. Coffman attends Faith Presbyterian Church in Aurora with his mother, Dorothy Coffman.

State: Connecticut

Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) 2nd Term

Originally sworn in on January 5, 2011, Richard Blumenthal is serving his second term as a United States Senator from the State of Connecticut. Senator Blumenthal served an unprecedented five terms as Connecticut's Attorney General, fighting for people against large and powerful special interests. His aggressive law enforcement for consumer protection, environmental stewardship, labor rights, and personal privacy has helped reshape the role of state attorneys general nationwide, and resulted in the recovery of hundreds of millions of dollars for Connecticut taxpayers and consumers each year.

A key player in the national fight against Big Tobacco, he helped bring an end to deceptive marketing aimed at children – a victory significantly lowering youth smoking rates, and compelling a multi-billion dollar settlement for Connecticut taxpayers. He also helped lead a coalition of all 50 states that culminated in historic agreements with social networking sites to better protect children from Internet predators.

As Attorney General, he advocated for reforms in the health insurance industry to assure critical health care coverage and lower pharmaceutical drug prices. He has worked relentlessly to eradicate corruption in state government and make state contracting accountable, fair, honest, and transparent.

His vigorous investigation and legal action against insurance industry abuses has successfully forced financial restitution and reform, compelled greater disclosure by insurers and brokers to consumers, and recovered millions of dollars for the state, municipalities, and individuals. He has successfully fought unfair utility rate charges, air pollution causing acid rain, general environmental wrongdoing, as well as a wide array of consumer scams and frauds.

From 1977 to 1981, Senator Blumenthal served as a U.S. Attorney for Connecticut, prosecuting drug trafficking, organized and white collar crime, civil rights violations, consumer fraud, and environmental pollution. He served in the Connecticut House of Representatives from 1984 to 1987, and the Connecticut State Senate from 1987 to 1990. As a volunteer attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Senator Blumenthal saved the life of an innocent, wrongly convicted death row inmate who came within hours of execution.

Prior to his position as U.S. Attorney, Senator Blumenthal also served as Administrative Assistant to U.S. Senator Abraham A. Ribicoff, aide to former U.S. Senator Daniel P. Moynihan when Moynihan was Assistant to the President of the United States, and law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Harry A. Blackmun.

Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) 1st Term

As a member of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee (HELP) Senator Murphy has worked to make college more affordable and ensure that our public education system works to serve all students. Senator Murphy also led a bipartisan effort to reform our mental health system, working across the aisle to craft the first comprehensive mental health bill in the Senate in decades.

Senator Murphy has laid out a forward-thinking foreign policy vision for the United States. As a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, he has been an outspoken proponent of diplomacy, international human rights and the need for clear-eyed American leadership abroad.

Following the tragic shooting at Sandy Hook elementary school in 2012, Senator Murphy became one of the leading proponents of commonsense reforms to reduce gun violence. He has championed a number of bipartisan bills aimed at expanding background checks and keeping guns out of the hands of criminals.

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Murphy has fought to increase investments in Connecticut manufacturing and promote procurement of world-class national defense products made in the state. He has fought to expand American manufacturing and create jobs through his Buy American initiative, which urges the U.S. government to spend taxpayer dollars on American-

made goods. Additionally, Senator Murphy has worked in partnership with local city and town leaders to rehabilitate former brownfields and factory sites so that they can be developed into new community spaces and businesses.

Prior to his election to the U.S. Senate, Murphy served Connecticut's Fifth Congressional District for three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. During his time in the House, Murphy worked to improve access to housing for homeless veterans, foster job creation and advocate for affordable healthcare for all Americans. Murphy authored the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act to revitalize housing programs for people with disabilities. The bill was signed into law by the president in 2010.

Before getting elected to Congress, Murphy served for eight years in the Connecticut General Assembly where he was the author of the state's historic stem cell investment legislation and the state's workplace smoking ban. Senator Murphy grew up in Wethersfield, Connecticut, and attended Williams College in Massachusetts. He graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law and practiced real estate and banking law with the firm of Ruben, Johnson & Morgan in Hartford, Connecticut.

Representative Jim Himes (D-CT-4) 5th Term

Jim Himes represents Connecticut's 4th District in the United States House of Representatives where he is serving his fifth term. He is a member of the House Committee on Financial Services, serves as the ranking member of the NSA and Cybersecurity Subcommittee of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and is Chair of the New Democrat Coalition.

Jim grew up as the child of a single working mom in a small town. As a member of Congress, Jim works hard to provide all American children the same opportunities he had to succeed: access to a first-rate public school, affordable and effective health care, a decent and safe home, and a supportive community.

Born in Lima, Peru in 1966 to American parents, he spent the early years of his childhood in Peru and Colombia while his father worked for the Ford Foundation and UNICEF. As an American abroad, Jim grew up fluent in both Spanish and English and was raised with an awareness of the unique position of the United States in the world. At the age of ten, Jim moved with his mother and sisters to the United States.

Jim graduated from Hopewell Valley Central High School and then attended Harvard University. After completing his undergraduate work, Jim earned a Rhodes Scholarship, which enabled him to attend Oxford University in England where he continued his studies of Latin America, including research in El Salvador.

Prior to his service in Congress, Jim ran the New York City branch of The Enterprise Community Partners, a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the unique challenges of urban poverty. Jim's team led the way in financing the construction of thousands of affordable housing units in the greater New York metropolitan region, often using new green technologies to achieve energy efficiency and reduce utility costs.

Jim's experience at Enterprise spurred his involvement in politics. Putting his expertise in affordable housing to work, Jim served as a Commissioner of the Greenwich Housing Authority, ultimately chairing the board and leading it through a much-needed program of reforms. Jim went on to become an elected member of his town's finance board, setting tax and budget policy for Greenwich. Jim has also served as Chair of his local Democratic Town Committee, organizing others in the community to become more active in the political process.

Jim began his professional career at Goldman Sachs & Co. where he worked his way up to Vice President over the course of a 12-year career. There he worked extensively in Latin America and headed the bank's telecommunications technology group.

Jim lives in Greenwich with his wife Mary and two daughters Emma and Linley.

Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT-3) 14th Term

Rosa DeLauro is the Congresswoman from Connecticut's Third Congressional District, which stretches from the Long Island Sound and New Haven, to the Naugatuck Valley and Waterbury. Rosa serves in the Democratic leadership as Co-Chair of the Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, and she is the Ranking Member on the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, where she oversees our nation's investments in education, health, and employment. Rosa also serves on the subcommittee responsible for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, where she oversees food and drug safety.

As the Ranking Member dealing with appropriations for Labor, Health, Human Services, and Education, Rosa is determined to increase support for education and make college more affordable for more American students and their families. She is also fighting to protect the Affordable Care Act so that all Americans have access to affordable care. Rosa strongly believes in the power of biomedical research and she is working to increase funding so that we can make lifesaving breakthroughs in science and medicine.

Rosa believes that we have a moral obligation to our nation's veterans and their families, and her concern for these heroes extends to both their physical and mental well-being. Rosa supports a transformation in how the Department of Veterans Affairs is funded, including advanced appropriations for health services, to ensure its fiscal soundness; and she successfully championed legislation to guarantee that troops deploying to combat theaters get the mental health screening they need both before and after deployment, as well as championed legislation that now provides assistance to today's Post-9/11 veterans choosing to pursue on-the-job training and apprenticeship programs.

Rosa belongs to 62 House caucus groups and is the co-chair of the Baby Caucus, the Long Island Sound Caucus, and the Food Safety Caucus.

State: DC

Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) 14th Term

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, now in her fourteenth term as the Congresswoman for the District of Columbia, is the Ranking Member of the House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit. She

serves on two committees: the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Before her congressional service, President Jimmy Carter appointed her to serve as the first woman to chair the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. She came to Congress as a national figure who had been a civil rights and feminist leader, tenured professor of law, and board member at three Fortune 500 companies. The Congresswoman's work for full congressional voting representation and for full democracy for the people of the District of Columbia continues her lifelong struggle for universal human and civil rights.

Congresswoman Norton's accomplishments in breaking barriers for her disempowered district are matched by her success in bringing home unique economic benefits to her constituents. Among them are senatorial courtesy to recommend federal judges, the U.S. Attorney, and other significant federal law enforcement positions for the District; up to \$10,000 per year for all D.C. high school graduates to attend any public U.S. college or university and up to \$2,500 per year to many private colleges and universities; a unique \$5,000 D.C. homebuyer tax credit, which has sharply increased home ownership in the District and was a major factor in stabilizing the city's population; and D.C. business tax incentives, including a significant wage credit for employing D.C. residents, which has maintained businesses and residents in the District.

Congresswoman Norton also has brought significant economic development to the District of Columbia throughout her service in Congress, creating and preserving jobs in D.C. The most significant are her work in bringing to D.C. the U.S. Department of Homeland Security headquarters compound, now under construction, and is the largest federal construction project in the country; her bill that is developing the 55 acre-Southeast Federal Center, the first private development on federal land; her work that resulted in the relocation of 6,000 jobs to the Washington Navy Yard; and her successful efforts to bring to the District the new headquarters for the U.S. Department of Transportation, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, along with an additional Metro station at New York Avenue, which has resulted in the development of the NOMA neighborhood.

Congresswoman Norton helped end the city's most serious financial crisis in a century, in the 1990's, by achieving a historic package that for the first time restructured the financial relationship between Congress and the District, by transferring \$5 billion in unfunded pension liabilities and billions more in state costs to the federal government.

The Congresswoman, who taught law full time before being elected, is a tenured professor of law at Georgetown University, teaching an upper-class seminar there every year. After receiving her bachelor's degree from Antioch College in Ohio, she simultaneously earned her law degree and a master's degree in American Studies from Yale University.

State: Delaware

Senator Tom Carper (D-DE) 3rd Term

Born in West Virginia and raised in Virginia, Senator Tom Carper's career in public service began in 1976 when he was elected to the first of three terms as Delaware's state treasurer at the age of 29 at a time

when the state of Delaware had the worst credit rating of any state in America. Six years later, with that credit rating restored to a respectable "AA," he ran for – and was elected – to Delaware's at-large seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Senator Carper went on to serve five terms as a U.S. congressman where he earned a reputation as a results-oriented centrist serving on the House Financial Services Committee, as well as the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, which is now part of the House Committee on Natural Resources. In 1991, then-Congressman Carper led a bipartisan, six-member congressional delegation of Vietnam veterans back to Southeast Asia to search for U.S. soldiers whose remains were never recovered and listed as MIAs. During that trip, the group met with the new Vietnamese General Secretary Do Muoi and helped lay the groundwork for normalizing relations between the United States and Vietnam.

Tom Carper was then elected the 78th governor of Delaware in 1992 and served two terms in that role. As governor, he pursued a common-sense agenda that led to eight balanced budgets, tax cuts in seven of those eight years, and major increases in employment. Governor Carper led the effort to strengthen the state's "rainy day" fund and boost Delaware's credit rating to "AAA" for the first time in state history, while helping to overhaul the state's education system and to implement welfare reform initiatives in Delaware and the nation.

On Jan. 3, 2001, Governor Carper stepped down two weeks early to become Delaware's junior senator. He was reelected in 2006, and with his reelection in November 2012 he has been elected to state-wide public office in Delaware 13 times. When Senator Joe Biden stepped down to become vice president in January 2009, Tom Carper became Delaware's senior senator.

In his time in the U.S. Senate, Senator Carper has worked extensively on reforming our health care system, improving our environment, and ensuring that federal programs are run efficiently and effectively. As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Carper helped craft the Affordable Care Act with a focus on how to improve our health care system by reducing costs, getting better results, and empowering consumers with the tools and resources they need to achieve better health and wellness. Senator Carper fought to include provisions on workplace wellness and menu labeling in the health care reform law, and he continues to be a leader in ensuring that the Affordable Care Act is implemented effectively.

Senator Chris Coons (D-DE) 2nd Term

Chris Coons has worked hard to find bipartisan solutions to the issues facing Delaware and the nation. As a member of the Senate Appropriations, Foreign Relations, Judiciary, Small Business and Entrepreneurship, and Ethics committees, Chris is uniquely positioned to nurture American innovation and make the United States more competitive in the global marketplace. He is the senior Democrat on two subcommittees: the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Oversight, Agency Action, Federal Rights and Federal Courts, which has jurisdiction over the U.S. court and bankruptcy systems, and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, which funds a broad array of government agencies – including those responsible for carrying out critical Wall Street reforms.

Chris' top priority as a Senator is fighting for Delaware, and he has hosted dozens of job fairs throughout the First State to help veterans and Delawareans of all backgrounds find work. Committed to harnessing the economic potential of American innovation, Senator Coons is leading a campaign in the Senate to refocus Washington's attention on manufacturing jobs. The Manufacturing Jobs for America (MJA)

initiative aims to build bipartisan support for legislation that will modernize America's manufacturing sector, help our manufacturers grow and create jobs, and equip American workers with the skills to succeed in the next generation of manufacturing jobs. Chris is the lead sponsor of several bills included in the MJA initiative, and in December 2015, two of Chris' legislative proposals – a permanent extension of the R&D tax credit, and a new provision to help startups access that credit – were signed into law by President Obama.

Chris knows that Delaware can't reach its economic potential at home if we don't maintain American leadership throughout the world. That's why he's used his position on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to advocate for key foreign policy and national security priorities, from calling for Congress to declare war on ISIS to keeping rogue nations like Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. Chris knows that a safe and secure world depends on clear-eyed American leadership – and he is confident that we can keep our country safe without jeopardizing our fundamental values.

Chris' election to the Senate in 2010 capped a decade of successful service in New Castle County government. In four years as New Castle County Council President and six years as New Castle County Executive, Chris earned a reputation for delivering real results on behalf of Delawareans and supporting the county during the least stable economic climate in decades. Chris balanced six budgets by eliminating wasteful spending and created jobs through innovative public-private partnerships. His Safe Streets partnership removed dangerous parole violators from Delaware neighborhoods and cleaned up dozens of the worst county properties. He also preserved thousands of acres of open space and fought for an independent ethics commission to make county government more transparent.

Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE-1) 1st Term

Lisa began her professional career as a problem-solver and an advocate. A caseworker for then-Congressman Tom Carper, Lisa helped people during challenging times with their Social Security benefits, disability insurance claims, IRS disputes and housing needs. She served in the cabinets of two Delaware governors as the first female African-American Secretary of Labor and the first African-American Deputy Secretary of Health and Social Services and State Personnel Director.

As Secretary of Labor, Lisa managed 500 employees and an \$87 million budget; she focused on connecting employers to resources and jobseekers – particularly those on welfare or leaving Delaware prisons. As State Personnel Director, Lisa was commissioned to investigate the Delaware State Police for racial and sexual discrimination. Working with local and national experts in policing and civil rights, the 2001 Blunt-Bradley Report served as a roadmap to improve the internal and external relations of the State Police.

She also served as the CEO of the Metropolitan Wilmington Urban League – an action-oriented, public policy research think tank focused on the inclusion of people of color.

Lisa grew up in Wilmington, graduated from Padua Academy, and worked her first job at the McDonald's on Market Street. She majored in International Relations as an undergraduate at Fairleigh Dickinson University and later earned a Master's in Urban Affairs and Public Policy from the University of Delaware. Lisa believes our national security requires a strong understanding of the rest of the world. She has helped women enter the workforce in the Middle East, provided vaccines to children in Africa, and co-authored a book while living in China with her late husband Charles. Her book, *THRIVE: 34 Women in 19 Countries, One Goal*, profiles women who reinvented themselves while living in a foreign country.

Lisa is the proud mother of Alyssa, age 28, and Alex, age 31, both of whom graduated from Delaware's public schools. Education and college affordability are important to her.

Lisa once again made history in 2016 when she was elected to Congress. She was the first woman and the first person of color to represent The First State in such a role. She serves on the House Committee on Education and Workforce as well as the House Committee on Agriculture.

State: Florida

Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) 4th Term

Sen. Bill Nelson is a true son of Florida, his family coming to the Panhandle in 1829, and his grandparents homesteading in the early 20th Century on land that today is the Kennedy Space Center.

From a spot near there Nelson would launch into space in 1986 and spend six days orbiting the Earth aboard the space shuttle Columbia.

Nearly three decades later he still vividly recalls looking back at our planet from the window of the shuttle and not seeing any political, religious or racial divides.

"From that perspective, you can see how we're all in this together," he says. "If we could just remember that, we'd sure get a lot more done."

It's that kind of perspective that has earned Nelson a reputation as a thoughtful, moderate voice in an increasingly partisan political world.

Nelson's public service career began in 1972, with his election to the Florida Legislature. He then served six terms in the U.S. Congress representing Orlando and the Space Coast, becoming an early champion of the environment.

In 1994, Nelson was elected to the Florida Cabinet as state Treasurer, Insurance Commissioner and Fire Marshal. During his six years in the post, he showed he was a common-sense problem solver and strong consumer advocate.

Nelson was first elected to the U.S. Senate in November 2000. Since then, he's stood up to the insurance companies, Wall Street banks and Big Oil. He's exposed the lies of BP about the Gulf spill. And he's created a blueprint forward for our nation's space agency. Now in his third term, he's continuing to fight for lower taxes, better education, Medicare and Social Security.

He's someone who thinks public service is a noble calling - which is why he is devoted his life to serving his community, his state and his country.

Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) 2nd Term

I wake up every day driven to make a difference for you in the United States Senate. I know the most important work in America today is happening in people's homes, where parents are raising their children and making sacrifices so they can have greater opportunities than the generation before them. I also understand our laws and government's policies can make it easier – or harder – for your family to pursue and achieve the American Dream.

My office and I are here to help. During my first term in the Senate, we resolved more than 30,000 cases for constituents who sought our help with various issues, and we logged over 1,000 mobile office hours to reach Floridians in every corner of the state. We are proud of these accomplishments and hope to continue this success in my second term.

I'm passionate about serving people because I know how individuals can get lost in the federal government's bureaucracy when they seek assistance with their veterans' benefits, Social Security or Medicare, or another federal service. I've seen how a broken federal housing inspections process endangers the health and safety of people I represent.

Today, many people worry that the American Dream is slipping away from their reach, and that their children and grandchildren won't be better off than they were. I'm committed to not letting that happen. I believe in the American Dream because I've lived it. My parents came to America from Cuba in 1956 and earned their way to the middle class working humble jobs – my father as a bartender in hotels and my mom as a maid, cashier and stock clerk. By their loving and powerful example, I learned the importance of family and hard work, and believed all things are possible in America.

I have spent most of my life in West Miami, and live there today with my wife Jeanette and our four children. One of the many reasons I love living in Florida and representing its people are the diverse backgrounds and stories of those in my community. Some have made it in America, others are just starting out, and many more are trying to make it. There are homes led by heroic single parents or grandparents, homes with two hardworking parents, and homes with multiple generations living together.

For as long as I can remember, my neighbors helped shape my impression of the American Dream, and it wasn't long after I earned my bachelor's degree from the University of Florida in 1993 and my juris doctor from the University of Miami Law School in 1996 that I felt drawn to serve them in public office.

I started as a City Commissioner for West Miami before being elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2000, and then speaker in November 2006. Before taking this post, I authored the book *100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future*, which was based on conversations I had with Floridians at "idearaisers" that my colleagues and I hosted around the state. As speaker, I helped enact many of the ideas in this book.

I was proud to be a champion for smarter, limited government at the state level, but after seeing the impact of our successes there, I wanted to take my ideas for conservative reform to where they were needed the most: Washington, D.C.

When I launched my campaign for the U.S. Senate in 2009, I was expected to lose big to my better-funded and better-known Republican primary opponent. But with a come-from-behind victory, the people of Florida elected me on the promise of bringing conservative ideas to the United States Senate.

Since arriving in the Senate in January 2011, I've fought against the Washington establishment's big government vision, supported replacing ObamaCare with a better health care system, and opposed bloated budgets that increased taxpayer debt at the expense of creating jobs and real prosperity.

With my assignments on the Special Committee on Aging, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I'm focused on reforming our government and keeping Americans safe. I will continue to work with members of both parties on commonsense solutions, and whenever necessary, stand alone as a check and balance. That's how our Founding Fathers envisioned the Senate.

In addition to the unique federal issues affecting Florida, some of my top priorities include fighting poverty by encouraging states to empower their people, bringing affordable higher education within reach of every American, sparking economic growth by capitalizing on innovation and the global economy, improving Social Security and Medicare for seniors and saving these programs for future generations, and defending our families by revitalizing America's military strength.

I'm proud to serve you in the Senate. Please don't hesitate to contact me with your ideas and views on how government can work more effectively.

May God bless you and your family, may God bless Florida, and may God bless the United States of America.

Representative Matt Gaetz (R-FL-1) 1st Term

Matt Gaetz has been a lifelong advocate for Northwest Florida, having grown up in Okaloosa County. He is currently an attorney in Fort Walton Beach and has been a Constitutional conservative champion in the state legislature.

The son of Don and Vicky Gaetz, Matt grew up in Northwest Florida — graduating from Bluewater Elementary School, Ruckel Middle School and Niceville High School. After earning his Bachelors degree at Florida State University, Matt went on to graduate from the William & Mary Law School.

In the courtroom, Matt was known as “the tax killer” for blocking a local pet tax. Matt has also received national recognition for his legal work to fight corruption and demand transparency in government. Many know Matt from his work in the courtroom in support of the Eglin AFB F-35 beddown.

In 2010, Matt was elected to the Florida House of Representatives, where he fought to uphold our Northwest Florida conservative values, even when it meant going against his own party do to what was best for his constituents.

As Chairman of the Criminal Justice Subcommittee, Matt was a friend to gun owners and a nightmare for criminals. When liberals like Michael Bloomberg and Jesse Jackson fought against gun owners and Florida's Stand Your Ground law, Matt led the effort to make Stand Your Ground even stronger. Matt also sponsored and passed legislation creating a 50-year mandatory prison sentence for those who rape children, seniors, or the disabled. Matt's “Timely Justice Act” streamlined frivolous death penalty appeals and tripled the rate of executions in the months after its passage.

While Chairman of the House Finance & Tax Committee, Matt led the House's efforts to cut taxes by \$1 billion over two years, with savings ranging from property tax relief to cuts to taxes paid on cell phone and cable bills.

Matt has also been a tireless advocate for our veterans, military personnel, and their families. Upon learning of a disturbing incident where ISIS used public records to publish the personal information of soldiers and their families, Matt immediately took action. He successfully sponsored legislation allowing

service members and their families to have their personal identifying information removed from public records and led a campaign to raise awareness of the new law among the military community.

Known as one of the most skilled advocates in the Florida Legislature, Gaetz has been referred to as a “Conservative Firebrand” by Saintpetersblog.com and “One of the most pro-gun members to have ever served in the Florida Legislature” by Marion Hammer, past President of the NRA. Gaetz has received top legislative honors from the Florida Sheriffs Association, Florida Police Chiefs Association and Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association. The American Conservative Union deemed Matt Gaetz the “Defender of Liberty.”

Representative John Rutherford (D-FL-4) 1st Term

John Rutherford (FL-04) is serving his first term in the U.S. House of Representatives. He sits on the House Committee on Homeland Security and the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

John has lived in Jacksonville, Florida since 1958, and attended Florida Junior College and Florida State University where he studied Criminology. He began his career in law enforcement in 1974 as a patrolman in the Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office, working his way up through the JSO where he eventually served as Director of Corrections.

In 2003, John was elected Sheriff of Duval County. For three terms and twelve years, John ran a 3,200 employee office, and thanks to his effective leadership, violent crime in Jacksonville dropped to a 40-year low. Using a model of intelligence-led and community-based policing, John and his team of law enforcement professionals dramatically improved neighborhoods and prevented crime throughout the community. He also made the mental health component of the criminal justice system a priority, reducing the recidivism rates of the mentally ill and facilitating their treatment. John also served as Chair of the Florida Sheriff’s Association, where he advocated before the legislature for policies that strengthened constitutional rights, supported our law enforcement, and enhanced public safety across the state.

John has been happily married to his wonderful wife Pat for more than forty years. Their top priorities are their two children and six grandchildren, and they are also devoted members of Assumption Catholic Church in Jacksonville.

Representative Ted Yoho (D-FL-3) 3rd Term

Congressman Ted S.Yoho represents North Central Florida's 3rd Congressional district which includes Alachua, Union, Gilchrist, Bradford, Marion, Clay, Suwannee, Dixie, Lafayette, Columbia, Levy, Madison, and Hamilton Counties. He was elected to the 113th Congress in November 2012 and is serving his third term in the people's house. In the 115th Congress, Ted became the Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Once elected to public office, Congressman Yoho wasted no time, introducing 18 bills that were focused on strengthening America. Two of these bills passed the House of Representatives and one was signed into law by the President. This is a big accomplishment for any Member of Congress, but especially impressive for a freshman in the House. His approach to government is guided by constitutional

principles, limited government, fiscal conservatism, personal responsibility, and free enterprise. These principles keep Congressman Yoho focused on supporting bills that help make America strong. Prior to serving in congress, Ted was a small business owner who operated several large animal veterinary practices for 30 years. During his successful career, he established a reputation of accountability and service.

Ted was born in Minnesota and moved to South Florida where he met his wife Carolyn in the 4th grade. Ted and Carolyn got married at 19 and began to work their way through college -- Carolyn as a court reporter and Ted packing vegetables at night. After completing his AA degree at Broward Community College, Ted and Carolyn moved to Gainesville where Ted enrolled at the University of Florida. He graduated in 1983 with his bachelor's degree in Animal Science and Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine.

In 1986, they had their first daughter; Katie, followed two years later by Lauren in 1988 and Tyler in 1990. Carolyn continued to build her own businesses by opening new court reporting agencies and helping Ted open additional practices. Ted and Carolyn began instilling a strong work ethic in their children early on by making family projects out of real estate investments and building their businesses. They instilled the principles of setting goals, the willingness to work hard and treating people fairly. Ted and Carolyn emphasized that if you did these things and took hold of opportunity, they could achieve the American Dream. After all, Ted and Carolyn were products of the American Dream.

In 2010, Ted and Carolyn sold their practices to focus their time and energy on a new passion -- Our Nation. Ted believes that more than ever our nation is drifting away from the ability to achieve the American Dream. In order to preserve it we need to get back to our founding principles, core values, and the Constitution. As a freshman Congressman he plans to champion legislation that reflects his values and those of the constituents he represents. Ted's approach to government is guided by constitutional principles, the idea of small government, fiscal conservatism, personal responsibility and free enterprise.

When he is not in Washington representing his constituents and serving the country he loves, he is home spending time with his wife and three kids, cheering on the Gators, and if time permits occasionally fishing.

State: Georgia

Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA) 2nd Term

Johnny Isakson is a businessman who has built a respected record of public service to Georgia and the nation. He is the first Georgian ever to have been elected to the state House, state Senate, U.S. House and U.S. Senate. In 2016, he became the first Republican in Georgia to be elected to a third term in the U.S. Senate.

Since becoming chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs (VA) in 2015, Isakson has worked tirelessly to bring oversight and accountability to the agency responsible for providing care and support to our nation's veterans. A veteran himself, Isakson has been a member of the Senate VA Committee since he joined the Senate in 2005 and played a crucial role in the massive VA reform bill, the *Veterans' Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014*. Georgia is home to more than a dozen military

bases, as well as to more than 750,000 veterans. In addition to aiding veterans, Isakson also has worked to strengthen our armed forces and has shown unwavering commitment to the men and women serving our country today.

Isakson is also chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics and takes very seriously his role in maintaining the integrity of the U.S. Senate.

Isakson is a member of the Senate Committee on Finance, which has jurisdiction over taxes, trade, Medicare and Social Security. Isakson has worked to help Americans better prepare for retirement and plan ahead financially to ensure their retirement savings don't run dry, including introducing the *Lifetime Income Disclosure Act*. Isakson has provided a businessman's perspective on the Finance Committee and will play a key role in the debate over how to reform the nation's broken tax system.

Isakson has also introduced the *Biennial Budgeting and Appropriations Act* to end reckless spending and reform the federal budget process by converting it from an annual spending spree to a two-year cycle, with one year for appropriating federal dollars and the other year devoted to much-needed oversight of federal programs.

Isakson also continues to serve as a member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations where he has led reforms to foreign assistance programs to enhance economic growth and bolster U.S. national security, including with his *Global Food Security Act of 2016* to address global hunger. He continues to work on reforms to programs such as the Millennium Challenge Corporation and Power Africa by working for streamlined processes, better monitoring and evaluation, and more private sector involvement.

Additionally, Isakson remains in close coordination with the Peace Corps following the passage of his *Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011* that provides better security and protection measures for Peace Corps volunteers. The law is named in memory of a Peace Corps volunteer from Georgia who was tragically murdered during her service.

On the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, Isakson maintains his career-long commitment to improving education. He played a key role in two reforms of the federal *Elementary and Secondary Education Act*; the first of which brought greater transparency to student success and the second of which returned control to local schools and parents.

On labor issues, Isakson has used his business experience to seek the right balance on the critical labor issues facing employers and workers. In 2014, his bipartisan, bicameral *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* was signed into law to modernize, streamline and improve existing federal workforce development programs and to provide increased flexibility for states and local workforce boards by reducing burdensome federal mandates and strengthening accountability.

In healthcare, Isakson has fought to repeal and replace Obamacare, which has increased costs and decreased access to health care. He has fought for patient-focused health care reform and patient-focused, quality, affordable health care. In 2016, Isakson successfully included a number of his health priorities in the *21st Century Cures Act*, a comprehensive medical research and innovation bill that will spur the development of medical treatments and cures. Isakson also championed creating Medicare coverage for home infusion therapy services.

Isakson graduated from UGA in 1966 and served in the Georgia Air National Guard from 1966 to 1972. He and his wife Dianne married in 1968 and have three children and eight grandchildren. They live in Marietta and attend Mount Zion United Methodist Church, where Isakson previously taught sixth grade Sunday school for 30 years.

Senator David Perdue (R-GA) 1st Term

David Perdue is the junior Senator from Georgia. David is the only Fortune 500 CEO in Congress and has over 40 years of business experience as the former CEO of Reebok athletic brand and Dollar General stores, where he created thousands of quality jobs and helped working families make it from payday to payday.

David was born in Macon, Georgia and raised in Warner Robins where he grew up working on his family farm. Both of David's parents were school teachers, and from an early age David was taught the importance of hard work and a good education.

At Georgia Tech, David earned a degree in Industrial Engineering and a master's in Operations Research while working warehouse and construction jobs. After graduating, he married his wife Bonnie, whom he had met in the first grade and they have been married for 44 years.

Prior to his decisive election to the U.S. Senate in 2014, David had never held public office and was inspired to shake up Washington and change the direction of our country. David is a champion for term limits for politicians, reining in out-of-control spending, growing the economy, and tackling our nation's debt crisis. In 2016, David was an early supporter of President Donald J. Trump and continues to be one of the President's closest allies in the U.S. Senate.

For the 115th Congress, David serves on the Armed Services Committee; Banking Committee; Agriculture Committee; and Budget Committee. His role on these powerful committees puts him at the intersection of solving our national debt crisis and global security crisis.

David and Bonnie live in Glynn County, Georgia and attend Wesley United Methodist Church. They have two sons and three grandsons, who are their inspiration for coming to the U.S. Senate.

Representative John Lewis (D-GA-5) 16th Term

Often called "one of the most courageous persons the Civil Rights Movement ever produced," John Lewis has dedicated his life to protecting human rights, securing civil liberties, and building what he calls "The Beloved Community" in America. His dedication to the highest ethical standards and moral principles has won him the admiration of many of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle in the United States Congress.

He has been called "the conscience of the U.S. Congress," and Roll Call magazine has said, "John Lewis...is a genuine American hero and moral leader who commands widespread respect in the chamber."

During the height of the Civil Rights Movement, from 1963 to 1966, Lewis was named Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which he helped form. SNCC was largely responsible for organizing student activism in the Movement, including sit-ins and other activities.

While still a young man, John Lewis became a nationally recognized leader. By 1963, he was dubbed one of the Big Six leaders of the Civil Rights Movement. At the age of 23, he was an architect of and a keynote speaker at the historic March on Washington in August 1963.

Despite more than 40 arrests, physical attacks and serious injuries, John Lewis remained a devoted advocate of the philosophy of nonviolence. After leaving SNCC in 1966, he continued his commitment to the Civil Rights Movement as Associate Director of the Field Foundation and his participation in the Southern Regional Council's voter registration programs. Lewis went on to become the Director of the Voter Education Project (VEP). Under his leadership, the VEP transformed the nation's political climate by adding nearly four million minorities to the voter rolls.

In 1977, John Lewis was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to direct more than 250,000 volunteers of ACTION, the federal volunteer agency.

In 1981, he was elected to the Atlanta City Council. While serving on the Council, he was an advocate for ethics in government and neighborhood preservation. He was elected to Congress in November 1986 and has served as U.S. Representative of Georgia's Fifth Congressional District since then. He is Senior Chief Deputy Whip for the Democratic Party in leadership in the House, a member of the House Ways & Means Committee, a member of its Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, and Ranking Member of its Subcommittee on Oversight.

John Lewis holds a B.A. in Religion and Philosophy from Fisk University, and he is a graduate of the American Baptist Theological Seminary, both in Nashville, Tennessee. He has been awarded over 50 honorary degrees from prestigious colleges and universities throughout the United States, including Harvard University, Brown University, the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University, Duke University, Morehouse College, Clark-Atlanta University, Howard University, Brandeis University, Columbia University, Fisk University, and Troy State University.

John Lewis lives in Atlanta, Georgia. He has one son, John Miles.

State: Iowa

Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA)

Senator Grassley has earned a reputation in Iowa for keeping in touch with the people he represents and in Washington for standing up for common sense and holding government accountable.

Chuck Grassley does his job with a work ethic that can be traced to the Butler County farm where he grew up and still lives today, and to his days as a young father of five who worked three jobs.

Today, Senator Grassley holds the record for the longest record of not missing a vote of any senator in office, showing respect for the public trust he holds. Senator Grassley also has conducted at least one meeting in each of Iowa's 99 counties every year that he's served in the United States Senate, to encourage participation in the process of representative government. Grassley stays connected by

responding to every phone call, letter and email from lowans, and by communicating with lowans extensively online via Facebook, Twitter and his own website, as well.

In Washington, Senator Grassley has been a leader in shaping legislation to improve the quality of life for Americans and to expand the economic opportunities for individuals, families and communities.

Grassley serves as Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, where he works for a competitive marketplace with antitrust enforcement and tort reform, to reward innovation and invention with an updated patent system, and for legal immigration that will help America's economy grow. Grassley has led a campaign to open up the federal judiciary by allowing cameras in courtrooms, and he is unmatched in his legislative and oversight work to protect whistleblowers, both in and out of government, who speak up about wrongdoing for the public good. Grassley is an advocate for victims of crime and a leader in the fight to keep illegal drugs out of the hands of young people. He leads efforts to safeguard America's freedom with effective anti-terrorism and domestic security policies.

Previously, as Chairman of the Committee on Finance, Senator Grassley led through Congress \$2 trillion in tax cuts, leaving more money in workers' pockets, making the tax code more progressive, and spurring economic growth and activity. Grassley is an outspoken advocate for free trade agreements that expand opportunities for job-creating U.S. exports in manufacturing and agriculture. He's a leader in the development of wind, solar, biodiesel, biomass and ethanol as domestic, renewable energy sources to help fuel America's future. Senator Grassley authored the Senate bill that created the Medicare prescription drug benefit, bringing the program up-to-date with the practice of medicine and better enabling treatment outside of expensive hospital stays. He's a leading advocate to improve the foster care system and help more kids find permanent, loving homes through adoption.

Grassley also serves as a senior member of the Senate Committee on the Budget, where he applies his personal frugality to the public purse, and on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, where he brings real-life experience as a family farmer to farm policy.

Along with legislation, Senator Grassley commits tremendous time and energy to congressional oversight. He works to shed light on the federal bureaucracy. He champions transparency when it comes to the people's business. Whistleblower laws authored by Senator Grassley are the federal government's no. 1 anti-fraud tool. Thanks to Grassley's ongoing legislative victories to protect whistleblowers, taxpayers have gotten back more than \$28 billion that would otherwise have been lost to fraud. Grassley's congressional oversight holds accountable those who do business on the taxpayers' tab.

He's leading efforts to make sure the Securities and Exchange Commission protects investors and America's financial system. He weeds out fraudulent schemes that bilk billions of dollars from the Medicare program and rides herd on Medicare and Medicaid officials to ensure quality care in nursing homes and program accountability for both taxpayers and beneficiaries. He exposes federal farm payments made to deceased farmers and exorbitant payment mismanagement and oversight at the Pentagon.

Grassley also led efforts to oversee the unprecedented taxpayer-backed bailouts. It was Chuck Grassley who figured out that the now infamous claim by the Treasury Department and GM that a multi-billion dollar taxpayer loan that had been paid back in full and ahead of schedule was nothing more than a shell game being played with taxpayer dollars. Grassley's pursuit of accountability has crisscrossed virtually every federal agency. When a federal law enforcement agent on the Southwest border was killed on the job, Chuck Grassley demanded information and accountability from the Bureau of Tobacco, Alcohol, Firearms and Explosives about its high-risk program, which allowed guns into the hands of the illegal

aliens shooting at our agents. Grassley has called attention to the FDA's approval of potentially unsafe foreign-made medical devices and refereed turf wars between federal agencies that compromise U.S. border security. He's examined abusive practices by tax-advantaged non-profits and shut down offshore tax shelters exploited by corporate elites.

Chuck Grassley's time-tested blend of pragmatism and integrity gives him a license simply to tell it like it is. He brings a refreshing, no-nonsense style that displaces Washington nonsense with Midwestern substance. Chuck Grassley served in the Iowa legislature and the U.S. House of Representatives before winning election to the Senate for the first time in 1980. Grassley's creed of ethics and accountability gives Iowans strong and effective leadership.

Senator Joni Ernst (R-IA) 1st Term

Joni Kay Ernst has represented the state of Iowa in the United States Senate since 2015. Ernst received an undergraduate degree in psychology from Iowa State University, and a master's in public administration from Columbus College (now known as Columbus State University). After college Ernst joined the military where she has served as a member of either the U.S. Army Reserves or the Iowa Army National Guard for the past 23 years. Ernst holds the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and she served in Kuwait during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Ernst first ran for public office in 2004, when she was elected Montgomery County (IA) auditor, a position she held for six years. In 2011, she ran in a special election to fill a vacancy in the Iowa Senate. Ernst served as a state senator for three years.

Representative Dave Loebsack (D-IA-2) 6th Term

Congressman Dave Loebsack, who grew up in poverty and was raised by a single parent, is living proof of how community support can make a difference in people's lives. He faced many challenges but with hard work and help from teachers, friends and mentors he was able to overcome his many hardships. As a result, Dave has dedicated his adult life to helping people find opportunity and hope.

Dave grew up in Sioux City, where he attended East High School. After graduation, Dave attended Iowa State University, where he earned a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree. Dave then went on to earn a PhD from the University of California, Davis. In 1982, Dave moved back to Iowa and became a teacher at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon. Today, Dave has the honor to serve as a Professor Emeritus at Cornell College.

Dave and his wife Terry, a retired school teacher after 35 years, are the proud parents of four grown children. Dave and Terry are also the proud grandparents of three grandchildren.

Dave is currently serving his sixth term in the United States House of Representatives. He represents Iowa's Second Congressional District which encompasses much of Eastern and Southern Iowa. Since being elected by the Second District, Dave has been a relentless advocate for Iowans, addressing critical issues that are facing hard-working, Iowa families.

In 2015, Dave began serving on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which is the oldest standing committee in the House. Having a seat on this committee will allow Dave to make a greater

impact on job creation, growing the economy, making sound investments in renewable energy such as wind, solar and biofuels and growing the Middle Class in Iowa and across the country. Previously, Dave served as a member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce and the House Armed Services Committee.

Dave is committed to job creation, growing our middle class by ensuring that our children receive a first-class education, ensuring higher education is available to all those who wish to pursue it, and focusing on training for Iowa workers. He has also worked to ensure that our troops have the training and equipment necessary to safely complete their missions, that our military families receive the support they deserve, and that our nation's veterans are served by a grateful nation with the same dignity and honor with which they served our country. He has worked tirelessly in support of the Iowa National Guard to improve training facilities, invest in equipment, and ensure they receive the benefits they and their families deserve

He is also a member of the Center Aisle Caucus; the Congressional Caucus to Fight and Control Methamphetamine; the Congressional Rural Caucus; the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues; the Congressional Military Families Caucus; the House Manufacturing Caucus; and the Congressional Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, amongst others.

State: Illinois

Senator Richard Dick Durbin (D-IL) 4th Term

Senator Dick Durbin, a Democrat from Springfield, is the 47th U.S. Senator from the State of Illinois, the state's senior senator, and the convener of Illinois' bipartisan congressional delegation.

Durbin also serves as the Democratic Whip, the second highest ranking position among the Senate Democrats. Senator Durbin has been elected to this leadership post by his Democratic colleagues every two years since 2005.

Elected to the U.S. Senate on November 5, 1996, and re-elected in 2002, 2008, and 2014, Durbin fills the seat left vacant by the retirement of his long-time friend and mentor, U.S. Senator Paul Simon.

Durbin sits on the Senate Judiciary, Appropriations, and Rules Committees. He is the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution and the Appropriations Committee's Defense Subcommittee.

Senator Durbin makes approximately 50 round trips a year between Washington and Illinois. He is married to Loretta Schaefer Durbin. Their family consists of three children--Christine (deceased), Paul and Jennifer--as well as three grandchildren, Alex, Ona and Floyd. They reside in Springfield.

Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) 1st Term

U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth is an Iraq War Veteran, Purple Heart recipient and former Assistant Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. She was among the first Army women to fly combat missions during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Duckworth served in the Reserve Forces for 23 years before retiring from military service in 2014 at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. She was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2016 after representing Illinois's Eighth Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives for two terms.

Duckworth attended college at the University of Hawaii and earned a Master of Arts in International Affairs from the George Washington University. Following graduation, Duckworth, who is fluent in Thai and Indonesian, moved to Illinois and began pursuing a Ph.D. in Political Science at Northern Illinois University. She also worked at NIU's School of Nursing researching public health and environmental causes of cancer. Later, Duckworth worked for Rotary International as a manager for administration of Rotary clubs in the Asia Pacific Region.

In 2004, Duckworth was deployed to Iraq as a Black Hawk helicopter pilot for the Illinois Army National Guard. On November 12, 2004, her helicopter was hit by an RPG and Duckworth lost her legs and partial use of her right arm.

Senator Duckworth spent the next year recovering at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where she quickly became an advocate for her fellow Soldiers and testified before Congress about caring for our Veterans and wounded warriors. Following her recovery, she became Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, working to create a tax credit for employers who hired Veterans, establish a first-in-the-nation 24/7 Veterans crisis hotline and develop innovative programs to improve Veterans' access to housing and health care.

In 2009, President Obama appointed Duckworth to be Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs. At VA, Duckworth coordinated the joint initiative with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to end Veteran homelessness. She also created the Office of Online Communications to improve the VA's accessibility, especially among young Veterans, and also worked to address the unique challenges that Native American and female Veterans face.

Since her recovery, Duckworth has resumed flying as a civilian pilot and fulfilled a promise she made at Walter Reed by completing several marathons. In her spare time, she volunteers at local food pantries and enjoys couponing and flea markets. In 2015, Duckworth completed her Ph.D in Human Services at Capella University.

In the U.S. House, Duckworth was an advocate for working families and job creation, introducing bills like her bipartisan *Friendly Airports for Mothers Act* to ensure new mothers have access to safe, clean and accessible lactation rooms when traveling through airports, which passed the Senate. She introduced the *In the Red Act* to help put our nation on the path toward debt-free college, the *Get the Lead Out Act* to keep America's drinking water safe and bipartisan legislation to help close the skills gap while helping people find good-paying jobs. Duckworth also co-sponsored the *No Budget, No Pay Act*, which would ensure members of Congress only get paid if they pass a budget.

She also served on the House Armed Services Committee and the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, where she was Ranking Member of the Transportation and Public Assets subcommittee. She introduced and helped pass several important policies through her work on these committees, including the *Clay Hunt SAV Act* to help reduce Veterans suicide and improve VA mental health services and the *Troop Talent Act* which helps returning Veterans find jobs in the private sector. She also effectively cut waste and fraud at the Pentagon and throughout government, including passing a common-sense provision to reduce redundancy in Armed Forces uniforms that the nonpartisan U.S. Government Accountability Office found will save taxpayers more than \$4 billion over 5 years.

In the U.S. Senate, Duckworth serves on several influential committees that give her an important platform to advocate for Illinois's working families and entrepreneurs: the Environment & Public Works Committee; the Energy & Natural Resources Committee; the Commerce, Science, & Transportation Committee; and the Small Business & Entrepreneurship Committee. As Senator, she advocates for practical, common-sense solutions needed to move our country and our state forward like: rebuilding

our crumbling infrastructure, keeping our water systems safe and lead-free, growing manufacturing jobs while supporting minority-owned small businesses, investing in communities that have been ignored for too long, and making college more affordable for all Americans. And Duckworth continues with her lifelong mission of supporting, protecting and keeping the promises we've made to our Veterans as well as ensuring that we stand fully behind the troops we send into danger overseas.

Senator Duckworth lives in Hoffman Estates with her husband Bryan, an Army Cyber Warrant Officer, and their daughter Abigail.

Representative Danny Davis (D-IL-7) 10th Term

Danny K. Davis was chosen by the people of the 7th Congressional District of Illinois as their Representative in Congress on November 5, 1996. He has been re-elected by large majorities to succeeding Congresses.

In the 115th Congress, Congressman Davis serves on the House Ways and Means Committee: Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Human Resources and a member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Trade. Congressman Davis is a member of several Congressional Caucuses including the Congressional Black Caucus, the Progressive Caucus, the Urban Caucus, the Community Health Center's Caucus, and the Congressional Sugar Caucus.

Congressman Davis has distinguished himself as an articulate voice for his constituents and as an effective legislator able to move major bills to passage. He has developed a unique and energetic style of communication and interaction with his constituents setting up dozens of advisory task forces to consider significant questions of public policy. He hosts several weekly television and radio shows which feature audience call in and produces regular written reports to every household in the district. In addition, he maintains weekly office hours in the district and is widely sought after as a speaker at district events.

In the 115th Congress Representative Davis is resolutely committed to preserving our democracy, protecting social security, maintaining our nation's gains in civil and human rights, women's rights, voting rights, protection of the environment, consumer and labor protections, reducing inequality, and ensuring quality, affordable health care for all, while his focus on issues of job creation, poverty, health care, education, youth and criminal justice reform.

Prior to his election to the Congress he served on the Cook County Board of Commissioners having been elected in November 1990 and reelected in November 1994. Previously, he served for eleven years as a member of the Chicago City Council as Alderman of the 29th Ward.

Before seeking public office Congressman Davis had productive careers as an educator, community organizer, health planner/administrator and civil rights advocate. He has received hundreds of awards and citations for outstanding work in the areas of health, education, human relations, politics and advocacy including six honorary Doctorate Degrees from well known Colleges and Universities. He has traveled extensively throughout the United States and has spent time in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and in South and Central America.

Born in Parkdale, Arkansas, on September 6, 1941, Congressman Davis moved to the Westside of Chicago in 1961, after having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Arkansas A.M. & N. College. He

subsequently earned both Masters and Doctorate degrees respectively from Chicago State University and the Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio.

He is married to Vera G. Davis, has two sons, Jonathan and Stacey, and is a member and Deacon of the New Galilee M.B. Church.

State: Massachusetts

Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) 1st Term

Elizabeth Warren, a fearless consumer advocate who has made her life's work the fight for middle class families, was elected to the United States Senate on November 6, 2012, by the people of Massachusetts. Elizabeth is recognized as one of the nation's top experts on bankruptcy and the financial pressures facing middle class families, and the *Boston Globe* has called her "the plainspoken voice of people getting crushed by so many predatory lenders and under regulated banks."

She is widely credited for the original thinking, political courage, and relentless persistence that led to the creation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. President Obama asked her to set up the new agency to hold Wall Street banks and other financial institutions accountable, and to protect consumers from financial tricks and traps often hidden in mortgages, credit cards and other financial products. In the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, Warren served as Chair of the Congressional Oversight Panel for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). Her independent and tireless efforts to protect taxpayers, to hold Wall Street accountable, and to ensure tough oversight of both the Bush and Obama Administrations won praise from both sides of the aisle. The *Boston Globe* named Elizabeth Warren Bostonian of the Year and *TIME Magazine* called her a "New Sheriff of Wall Street" for her oversight efforts.

During her campaign for the Senate, Elizabeth promised to fight for middle class families and to make sure that everyone has a fair shot to get ahead. She called for policies that would level the regulatory playing field for small businesses and ensure that everyone - even large and powerful corporations - pays a fair share in taxes and is held accountable for breaking the law.

Senator Warren was a law professor for more than 30 years, including nearly 20 years as the Leo Gottlieb Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. The graduating class at Harvard twice recognized her with the Sacks-Freund Award for excellence in teaching. She taught courses on commercial law, contracts, and bankruptcy and wrote more than a hundred articles and ten books, including three national best-sellers, *A Fighting Chance*, *The Two-Income Trap*, and *All Your Worth*. *National Law Journal* named her one of the Most Influential Lawyers of the Decade, *TIME Magazine* has named her one of the 100 most influential people in the world three times, and she has been honored by the Massachusetts Women's Bar Association with the Lelia J. Robinson Award.

Elizabeth is a graduate of the University of Houston and Rutgers School of Law. Elizabeth and her husband Bruce Mann have been married for 36 years and live in Cambridge, Massachusetts. They have three grandchildren.

Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) 1st Term

Senator Edward J. Markey, a consumer champion and national leader on energy, environmental protection and telecommunications policy, has a prolific legislative record on major issues across the policy spectrum and a deep commitment to improving the lives of the people of Massachusetts and our country.

While serving for 37 years in the U.S. House of Representatives, Senator Markey fought for his constituents throughout his Congressional District. When he was Dean of the Massachusetts delegation in the House, he worked to harness the energy and influence of his colleagues on behalf of the entire Commonwealth. Elected to the Senate in a special election in June 2013, Senator Markey is bringing his experience, energy and expertise to fight for all the people of Massachusetts.

In 2009, Congressman Markey was the co-author of the landmark Waxman-Markey bill, the only comprehensive climate legislation ever to pass a chamber of Congress. It gave hope to the world that the United States was serious about addressing climate change and helped America effectively negotiate with the international community.

In the House of Representatives, Congressman Markey served as the Ranking Member of the Natural Resources Committee. From 2007 to 2010, he served as Chairman of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, a signature committee established by then-Speaker Nancy Pelosi. He also served on the Energy and Commerce Committee, where he was Chairman of the Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment.

A member of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, Senator Markey is a national leader on telecommunications policy, technology and privacy. In the House, he served for 20 years as Chair or Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, where he fostered the growth of new information technologies and was the principal author of many of the laws now governing our nation's telephone, broadcasting, cable television, wireless, and broadband communications systems. He is the House author of the 1992 Cable Act, which increased choices for millions of consumers and enabled satellite-delivered programming to be more widely offered.

Competition remains Senator Markey's economic mantra—in his words, “ruthless Darwinian competition that would bring a smile to Adam Smith.” He has been instrumental in breaking up anti-consumer, anti-innovative monopolies in electricity, long-distance and local telephone service, cable television, and international satellite services. He was one of the only members of the House Commerce Committee to fight AT&T's monopoly in the early 1980's and is a principal author of the requirement that the Bell Operating companies accept local telephone service in the 1990's. His pro-competition policies have directly benefited job creation in Massachusetts and throughout the country.

While in the House, Congressman Markey introduced the Internet Freedom Preservation Act, the first net neutrality bill introduced in Congress, to ensure that as the Internet continues to evolve, it remains a level playing field guided by the principles of openness, competition and innovation. He also has been a key leader on providing privacy protections for personal information such as medical records, financial records, and on-line purchases. He has championed strengthening privacy protections for children and is the House author of the Children's Online Privacy and Protection Act (COPPA), the primary law that safeguards children's privacy online.

From 2003 to 2009 in the House of Representatives, Senator Markey also served as a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee. In that capacity, he focused on closing gaps in our homeland defenses, particularly in the areas of nuclear, aviation, maritime, liquefied natural gas and chemical security. In the wake of the 9-11 attacks, he authored the first-ever mandate in the law that 100% of

cargo on passenger planes is screened, and 100% of all maritime cargo is scanned before entering America's ports.

Senator Markey also was the leader of the national Nuclear Freeze movement and has been a Congressional champion on nuclear nonproliferation. His amendment to ban all underground nuclear testing passed in 1986, and in the 1990s, he fought to tighten controls on global trafficking in nuclear technology. Since then, Senator Markey has continued his work on nuclear nonproliferation, successfully enacting new restrictions on exports of nuclear and dual-use technologies to Iran, North Korea, and other countries designated as state sponsors of terrorism and pressing for stronger nuclear nonproliferation conditions on all future nuclear trade cooperation agreements. As founder of the Nonproliferation Caucus, Senator Markey continues to spearhead efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons to safeguard the future for generations to come.

He is the author of some of the most important Wall Street reform laws since the Great Depression, including statutes that strengthened penalties against insider trading, improved federal oversight over the stock and futures markets, and reformed regulation of the government securities market.

Senator Markey was born in Malden, Massachusetts, on July 11, 1946. He attended Boston College (B.A., 1968) and Boston College Law School (J.D., 1972). He served in the U.S. Army Reserve and was elected to the Massachusetts State House where he served two terms representing Malden and Melrose. He is married to Dr. Susan Blumenthal.

Representative Stephen Lynch (D-MA-8) 8th Term

Congressman Stephen F. Lynch was first sworn in to the United States Congress in October 2001, following the sudden passing of legendary Congressman John Joseph Moakley.

The son of Francis Lynch, an ironworker, and Anne Lynch, a postal clerk, Congressman Lynch was born and raised in the public housing projects of South Boston.

Upon graduation from South Boston High School in 1973, Congressman Lynch entered the Ironworkers Apprenticeship Program and later joined his father as a member of Boston's Ironworkers Local 7. He worked as a structural ironworker for 18 years and was eventually elected to serve as president of The Iron Workers Union, the youngest president in the history of the 2000 member union.

Congressman Lynch continued his education at Wentworth Institute of Technology on nights and weekends, earning a Bachelor's degree in Construction Management. He later received a law degree from Boston College Law School, was admitted to both the Massachusetts and New Hampshire Bar, and continued his advocacy for working people as a labor and employment attorney.

In 1994, Congressman Lynch was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives. After just fourteen months in office, he was elected to the Massachusetts State Senate in a special election. In the Senate, he served as the Chair of the Joint Committee on Commerce and Labor.

In 1999, he earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

During his career as an ironworker, Congressman Lynch worked at the General Motors Plant in Framingham, Massachusetts, the General Dynamics Shipyard in Quincy, Massachusetts and the U.S. Steel Plant in Gary, Indiana, all of which were either shut down or severely curtailed due to unfair

foreign trade practices. Congressman Lynch's first-hand experience in seeing the effects of plant closings on American workers and on local communities has led him to focus on efforts to improve U.S. Trade Policy and protect American jobs.

In the 114th Congress, Congressman Lynch is a member of the Financial Services Committee and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, where he serves as Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on National Security. Lynch is also a member of the Subcommittee on Government Operations.

Congressman Lynch is a co-founder of the Congressional Labor and Working Families Caucus, which was formed to protect workers' rights and educate Members of Congress on issues that impact American families.

Lynch continues to serve as co-chair of the Task Force on Anti-Terrorism and Proliferation Financing, a bipartisan Congressional panel that monitors the status of national and international efforts to track and stop the flow of funds to terrorist groups and works to strengthen our national anti-terrorist finance strategy. He and his wife Margaret continue to live in their lifelong hometown of South Boston where they are raising their daughter Victoria and niece Crystal.

State: Maryland

Senator Ben Cardin (D-MD) 2nd Term

A third-generation Marylander, Ben Cardin has been a national leader on health care, retirement security, the environment and fiscal issues while representing the people of Maryland in the U.S. Senate, and before that in the House of Representatives.

First elected to the Senate in 2006, Senator Cardin currently serves as Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He is a senior member of the Environment & Public Works Committee (EPW) and Small Business & Entrepreneurship Committee. He also serves on the Senate Finance Committee (SFC).

Senator Cardin is a leading advocate for the Chesapeake Bay, which is the economic, historical and cultural heart of Maryland. Nationally, he is a champion of protecting our clean air and clean water. He has introduced legislation to restore the health of America's great water bodies and is the leading proponent of investing in improvements to America's aging water infrastructure system while preparing it for the impacts of climate change. His commitment to reduce pollution and protect our environment fuels his work to broaden investments in safe public transit, as well as walking and bike trails.

Senator Cardin has a deep interest in foreign affairs and has worked across party lines to further our national security and protect universal human rights. He has fought to ensure that anti-corruption, transparency and respect for human rights are integrated our foreign policy. He has been a Commissioner on the U.S. Helsinki Commission since 1993, serving as Chairman of the Commission in the 111th and 113th Congress. In 2015, he was named as the Special Representative on Anti-Semitism, Racism, and Intolerance for the 57-nation Organization Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)

Parliamentary Assembly. He has served as the Ranking Member of the SFRC East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy Subcommittee and previously was the Chairman of the International Development and Foreign Assistance Subcommittee.

As a member of the Small Business Committee, Senator Cardin was responsible for the extension of increased guarantees and reduced fees in the Small Business Administration's two largest loan programs. He has been working to find better ways to provide access to credit for qualified small businesses and entrepreneurs, as well as expanding access to contracts for women-owned, minority owned and veteran-owned businesses. He consistently is urging federal agencies to take all steps possible to meet or exceed their modest small business contracting goals. He also has been a strong defender of the federal workforce and has fought to end the harmful effects of sequestration.

Senator Cardin believes access to quality, affordable health care should be a right and not a privilege. He continues to be a strong supporter of the Affordable Care Act, which has brought the United States closer to this goal. He led the fight for the Patients' Bill of Rights and, because of his efforts, the law ensures that individuals in private health insurance plans have the right to choose their primary care provider, women have direct access to an ob/gyn, and patients with medical emergencies are guaranteed coverage for necessary ER visits. He was responsible for the elevation of the National Institute for Minority Health Disparities at the National Institutes of Health and has been a strong supporter of increases in funding for federally qualified health care centers and health information technology. Senator Cardin continues to be a leading champion for increased medical research funding for Maryland's world-class universities, NIH, and our State's cutting edge biotech industry.

Serving as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee during his first four years in the Senate, Senator Cardin also has developed a reputation for defending civil rights at home and has sought to find a balance between protection of civil liberties and national security. He is the lead sponsors of legislation to prohibit racial profiling by all levels of law enforcement, restore voting rights for former felons, and remove the deadline for ratification of the Equal Right Amendment. He has been a proud cosponsor of the Respect for Marriage Act and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.

From 1987-2006, Ben Cardin represented Maryland's Third Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives and served for 17 years on the Ways & Means Committee. He was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates from 1967-1986. During his time as Speaker from 1979-1986, he reformed Maryland's property tax system, the school financing formula and the ethical standards for elected officials.

A 1967 graduate of the University of Maryland School of Law (1st in his class), he earned his B.A. degree in 1964 from the University of Pittsburgh (cum laude). He is a member of the U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors, the Johns Hopkins University Institute for Policy Studies' National Advisory Board and the St. Mary's College Advisory Board, Center for Study of Democracy.

Senator Cardin is married to Myrna Edelman Cardin and his daughter Deborah and son-in-law Jonathan Willis have two daughters, Madeline and Julia.

Senator Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) 1st Term

'Elected to the United States Senate by the people of Maryland in November 2016, Chris Van Hollen is committed to fighting every day to ensure that our state and our country live up to their full promise of equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunity.

Senator Van Hollen believes that every child deserves the opportunity to pursue their dreams and benefit from a quality education, and that anyone willing to work hard should be able to find a good job. That's why his top priorities include creating more and better jobs, strengthening small businesses, and increasing educational and job training opportunities for individuals of all ages and in every community.

Senator Van Hollen started his time in public service as a member of the Maryland State Legislature, where he became known as a tenacious advocate for everyday Marylanders and someone who was unafraid to take on powerful special interests on behalf of working people. In 2002, he was elected to represent Maryland's 8th Congressional District. In the House of Representatives, he served as a member of the Democratic leadership and was elected by his colleagues to be the Ranking Member of the House Budget Committee and protect vital interests like Social Security and Medicare.

A tireless fighter for the people of Maryland, Senator Van Hollen has also become known for working hard to find common sense solutions to difficult national issues. In January 2015, he released a comprehensive plan to address the problem of growing inequality in America and provide a blueprint for building an economy that works for everyone — a goal that he will continue to fight for in the U.S. Senate.

Senator Van Hollen is proud to have worked successfully with members of both parties to pass bipartisan legislation whenever possible on issues of common concern, including expanding medical research, protecting the Chesapeake Bay, fighting childhood cancer, and passing the ABLE Act to assist families with children with disabilities.

Chris Van Hollen is a graduate of Swarthmore College, the John F. Kennedy School of Public Policy at Harvard University, and Georgetown University Law Center where he attended night school. He and his wife, Katherine Wilkens, are the proud parents of three children, Anna (26), Nicholas (25), and Alexander (21).

Representative Jamie Raskin (D-MD-8) 1st Term

Congressman Jamie Raskin proudly represents Maryland's 8th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The district includes parts of Montgomery, Carroll, and Frederick Counties. Raskin was sworn in to the 115th Congress on January 3, 2017.

Congressman Raskin is the Vice-Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee, and serves on two Judiciary subcommittees: the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice; and the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigation. He also serves on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, and the Committee on House Administration. Raskin is the Freshman Representative on the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, the

Congressional Progressive Caucus Vice Chair and Liaison to New Members, and a Senior Whip for the House Democratic Caucus.

For more than 25 years, Congressman Raskin has been a professor of constitutional law at American University's Washington College of Law. He authored several books, including the Washington Post best-seller *Overruling Democracy: The Supreme Court versus the American People* and the highly-acclaimed *We the Students: Supreme Court Cases For and About America's Students*, which has sold more than 50,000 copies.

Prior to his time in Congress, Jamie was a three-term State Senator in Maryland, where he also served as the Senate Majority Whip. He quickly earned a reputation for building coalitions in Annapolis, and delivered a series of landmark legislative accomplishments.

Congressman Raskin is a graduate of Harvard University and Harvard Law School. He and his wife, Sarah Bloom Raskin, live in Takoma Park with their dog, Potter. They have three children: Tabitha, Tommy, and Hannah.

Representative Elijah Cummings (D-MD-7) 10th Term

Congressman Elijah E. Cummings was born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, where he still resides today. He obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Howard University, serving as Student Government President and graduating Phi Beta Kappa, and then graduated from the University Of Maryland School Of Law. Congressman Cummings has also received 12 honorary doctoral degrees from Universities throughout the nation.

Congressman Cummings has dedicated his life of service to uplifting and empowering the people he is sworn to represent. He began his career of public service in the Maryland House of Delegates, where he served for 14 years and became the first African American in Maryland history to be named Speaker Pro Tem. Since 1996, Congressman Cummings has proudly represented Maryland's 7th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Congressman Cummings often says that our children are the living messages that we send to a future we will never see. In that vein, he is committed to ensuring that our next generation has access to quality healthcare and education, clean air and water, and a strong economy defined by fiscal responsibility.

Congressman Cummings currently serves as the Ranking Member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. As the main investigative committee in the House of Representatives, Oversight and Government Reform has jurisdiction to investigate any federal program and any matter with federal policy implications. As the Committee's Ranking Member, Congressman Cummings fights to hold the Presidential Administration to a high standard of excellence and to ensure efficiency and effectiveness in the actions of the government of the United States. He also seeks to identify appropriate reforms that prevent waste, fraud and abuse and that ensure government programs meet the needs of the American people.

Congressman Cummings is also a senior member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, serving on both the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation and the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.

Congressman Cummings serves on numerous boards and commissions. He is spearheading an effort to strengthen the Maritime curriculum at the Maritime Industries Academy (MIA) in Baltimore, serving as

Chairman of the MIA Board and Chairman of the MIA Foundation Board. He also serves on the U.S. Naval Academy Board of Visitors, the Morgan State University Board of Regents, the University of Maryland Law School Board of Advisors, and the SEED School of Maryland Board of Directors. He is an honorary Board member of KIPP Baltimore Schools and the Baltimore School for the Arts. He was also the holder of the Gwendolyn S. and Colbert I. King Endowed Chair in Public Policy Lecture Series at Howard University from 2014 – 2016.

Congressman Cummings is an active member of New Psalmist Baptist Church and is married to Dr. Maya Rockeymoore Cummings.

Representative John Delaney (D-MD-6) 3rd Term

Congressman John Delaney was elected in 2012 to serve Maryland's Sixth District, which encompasses portions of the Washington D.C. suburbs of Montgomery and Frederick Counties and all of Washington, Allegany, and Garrett Counties. Delaney is the only former CEO of a publicly traded company serving in the House of Representatives, having done that twice, and brings to Washington an extensive experience as a successful entrepreneur and as a private sector and non-profit leader.

As the son of a union electrician, John grew up in a blue collar household. Scholarships from his father's union (IBEW Local 164), the American Legion, VFW, and the Lion's Club, allowed John to attend college. John is a graduate of Columbia University and Georgetown University Law Center. A business builder, Delaney founded two New York Stock Exchange listed companies before the age of 40, and is a past winner of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

John spent his business career starting and running successful companies and helping small businesses grow. John's companies were both founded in Maryland, Capital Source, which Delaney launched in 2000 and became a public company in 2003, lent money to thousands of small businesses around the country and has been recognized by the Treasury Department for lending to disadvantaged communities while also receiving numerous awards as one of the best places to work in the Washington D.C. region. John is Chairman Emeritus of Capital Source. Prior to Capital Source, he founded HealthCare Financial Partners, a successful company that was started in 1993 and became a public company in 1996.

John and his wife April McClain-Delaney have made community service a priority, especially in the field of education, the provision of core services, and issues effecting children. They are generous supporters of the public interest law initiatives at Georgetown University Law Center, where they endowed the Delaney Family Professorship in Public Interest Law and have funded significant scholarships for student's interest in public service. John is a member of the Board of Directors of Georgetown University and the National Symphony Orchestra, was the past Chairman of the Board at St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School and was a past member of the Board of Directors for the International Center for Research on Women.

April is an attorney and an education and children's advocate in the non-profit sector. April currently serves as the Washington Director for Common Sense Media, a non-profit dedicated to educating families on social media, technology, and digital literacy. The Delaney's are members of the Little Flower Catholic Church in Bethesda, Maryland, and have been longtime supporters of Catholic Charities. John and April have four daughters and live in Montgomery County.

Congressman Delaney's primary focus in office is to restore our nation's economic competitiveness so that we can have a strong middle class, raise our standard of living, and expand the number of good jobs available to Americans. In 2011, Delaney founded Blueprint Maryland, a non-profit dedicated to invigorating Maryland's private sector. Blueprint Maryland gathered businesspeople, educators, labor representatives, and policy experts together to chart a way towards a high-tech, high-information, economy.

State: Michigan

Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) 4th Term

Born in Gladwin and raised in Clare, Debbie Stabenow knows what matters to Michigan. Elected to the United States Senate in 2000, she is respected for her ability to build coalitions to get things done for Michigan and our nation.

As Ranking Member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, and as a member of the Senate Energy, Finance, and Budget Committees, she has a powerful and unique role to play in shaping our nation's manufacturing, health care, and agriculture policies, which are so critical to our future.

Among her many accomplishments, she has cut taxes for small businesses and passed initiatives to revitalize our manufacturing sector. Senator Stabenow authored a bipartisan Farm Bill that is strengthening Michigan agriculture and making unprecedented investments in protecting the Great Lakes. She has played a leading role in making positive reforms to health care, and she successfully passed far-reaching reforms to improve our nation's mental health system.

Senator Stabenow believes that high-quality, affordable health care should be available to every American. She worked to ensure that the Affordable Care Act promoted comprehensive coverage for women, including maternity care, and she supported provisions that lower the cost of prescription drugs for seniors. She also made mental health parity in the law a top priority. In recognition of these achievements, Senator Stabenow was honored with an awards from the Sandy Hook Promise and Green Door, an organization that promotes independence for people with mental illness.

As Ranking Member of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Health Care, Senator Stabenow is a champion for Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program. She has been recognized for her success making prescription drugs more affordable.

She is also a leading advocate of community health centers, which provide affordable, high-quality care in over 180 communities in Michigan. As part of the Affordable Care Act, Senator Stabenow ensured that these health centers would get immediate assistance to expand their operations and provide primary care services to up to 25 million Americans in need. The American Hospital Association, the Michigan Primary Care Association, the National Association of Community Health Centers and the Michigan Hospital Association have all recognized Senator Stabenow for her health care advocacy.

With six offices around the State, Senator Stabenow prides herself on being responsive to Michigan residents who are having issues with federal programs, and she fights to get the resources that local communities need, such as more police officers, new hospital emergency rooms and life-saving equipment for local fire departments. For those efforts she has been honored by the Police Officers Association of Michigan and the Michigan Association of Fire Fighters.

A musician at heart, Senator Stabenow sings and plays both the piano and the guitar. She grew up performing with her family in church and at many community functions. Her home is in Lansing, where she is a lifelong Methodist and a member of Grace United Methodist Church. She has two grown children, Todd and Michelle; a daughter-in-law, Sara; a son-in-law, Scott; and four beautiful grandchildren.

Senator Gary Peters (D-MI) 1st Term

Gary grew up in Oakland County where his father, a WW II veteran, worked as a public school teacher for more than 30 years. His mother worked as a nurse's aide and union steward with the SEIU. Gary saw how hard his parents worked to provide for him and his two sisters, and they instilled in him the importance of hard work, fairness, and integrity.

Gary is a product of Michigan schools. He studied at Alma College and graduated Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa. While raising a family and working a full-time job, Gary took night classes and earned an M.A. in Philosophy from Michigan State University, a J.D. from Wayne State University Law School, and an M.B.A. (Finance) from the University of Detroit Mercy. He was recently awarded an honorary Doctor of Humanities from Lawrence Technological University.

At 34, Gary felt he could be doing more for his community and nation and joined the U.S. Navy Reserve. He became an expert pistol and rifle marksman, earned a Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist designation, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. Gary was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Frustrated by the gridlock he saw in Washington, in 2008, Gary ran for the U.S. House of Representatives because he believed that middle class families, like his, did not have a strong, independent voice in Congress. Although he's been in Washington only a little over four years, Gary has drawn on his business background to make Washington more transparent and accountable for our tax dollars. He's led efforts in Congress to eliminate wasteful, duplicative, and unnecessary spending, and is constantly working to responsibly reduce the deficit. Gary believes Washington can budget the right way without compromising vital programs like Medicare and Social Security that middle class families and seniors count on.

Drawing on his own business experience, Gary also helped write the most significant piece of small business legislation in decades that focused on ensuring Michigan small businesses had access to the credit they needed to grow and create thousands of jobs.

Gary is leading the fight against bad trade deals, which cost us good-paying jobs in Michigan, and is working to level the playing field for our businesses and workers. As an outspoken advocate for Michigan, he called on the President to crack down on China and Japan for manipulating their currency while closing their doors to Michigan-made goods. Gary also took on Wall Street greed and helped write sweeping legislation to protect our families from another financial crisis.

Gary knows that times are still very tough for too many Michigan families. He is committed to building an America where anyone willing to work hard and play by the rules, can find a good-paying job, afford health care, live in a safe neighborhood, send their children to a good school, and retire with dignity. Now, more than ever, Michigan families deserve an independent voice, like Gary, fighting for them in Washington.

Today, Gary and his wife Colleen are the proud parents of three, a son and two daughters, and live in Oakland County.

Representative Sandy Levin (D-MI-9) 18th Term

Rep. Sander “Sandy” Levin was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1982. The 9th Congressional District includes communities in Macomb and Oakland counties and spans from Lake St. Clair to Bloomfield Township.

He is the a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, which has jurisdiction over all tax, trade and economic growth policies and entitlement spending, including Social Security, Medicare, welfare and unemployment compensation. He has served on four of the six Ways and Means Subcommittee (Social Security, Health Care, Income Security and Family Support, Trade) except for the Oversight and Select Revenue Subcommittees, and is currently the Ranking Member of the Health Subcommittee. Earlier in his career, Rep. Levin was elected to the Michigan State Senate in 1964 and served as the Michigan State Senate Minority Leader from 1969 – 1970. In 1970 and 1974, Mr. Levin was the Democratic candidate for Governor. After a four year assignment as Assistant Administrator in the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), he was elected to Congress in 1982.

Levin resides in Royal Oak, Michigan. He was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. He earned his B.A. at the University of Chicago, his M.A. in international relations from Columbia University, and a law degree from Harvard University. He is married to Pamela Cole, a professor of Clinical Child Psychology and Human Development at Penn State University. He and his late beloved wife, Vicki, were married for over 50 years and raised their four children in Berkley, Michigan, a suburb north of Detroit in Oakland County. He has ten grandchildren and his brother Carl served in the United States Senate. Mr. Levin is an avid sports fan, especially Red Wings hockey, plays squash with his brother, enjoys basketball, and likes classical music.

Representative Debbie Dingell (D-MI-12) 2nd Term

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell represents the 12th District of Michigan in the U.S. House of Representatives. Before being elected to Congress, Debbie was the Chair of the Wayne State University (WSU) Board of Governors. An active civic and community leader, she is a recognized national advocate for women and children.

For more than 30 years Debbie served one of Michigan’s largest employers, the General Motors (GM) Corporation, where she was President of the GM Foundation and a senior executive responsible for public affairs. In her commitment to job creation, Debbie led the effort to bring the 10,000 Small Businesses initiative, a \$20 million partnership designed to help create jobs and economic growth, to southeast Michigan. She is a past chair of the Manufacturing Initiative at the American Automotive Policy Council.

With values instilled by her Catholic education, Debbie’s activism took root in her passion for issues important to women and children. She successfully fought to have women included in federally-funded health research, and advocated for greater awareness of issues directly related to women’s health,

including breast cancer and women's heart health. She is a founder and past chair of the National Women's Health Resource Center and the Children's Inn at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She has served on numerous boards related to women's issues including the advisory boards for the NIH Panel for Women's Research, the Michigan Women's Economic Club, the Susan G. Komen Foundation, and the board of the Michigan Women's Foundation. She was a co-founder of both the first Race for the Cures in Michigan and in Washington, D.C.

Debbie has led a number of efforts and initiatives related to young people and education stemming from her role as a WSU Governor and co-chair of the Children's Leadership Council, a business-led advocacy group that promotes investment in early childhood education. She chaired the Michigan Infant Mortality Task Force, the Baby Your Baby public education campaign that reduced infant mortality rates in Michigan, and has served on the board of Michigan's Children, the only statewide independent voice working to ensure that public policies are made in the best interest of children from cradle to career. She was appointed by Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm to serve on the Early Childhood Investment Corporation and the Cherry Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth.

Much of Debbie's recent work has been focused on ethical issues and social responsibility as they relate to government and business. She co-chaired One United Michigan, which sought to preserve and support programs that ensure equal opportunity in Michigan. She chairs the Metropolitan Affairs Coalition, a statewide organization that brings business, labor and government together to find commonality on issues. She continues to serve on the Parade Company board of directors of which she is past chair, where she helped save America's Thanksgiving Parade, an important Detroit tradition. A known "bridge-builder," she continues to promote and lead efforts toward greater understanding among people of differing points of views and backgrounds.

Debbie is a respected voice in Michigan. She co-hosted Detroit Public Television's "Am I Right," regularly served as a panelist on "Flashpoint," a public affairs program on WDIV-TV4 Detroit, and was named one of the 100 Most Influential Women in Michigan by Crain's Detroit Business.

Debbie resides in Dearborn with her husband, retired Congressman John D. Dingell of Michigan. She holds both a B.S.F.S. in Foreign Services and an M.S. in Liberal Studies from Georgetown University.

Representative Dave Trott (R-MI-11) 2nd Term

Dave Trott is the U.S. Representative for Michigan's Eleventh Congressional District.

Dave's story is like that of many in Michigan—he worked hard, earned his education, and was able to live the American Dream. A lifelong resident of Oakland County, Dave is a leader in innovation, problem solving, and job creation. Since joining his parents in their family law firm in 1985, Dave has created and saved 1,800 jobs in Southeast Michigan.

Dave's leadership in the business community in Michigan makes him uniquely prepared to help craft and provide input to job-creating measures in Congress. Dave is not a career Washington politician; rather he's a Michigan innovator with a proven record of improving the lives of the citizens of Southeast Michigan.

Throughout his career, Dave has been committed to giving back to his community in Southeast Michigan. Dave spent a semester of teaching American government, and has also served on the University of Michigan Advisory Board, Detroit Country Day School Board of Trustees, The Community

House Board, Karmanos Cancer Center Board, Michigan State Building Authority Board of Trustees, and the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees.

In Congress, Dave is focused on fighting for more jobs and better opportunities for the citizens of the Eleventh Congressional District. In the 115th Congress, Dave serves on the House Committee on Financial Services.

Dave received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Michigan and his Juris Doctor from Duke University. He, his wife Kappy of 25 years, and their three children live in Birmingham, Michigan.

Representative John Conyers (D-MI-13) 27th Term

Congressman John Conyers, Jr. represents Michigan's 13th Congressional District which encompasses the Detroit metropolitan area. In 2014, Congressman Conyers was elected to his 26th consecutive term, making him the first African-American to hold the distinction as Dean (most senior member) of Congress.

Congressman Conyers is the current Ranking Member and a former chair of the House Committee on the Judiciary. Previously, he served as Chair of the Committee on Government Operations (now the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform). Congressman Conyers is a Founding Member and Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus.

In Congressman Conyers' 50 years of public service, he has been a major proponent of more than 100 pieces of critical legislation including the original Voting Rights Act of 1965, the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, the Motor Voter Bill of 1993, the Alcohol Warning Label Act of 1988, and the Jazz Preservation Act of 1987. Congressman Conyers was also the driving force behind the Help America Vote Act of 2002.

On April 8, 1968, four days after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. passed away, Congressman Conyers introduced the original Martin Luther King Holiday Act of 1983. After 15 years, the bill would eventually pass into law, making the third Monday of January as an official Federal holiday.

Congressman Conyers, born in Detroit, MI, attended Northwestern High School. Upon graduation, he matriculated to Wayne State University for his undergraduate and legal studies. Congressman Conyers served in the National Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers during the Korean War. Congressman Conyers is married to Monica, and they have two sons John III and Carl Edward.

State: Minnesota

Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) 1st Term

Amy Klobuchar is the first woman elected to represent the State of Minnesota in the United States Senate. Throughout her public service, Amy has always embraced the values she learned growing up in Minnesota. Her grandfather worked 1500 feet underground in the iron ore mines of Northern Minnesota. Her father, Jim, was a newspaperman, and her mother, Rose, was an elementary school teacher who continued teaching until she was 70. Amy has built a reputation of putting partisanship aside to help strengthen the economy and support families, workers and businesses.

Amy has always understood that her first duty is to represent the people of Minnesota. She acted quickly to obtain full funding to rebuild the I-35W bridge just thirteen months after it tragically collapsed into the Mississippi River. She worked across party lines to expand education and job opportunities for

returning service members, fought to ensure that Minnesota National Guard members received the full benefits they earned, and helped turn Minnesota's ground-breaking "Beyond the Yellow Ribbon" program into a national model. As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Amy was part of the important Farm Bill conference committee that reached an agreement between the Senate and the House on a long-term Farm Bill in 2014.

Since arriving in the Senate, Amy has worked with Democrats and Republicans on legislation focused on moving the country forward. She fought to pass the most significant consumer product safety legislation in a generation, keeping foreign toxic products off our shores and out of our stores, and pushed the cell phone companies to enact more consumer-friendly policies. In 2015 she was appointed Chair of the Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee, where she brings together senators, businesses, community leaders, policy experts and intergovernmental organizations to help develop policies to strengthen the economy and move the country forward.

As Ranking Senate Member of the Joint Economic Committee and a member of the President's Export Council and the Senate Commerce Committee, Amy has been a leader in working to implement a competitive agenda to ensure businesses have the tools they need to grow and create good jobs in their communities. She has authored legislation to help small businesses tap into new markets abroad, passed a significant amendment aimed at boosting funds for STEM education for American students, and led successful national initiatives to boost American tourism, including a series of regulatory reforms adopted by the Administration.

Amy also serves as the Ranking Member on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights, where she has worked to advance policies that protect consumers from anti-competitive behavior and make sure businesses are able to compete on a level playing field. She has introduced legislation to crack down on "pay-for-delay" agreements, the practice of brand-name drug manufacturers using pay-off agreements to keep more affordable generic equivalents off the market.

Before serving in the Senate, Amy headed the largest prosecutor's office in Minnesota for eight years, making the prosecution of violent and career criminals her top priority. She led the effort for successful passage of Minnesota's first felony DWI law, and received the leadership award from Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Her safe schools initiative, community prosecution efforts, and criminal justice reforms earned national awards from both the Bush and Clinton Justice Departments. As a private citizen and before being elected to public office, Amy was the leading advocate for successful passage of one of the first laws in the country guaranteeing 48-hour hospital stays for new moms and their babies.

Her work has gained national recognition. The American Prospect named her a "woman to watch," and Working Mother Magazine named her as "Best in Congress" for her efforts on behalf of working families. She received an award from the Service Women's Action Network (SWAN) for her work to fight sexual assault in the military, and the Disabled American Veterans honored her work to improve the lives of America's veterans. She has also received the "Outstanding Member of the Senate Award" from the National Narcotic Officers' Associations' Coalition and the "Above and Beyond Award" from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve for her commitment to developing a supportive work environment for employees serving in the Guard and Reserves.

Amy is married to John Bessler, a native of Mankato, who attended Loyola High School and the University of Minnesota. Amy and John have a daughter, Abigail, who is currently in college.

Senator Al Franken (D-MN) 2nd Term

U.S. Senator Al Franken was born on May 21, 1951, and grew up in St. Louis Park, Minnesota. In 1973, he graduated from Harvard, where he met his wife Franni. They've been married for 40 years, and have two grown children, Thomasin and Joe. The couple's first grandchild, Joe, was born to Thomasin and her husband Brody in May 2013. Jacob, their second grandson, was born to Joe and his wife Stephanie in January 2016. Before running for the Senate, Al spent 37 years as a comedy writer, author, and radio talk show host and has taken part in seven USO tours, visiting our troops overseas in Germany, Bosnia, Kosovo, and Uzbekistan-as well as visiting Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait four times.

First elected to the Senate in 2008, and re-elected in 2014, he currently sits on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee; the Judiciary Committee; the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Sen. Franken has built a successful record of legislative accomplishments by standing up for Minnesota's interests and finding commonsense, bipartisan solutions that improve people's lives. He's traveled to communities across the state and turned Minnesota ideas into national policy.

His work has improved health care for families and businesses, preserved Americans' privacy, reformed dangerous Wall Street practices, modernized farm policy, and helped ensure American workers are trained to fill the jobs being created.

Improving Health Care: Sen. Franken's provision in the 2010 health reform law requires insurance companies to spend at least 80 percent of premiums on actual health care-not administrative costs, marketing, CEO salaries, or profits. If insurers don't meet the requirement, they must rebate the difference. The measure has already sent billions of dollars in rebates to millions of consumers across the country, and it's helped address the rising cost of premiums for families and businesses alike. The idea came from the state of Minnesota, and Sen. Franken made it a money-saving national health policy.

Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN-5) 6th Term

Congressman Keith Ellison represents Minnesota's 5th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The Fifth District includes the City of Minneapolis and surrounding suburbs and is one of the most vibrant and ethnically diverse districts in Minnesota.

Rep. Ellison's guiding philosophy is based on generosity and inclusion and his priorities in Congress are building prosperity for working families, promoting peace, pursuing environmental sustainability, and advancing civil and human rights.

Rep. Ellison's commitment to consumer justice led him to write legislation that was included in the Credit Cardholder's Bill of Rights of 2009. This law prevents an unfair practice called universal default, which allowed lenders to increase their customers interest rates if they had late payments with another lender. In response to the foreclosure crisis that began in 2008, Rep. Ellison also wrote the Protecting Tenants in Foreclosure Act, which requires banks and other new owners to provide at least 90 days' notice of eviction to renters occupying foreclosed homes.

As a member of the House Financial Services Committee, the congressman helps oversee the nation's financial services and housing industries, as well as Wall Street. He also serves on the House Democratic Steering & Policy Committee, which decides committee assignments for Democratic Members and sets

the Democratic Caucus' policy agenda. In the past he served on the House Judiciary Committee and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Rep. Ellison was elected co-chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus for the 113th Congress that promotes the progressive promise of fairness for all.

He is also a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, founded the Congressional Consumer Justice Caucus, and belongs to more than a dozen other caucuses that focus on issues ranging from social inclusion to environmental protection.

Before being elected to Congress Rep. Ellison was a noted community activist and ran a thriving civil rights, employment, and criminal defense law practice in Minneapolis. He also was elected to serve two terms in the Minnesota State House of Representatives.

Keith was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan. He has lived in Minnesota since earning his law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1990. Keith is the proud father of four children.

Representative Tim Walz (D-MN-1) 6th Term

U.S. Congressman Tim Walz is currently serving his sixth term representing Minnesota's First Congressional District. The First Congressional District spans the southern part of Minnesota – from the South Dakota border in the west to the Wisconsin border in the east.

Walz proudly serves the people of southern Minnesota on three committees in the United States House of Representatives: Agriculture, Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs. He is the ranking member of the Agriculture Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management. He also is one of nine House Members to serve on the Congressional-Executive Commission on China. Walz serves as co-chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, and has leadership posts with the National Guard and Reserve Caucus and the Congressional Veterans Jobs Caucus.

Tim Walz was born in West Point, Nebraska and is the son of a public school administrator and community activist. As a child, Tim's parents instilled in him the values of hard work and community service.

Walz enlisted in the Army National Guard at the young age of 17, and retired 24 years later as Command Sergeant Major. Before retiring, Walz served overseas with his battalion in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Walz is the highest ranking enlisted soldier ever to serve in Congress.

In 1989, Walz earned a B.S. in social science education from Chadron State College in Nebraska. Walz spent 1989-1990 teaching high school in China as a part of the first government sanctioned groups of American educators to teach in China through a program at Harvard University.

When he returned from China, Walz began teaching high school in Nebraska. While in Nebraska, Walz met his wife Gwen Whipple. Married in 1994, Tim and Gwen Walz moved back to Gwen's native southern Minnesota where both began teaching and coaching at Mankato West High School.

Since coming to Congress, Walz has made improving the care of our nation's veterans a top priority. The Rochester Post Bulletin has described him as having "relentless energy" and touted his strong work ethic, stating that "he brings a soldier's work ethic to the House."

Rep. Walz has been recognized for his work in Congress with awards from AMVETS, the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers, the American Cancer Society, the National Association of Development Organizations, the National Farmers Union and the Matthew Shepard Foundation.

Tim and Gwen live in Mankato with their two young children, Hope and Gus.

State: Missouri

Senator Claire McCaskill (D-MO) 2nd Term

In 2006, Claire became the first woman elected to the U.S. Senate from Missouri, winning the seat once held by Harry Truman. Making good on a campaign pledge, Claire waged a successful six-year effort to rein in wasteful wartime contracting practices in Iraq and Afghanistan - modeled on Harry Truman's famous battle against war profiteering. During the final hours of Claire's first Senate term, her signature legislation implementing historic wartime contracting reforms was signed into law.

Claire drew on her personal commitment to America's military veterans, helping to pass the 21st Century GI Bill, and establishing a veterans' "secret shopper" program to improve health care services for Missouri's veterans. Following reports of neglect, Claire successfully pushed for the removal of Army officials managing Walter Reed Army Medical Center - and shortly after, led the successful effort to reform management of Arlington National Cemetery after disclosures of mismarked gravesites. Later, she passed into law a comprehensive plan fixing the Pentagon's troubled program to recover American personnel who are prisoners of war and missing in action (POW/MIA).

Claire teamed up with her Republican colleagues to establish a ban on Congressional earmarks, and has helped lead efforts to repeal automatic pay raises for Congress. She bucked her party's leadership, authoring a bill to impose a cap on federal discretionary spending - legislation which came within one vote of Senate passage.

Following Claire's resounding reelection in 2012, her oversight panel was expanded and tasked with investigating misconduct at every federal agency. And in 2015, Claire was named the top-ranking Democrat on the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations - formerly the Truman Committee and the Senate's leading oversight panel. A recognized tech leader - with a penchant for communicating directly with constituents via Twitter - Claire also chaired the Commerce Subcommittee on Consumer Protection. In her second term, Claire has launched investigations into areas including fraudulent robocalls, financial management at the U.S. Energy Department, inaccuracies on credit reports, security clearance background checks, pervasive fraud and waste in an Army National Guard recruiting program, and sexual violence on college and university campuses.

And as a senior member of the Armed Services Committee, Claire drew upon her years as a prosecutor in leading the successful effort to reform how the military handles sexual assaults - successfully enacting sweeping changes to protect and empower survivors and hold perpetrators and commanders accountable.

As Missouri's Senator, Claire has earned a reputation as a plain-spoken, independent voice for Missouri's families and businesses - willing to buck her own party to do what's right, and fighting to expand opportunities for Missouri's kids and grandkids.

Claire returns home to Missouri nearly every weekend, where she loves spending time with her nine grandchildren. She and her husband Joseph have a blended family of seven children, four of whom live in St. Louis.

Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO) 2nd Term

Building on a background as a public servant, university president, and teacher, United States Senator Roy Blunt was elected to the United States Senate in 2010.

Senator Blunt serves as the Vice Chairman of the Senate Republican Conference. He also serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee; the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee; the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence; the Senate Rules Committee; and serves as Chairman of both the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies; and Commerce Subcommittee on Aviation Operation, Safety, and Security.

The people of Southwest Missouri overwhelmingly elected Senator Blunt seven times to the U.S. House of Representatives. Senator Blunt was elected the Majority Whip earlier in his career than any Member of Congress in eight decades, and he was elected to the Senate leadership during his first year in the Senate.

Before serving in Congress, he was a history teacher, a county official, and in 1984 became the first Republican elected as Missouri's Secretary of State in more than 50 years. Senator Blunt also served four years as the president of Southwest Baptist University, his alma mater, in Bolivar, Missouri. Senator Blunt earned an M.A. in history from Missouri State University.

Senator Blunt is a member of the Smithsonian Council for American Art and is a Trustee of the State Historical Society of Missouri. Senator Blunt is also a member of the Kennedy Center Board of Trustees.

The Senator is married to Abigail Blunt and has four children: Matt Blunt, Missouri's 54th Governor; Amy Blunt, an attorney in Columbia, Mo.; Andy Blunt, an attorney in Jefferson City; and Charlie (age 12). Blunt has six grandchildren: Davis Mosby, Ben Blunt, Branch Blunt, Eva Mosby, Allyson Blunt, and Brooks Blunt.

Representative Lacy Clay (D-MO-1) 9th Term

Congressman Wm. Lacy Clay was first elected to the U. S. House of Representatives in 2000, succeeding his father, the Honorable Bill Clay, who served for 32 years and was a founding Member of the Congressional Black Caucus. He is currently serving his 9th term. Prior to his election to the U.S. House, Mr. Clay served for 17-years in both chambers of the Missouri Legislature.

Congressman Clay champions our 1st Amendment freedoms and he remains a staunch advocate for the arts and creative freedom. Recently, Mr. Clay led the fight to oppose the suppression of free speech principles constituted by the removal of his 18-year old constituent David Pulphus' award-winning painting from the Congressional Art Competition exhibit on Capitol Hill. Congressman Clay continues to advocate on behalf of First Amendment principles and to resist artistic censorship based upon political viewpoints.

The Congressman is a senior member of the powerful House Financial Services Committee where he serves as the Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit. This key subcommittee has major oversight responsibilities over banks, credit unions, brokerage houses, the

Securities and Exchange Commission, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and credit rating agencies.

His consumer-friendly legislative record on the Financial Services Committee includes the introduction of the Small Bank Exam Cycle Reform Act of 2015; a bill that would increase from \$500 million to \$1 billion the asset size of small insured depository institutions eligible for 18-month on-site examination cycles.

The Congressman also introduced the Preserving Capital Access and Mortgage Liquidity Act of 2015, a bill that would amend the Federal Home Land Bank Act to redefine “community financial institution” to include either a federal or state chartered credit union.

And as part of his response to the reckless investment practices which led to the financial collapse of 2008-2009 and the Great Recession, Congressman Clay cosponsored the Community Bank Clarification Act to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 with respect to minimum leverage capital requirements and minimum risk-based capital requirements for depository institution holding companies including mandatory deductions from actual capital in the calculation of minimum capital requirements for certain investments by such institutions, especially in financial subsidiaries; and the exemption of such capital deductions for the debt of equity instruments issued by certain smaller institutions.

Mr. Clay is also a senior member on the Oversight and Government Reform Committee, which has major oversight and investigative responsibilities for the operations of the federal government.

He was able to advance two of his bills in the 114th and 115th Congresses.

Congressman Clay introduced HR 2908 - The National Bison Legacy Act in the 114th Congress. This act designated the North American bison as the national mammal of the United States. The legislation, which attracted strong bipartisan support, was crafted to honor both this magnificent animal and the sacred and spiritual legacy of Native Americans. After attracting support from a coalition of over 60 agencies, including Native American tribes, ranchers, and government agencies; this bill was unanimously passed in both the House and Senate and was signed into law by former President Barack Obama on May 9, 2016.

Congressman Clay also introduced HR 70 - The Federal Advisory Committee Act Amendments (FACA) in the 115th Congress. This bill closes the loopholes that allow agencies to get around the original Act. Currently, agencies can avoid the requirements of FACA by conducting committee business through subcommittees. This bill makes it clear that FACA applies to subcommittees as well as parent committees. Also under this act, agencies would be required to disclose how advisory members are chosen, whether they have financial conflicts of interest if they are appointed to provide their own expertise, and who they work for if they are representing a specific interest. This bipartisan bill unanimously passed the House on January 4, 2017.

In 2014, Congressman Clay expanded his congressional portfolio to include a seat on the House Natural Resources Committee where he is working to combat climate change, protect wilderness areas, safeguard clean water and clean air and make sure that future generations enjoy America’s remarkable natural assets.

His legislative agenda on the Natural Resources Committee includes the introduction of HR 3683 - The African American Civil Rights Network Act. His bill directs the Secretary of the Interior to identify and create a national network of historic sites, stories, research facilities and educational programs connected to the modern African American Civil Rights Movement.

The historic civil rights trails and the programs that will grow from this act will honestly tell the full and sometimes painful story of the struggle for civil rights, not just for African Americans, but to foster healing, tolerance and understanding among all Americans. HR 3683 garnered 76 bipartisan cosponsors, including several Natural Resources Committee Members. HR 3683 also had a bipartisan Senate companion bill, S 2309.

The Congressman is the St. Louis region's senior Member of Congress and the Dean of Missouri's U.S. House delegation.

Wm. Lacy Clay is a native St. Louisan. He is a graduate of the University of Maryland. Mr. Clay also holds honorary degrees from Lincoln University, Harris-Stowe State University, the University of the District of Columbia and Logan College. Congressman Clay is the proud father of Carol and Will. He resides in St. Louis and attends St. Nicholas' Catholic Church.

Representative Vicky Hartzler (R-MO-4) 4th Term

Vicky Hartzler proudly represents the good people of Missouri's 4th Congressional District which is comprised of 24 counties in West-Central Missouri. She serves on the House Armed Services and Agriculture Committees. In the 114th Congress she was named Chairwoman of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee to oversee the Administration's defense policies and ensure accountability within the Department of Defense.

Growing up on a farm in rural Cass County, Vicky learned the value of hard work, family values, love of country and a reliance on faith to guide her in life. After graduating from Archie High School, Vicky earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri and her Master's degree in Education from the University of Central Missouri.

As a public school teacher for 11 years, she understands the importance of state and local control of education. As a small business owner and former Chairwoman of the Missouri Women's Council, Vicky knows first-hand what it takes to create jobs and grow our economy. And, representing both Ft. Leonard Wood and Whiteman Air Force Base, and as a daughter of a U.S. Army Reservist, Vicky's commitment to our men and women in uniform is unwavering.

During her first term in Congress, Vicky took on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which had ordered the destruction of 1,200 homes and other structures at the Lake of the Ozarks as part of its approval of a Shoreline Management Plan needed to operate the hydroelectric plant at the Lake. Her determination and refusal to back down led FERC to rescind the order, protecting the existing property rights of local landowners.

Vicky also worked to pass the Small Business Credit Availability Act to provide regulatory relief to community banks, rural electric cooperatives, and local businesses from burdensome Dodd-Frank regulations. Originally intended to be exempt from Dodd-Frank, these entities were not immune from the federal government's attempts to regulate every aspect of these industries. As a small business owner, Vicky appreciates the value of our local Main Street businesses, and works hard every day to combat the executive overreach of unelected bureaucrats so hometown businesses can thrive and Missouri families can prosper.

Vicky believes providing for the common defense of our country is among the highest duties of the U.S. Congress. She tirelessly advocates for the resources and policies our men and women in uniform need before, during, and after serving in the line of duty. She looks locally to fully train and equip the soldiers

at Fort Leonard Wood and airmen at Whiteman Air Force Base while also providing oversight and legislating on major national security issues that affect all Americans.

As Chairwoman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation, Vicky's leads the charge to ensure Department of Defense policies are good for our soldiers and good for the American taxpayer. She has led investigations into the transfer of the "Taliban 5" and operations of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, and, most recently, the process of Foreign Military Sales.

While Vicky works to ensure our troops are fully trained and ready, she is also highly aware of the veterans who served before them. She joins with the rest of America in her gratitude for their service, and hosts a Veterans Resource Fair for Missouri's Fourth District annually, giving veterans valuable in-person access to national service providers and veterans service organizations.

Representing the agricultural interests of her district, Vicky helped craft the 2014 Farm Bill which strengthened the safety net for farmers and ensured a safe, affordable food supply while saving \$24 billion and eliminating more than 100 unnecessary programs. In addition to the Farm Bill, Rep. Hartzler led a successful effort to increase transparency in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's audit process to allow for more transparent dealings between the agency and Missouri livestock markets.

Vicky remains committed to serving the constituents of Missouri's Fourth District, which includes preserving the sanctity of life and working to protect traditional family values. Through her work as a co-chair of the House Values Action Team, she has worked tirelessly to ensure pro-life and pro-family provisions are included in all relevant legislation. Rep. Hartzler was recognized for her tireless pro-life efforts when she was selected to serve on the Select Panel for Infant Lives, the committee charged with getting the facts about medical practices of abortion service providers such as Planned Parenthood and the business practices of the procurement organizations who sell baby body parts.

Vicky's Public service began in 1994 with her election as a Missouri State Representative, where she championed efforts to update Missouri's adoption laws.

Vicky, her husband Lowell, and their daughter, Tiffany, reside on a working farm near Harrisonville in Cass County.

State: Mississippi

Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS) 7th Term

Thad Cochran was born December 7, 1937, in Pontotoc, Mississippi. Cochran was strongly influenced by his parents' careers in education. He and his brother, Nielson, were immersed in academic environments even at young ages. They spent summers at the University of Mississippi as their parents earned Master's Degrees, and also lived at Blue Mountain College where their parents were members of the faculty.

In 1972, Cochran was elected United States Congressman for the Fourth District, which included 12 counties in Southwest Mississippi. He was appointed to the House Public Works and Transportation Committee, which had jurisdiction over economic development, transportation, and flood control.

As a Member of Congress, Cochran also served on a Republican task force to study the energy crisis, and he contributed to the writing of a report that was published in book form by the House Republican Conference. He was appointed later to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct and the Select Committee on Ethics, which wrote a new ethics code for Members of Congress.

After winning re-election to the House in 1974, Cochran was elected by his colleagues to represent the Southern states on the House Republican Policy Committee. He was re-elected to the House of Representatives again in 1976. In both of his races for re-election, he received over 70 percent of the votes.

In 1978, Cochran was elected to the United States Senate, becoming the first Republican in more than 100 years to win a statewide election in Mississippi. He has since been re-elected six times and is currently serving his seventh term in office.

As a member of the Senate, Cochran has served as chairman of the Senate Republican Conference; chairman of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee; and chairman of the Appropriations Committee.

In the current 115th Congress, Cochran has been again selected to serve as chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, as well as chairman of its Subcommittee on Defense. He was previously chairman of the Committee on Appropriations in the 114th Congress (2015-2016) and the 109th Congress (2005-2006).

Senator Cochran is also a senior member on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, having most recently served as its ranking member in the 113th Congress (2013-2014). He has served on this panel since being sworn in as a Senator, and served previously as chairman in the 108th Congress (2003-2004).

Finally, Cochran continues to serve on the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration. During previous Congresses, Cochran served on the Senate Ethics Committee, the Judiciary Committee, the Labor and Human Resources Committee, and the Committee on Indian Affairs. He has also served on the Joint Committee on the Library, which oversees the activities of the Library of Congress. Service on these committees enabled him to be actively involved in the writing of laws affecting a wide range of issues including rural development, health care, and criminal justice.

Cochran has a wide-ranging legislative record that reflects the needs of Mississippi and the nation. A conservative philosophy has guided the Senator's policy decisions. He has supported measures to reduce spending, control debt and create an environment that fosters job creation and economic growth in Mississippi and the nation. He has also been a proponent of measures to maintain a strong national defense.

For Mississippi, Cochran has maintained a focus throughout his career on promoting economic development and educational opportunity. He has sponsored legislation and promoted policies related to rural economic development, including key provisions of several national farm policy bills. Cochran has also written legislation supporting education programs such as teacher training, vocational education, libraries, and educational television. He has supported programs to increase educational achievement among disadvantaged children, particularly in rural areas.

Cochran's leadership and assistance has contributed to the funding of various university-based research endeavors. Some of these include: energy, agriculture, and forestry facilities at Mississippi State University; the School of Polymers and High Performance Materials at the University of Southern Mississippi; the National Center for Natural Products Research, the Center for Water and Wetlands

Research, and the Food Service Management Institute at the University of Mississippi; the National Warmwater Aquaculture Research Center at Stoneville; and the Jackson Heart Study at Jackson State University, Tougaloo College and the University of Mississippi Medical Center. He worked toward the placement of a FAA Center of Excellence for Unmanned Aircraft Systems at Mississippi State University, which leads the Alliance for System Safety of UAS through Research Excellence (ASSURE), a consortium of universities focused on unmanned aircraft systems policies, research and development.

Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) 2nd Term

Roger F. Wicker has represented Mississippi in the United States Senate since December 2007. During his time in the Senate, Wicker has championed pro-growth policies to create jobs and has worked to reduce spending, limit federal overreach, and maintain a strong national defense.

He is a member of the Senate Republican leadership team, and served as chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee during the 114th Congress. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he chairs the Subcommittee on Seapower.

Wicker is also a member of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, serving as chairman of the Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet; Environment and Public Works Committee; and the Rules Committee. He is Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and Chair of the Committee on Political Affairs and Security in the OSCE's Parliamentary Assembly. Wicker is also a member of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Congressional Board of Visitors.

Senator Wicker has actively supported cancer survivorship programs and efforts to fight heart disease with the American Heart Association, diabetes, childhood obesity, and Alzheimer's. He has been recognized as a "champion" of polio eradication for his work to wipe out polio worldwide. Senator Wicker is the co-founder of the Senate Malaria and Neglected Tropical Disease Caucus and has worked to eliminate these preventable diseases.

He has been instrumental in bringing more research funding to Mississippi universities for a wide range of health-related projects to fight disease and improve quality of life. Most notably, Wicker authored the Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research, and Education (MD CARE) Act of 2001, which created NIH centers of excellence to coordinate and enhance muscular dystrophy research. The Wicker Project at Children's National Medical Center is a leader in muscular dystrophy research.

A native of Pontotoc, Mississippi, the Senator is the son of former Circuit Judge Fred Wicker and the late Mrs. Wordna Wicker. He was educated in the public schools of Pontotoc and received his B.A. and law degrees from the University of Mississippi. Wicker is a member of the First Baptist Church Tupelo, where he served as chairman of the deacons, taught Sunday School, and where he still sings in the choir.

Senator Wicker is married to the former Gayle Long of Tupelo. They have three children: Margaret and son-in-law Manning McPhillips; Caroline and son-in-law Kirk Sims; and McDaniel Wicker and his wife Kellee; and four grandchildren: Caroline, Henry, Maury Beth McPhillips, and Evelyn Sims.

Representative Gregg Harper (D-MS-3) 5th Term

Gregg Harper is currently serving his fifth term in the U.S. House of Representatives after having been first elected to Congress in November of 2008.

Mississippi's Third Congressional District stretches from Wilkinson County in southwest Mississippi to Oktibbeha County and includes the northeast corner of Jackson and the I-20 corridor into east central Mississippi.

Gregg has lived in the Third Congressional District since 1972 and currently resides in Pearl, Mississippi with his wife of thirty-seven years, Sidney. They have a son, Livingston, and a daughter and son in law, Maggie and Brett. The Harpers are active members of Crossgates Baptist Church in Brandon where he served for many years as a Sunday school teacher for high school and college students. The son of a former petroleum engineer and a mom who worked two days a week until she was 88 years old, Gregg learned at a young age the value of hard work and the importance of a quality education. Gregg and Sidney are both graduates of Mississippi College where he majored in Chemistry. He then earned his law degree from the University of Mississippi School of Law in 1981.

Prior to being elected to Congress, Gregg practiced law for twenty-seven years, including serving as the prosecuting attorney for the cities of Brandon and Richland, Mississippi. He also served on the Mississippi Oil and Gas Board and remains active in his community as a member of both the Pearl and Rankin County Chambers of Commerce. Additionally, Gregg was honored to serve as the board attorney for the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village until his election to Congress in 2008.

In the 115th Congress, Gregg was selected by the Speaker of the House to serve as Chairman of the Committee on House Administration, a standing committee with vast oversight and administrative responsibilities in the House of Representatives and additional institutions. Chairman Harper also serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, where he is a member of three subcommittees: Energy; Environment; and the Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection subcommittee, where he serves as the vice-chairman.

A longtime advocate for American-made energy, Gregg Harper believes that Congress must advance ideas that stabilize fuel prices and build a steady supply of American energy. On a more personal note, the Congressman and his wife, Sidney, are also committed to supporting families raising children with special needs. As a member of Congress, Gregg founded the Congressional Internship Program for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities. He has also worked to streamline federal programs and services intended to be a support to youth with significant disabilities in transition from adolescence to adulthood. In 2014, Gregg Harper authored the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act that was passed into law, ended taxpayer financing of presidential campaigns and conventions, and redirected that funding to pediatric medical research.

A strong advocate for our Second Amendment rights, Gregg is a Life Member of the National Rifle Association. Congressman Harper has also championed laws removing burdensome and unneeded federal mandates, promoting innovative drug developments for neurodevelopmental disorders, and advancing telemedicine. He looks forward to his work in the U.S. House of Representatives to advocate conservative values in the important tasks and challenges facing America.

State: Montana

Senator Jon Tester (D-MT) 2nd Term

Senator Jon Tester is third-generation Montana farmer, a proud grandfather and a former school teacher who has deep roots in hard work, responsibility and accountability.

Jon and his wife Sharla still farm the same land near the town of Big Sandy, Mont. that was homesteaded by Jon's grandparents in 1912. Jon's parents believed public education and family agriculture are the cornerstones of democracy—and those values had a tremendous role in shaping Jon's leadership.

After earning a degree in music from the College of Great Falls, Jon took over the Tester farm in 1978. He also taught music at F.E. Miley Elementary and eventually was elected to the Big Sandy School Board. Fired up by the Montana Legislature's decision to deregulate Montana's power industry (resulting in higher power costs), Jon ran for and was elected to the Montana Senate in 1998.

In 2005, Jon's colleagues chose him to serve as Montana Senate President. The people of Montana elected Jon to the U.S. Senate in 2006 and again in 2012.

Jon believes in holding himself accountable to the highest standards possible, and he has improved transparency at all levels of government. In fact, Jon was the first senator to post his daily public schedule online.

In the U.S. Senate, Jon is an outspoken voice for rural America. He is an advocate for small businesses who has hosted numerous Small Business Opportunity Workshops across Montana to serve thousands of business owners and entrepreneurs. He is a champion of responsible energy development, sportsmen's issues, clean air and water, Indian nations, women's access to care, and quality health care for all of America's veterans—no matter where they live.

In the Senate, Jon serves on the Veterans' Affairs, Homeland Security, Indian Affairs, Banking and Appropriations Committees.

In addition to farming and teaching, Jon and Sharla for years ran a custom butcher shop. Jon still butchers his own meat and regularly hauls it to Washington with him in a carry-on suitcase.

State: North Carolina

Senator Richard Burr (R-NC) 3rd Term

First elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994, Richard served five terms in the House and is currently serving North Carolina in his second term in the U.S. Senate. He is a vocal advocate for our men and women in the military and their families, and for the growing population of veterans across North Carolina.

In the Senate, Richard serves as Chairman of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence where he puts the security of the American people first, while providing rigorous oversight of our intelligence community. He also sits on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and the Finance Committee.

The son of a minister, Richard and his family moved to Winston-Salem, North Carolina when he was a young child. After graduating from Wake Forest University, he began his career far from the halls of Congress by spending seventeen years in business with Carswell Distributing, a wholesale commercial products company.

He also serves as a Board Member of Brenner Children's Hospital and on the West Point Board of Visitors. Richard and his wife, Brooke, have two sons.

Senator Thom Tillis (R-NC) 2nd Term

North Carolina Senator Thom Tillis is committed to preserving the American Dream for younger generations and supports commonsense policies that will generate economic growth and opportunities for working families.

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and Veterans' Affairs Committee, Thom directly advocates for North Carolina's rich military tradition, our veterans, and men and women currently in uniform. Thom also sits on the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee, Judiciary Committee, and the Senate Special Committee on Aging.

Thom was born into a working-class family with his father and mother and five siblings. During his childhood, his family was frequently forced to relocate depending on where his parents could find work. After graduating from high school, Thom was unable to afford college, so he took a job as a warehouse records clerk earning minimum wage. He knows firsthand how difficult it is to raise a family while attending school at night, struggling to make ends meet.

Through hard work and dedication Thom quickly moved up the corporate ladder, earning his degree at 36 and becoming a top-level executive at PricewaterhouseCoopers and IBM. Thom's 22-year private sector career in technology and management consulting has provided him with a deep understanding of policy-making and the management of complex organizations.

Fueled by a desire to make a difference in his local community, Thom's involvement in public service began by serving as the PTA president of his daughter's high school and as a member of the Town of Cornelius Board of Commissioners. In 2006, he was elected to the North Carolina House of Representatives and was selected by his peers to serve as Speaker of the House from 2011 to 2014. As Speaker, Thom played an instrumental role in enacting job-creating policies and reforming North Carolina's tax and regulatory codes.

Thom lives with his wife Susan in Huntersville, North Carolina, and they are the proud parents of two grown children.

Representative Virginia Foxx (R-NC-5) 7th Term

Congresswoman Virginia Foxx represents North Carolina's 5th District in the United States House of Representatives. Throughout her time in Congress, Foxx has established herself as a champion of conservative values and has helped lead the national movements to reduce federal government spending and increase government oversight and accountability.

She currently serves as the Chairwoman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. From 2013 to 2016, she served as Secretary of the House Republican Conference.

The nonpartisan magazine National Journal has consistently ranked Foxx as one of the most conservative members of the North Carolina Congressional Delegation. She also has a lifetime 96

percent approval rating from the American Conservative Union.

Representative Foxx is a visible leader in the House Republican Conference, where she regularly takes a stand for the principles of individual freedom and limited government. She was also the first member of her 2004 class to introduce and pass a substantive bill in the House.

In 2008 Foxx successfully passed a bill to streamline the federal government and save taxpayer money. This accomplishment makes her one of the few members of Congress who took office in 2004 who got legislation signed into law in both the 109th and 110th Congresses.

As the Chairwoman of the House Subcommittee on Higher Education, Foxx led efforts to modernize and reform the nation's workforce development system. In 2014, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which provided a long overdue reform of the Workforce Investment Act, was signed into law. WIOA, a bipartisan, bicameral compromise between the Foxx-authored SKILLS Act (H.R. 803) and the Workforce Investment Act of 2013 (S. 1356), streamlines and improves existing federal workforce development programs and fosters a modern workforce that American businesses can rely on to compete.

Prior to serving on Capitol Hill, Foxx spent 10 years in the North Carolina Senate where she successfully sponsored several statewide and local bills and consistently voted against tax increases and for legislation that would make governments more efficient and less wasteful.

Dr. Foxx is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she received her A.B. degree in English and M.A.C.T. in Sociology. She earned her Ed.D. in Curriculum and Teaching/Higher Education from UNC-Greensboro.

Dr. Foxx began her career as a secretary and research assistant at UNC-Chapel Hill. She taught at Caldwell Community College, was a sociology instructor at Appalachian State University and held several administrative positions at ASU, including Assistant Dean of the General College. Dr. Foxx also served as Deputy Secretary for Management in the N.C. Department of Administration for Governor Jim Martin. Prior to her election to the Senate in 1994, she served as President and later a consultant at Mayland Community College from 1987-1994.

Representative Foxx has been active in civic and business affairs, serving on many state and national committees. She served on the Executive Committee of North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry and was elected to three four-year terms on the Watauga County Board of Education. She was confirmed by the United States Senate for a Presidential appointment to the National Advisory Council for Women's Educational Programs. She also served on the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Advisory Panel. Other current or former service on boards includes the Board of Directors of the John William Pope Center for Higher Education Policy, Board of Directors of the N.C. Center for Public Research, the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Visitors, National Conference of State Legislatures' Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Child Care, Charter Member of the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History and the Foscoe-Grandfather Community Center Board.

Dr. Foxx is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, the world's largest women's patriotic service organization. Her support for America's veterans and active-duty military is characterized by her introduction of the HERO Act, legislation that extends IRA benefits for troops serving in combat zones. She has also supported bills that expand veterans' disability compensation and that significantly

increased overall Veterans Affairs funding. Dr. Foxx has also voted in favor of honoring our nation's fallen by prohibiting demonstrations at military funerals held at national cemeteries.

Dr. Foxx is the recipient of several state and national awards. Among those awards are the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Spirit of Enterprise Award, the Family Research Council's True Blue Award and the Alan Keith-Lucas Friend of Children Award, the highest honor granted by the North Carolina Child Care Association. She is a former Rotarian.

At Mayland Community College, Dr. Foxx implemented several nationally recognized programs including a curriculum evaluation program which has been adopted by major universities. In another major success, she raised over \$1 million in private funds for an on-campus, state-of-the-art child development center built by prison inmates. At ASU she implemented a model orientation/academic advising program which is still in existence.

Virginia Foxx is married to Tom Foxx. Prior to her entering Congress, the couple owned a nursery business in Watauga County. Dr. Foxx is a lay leader in her church and her hobbies are reading, gardening and being a grandparent to two.

Representative Robert Pittenger (D-NC-9)

Robert Pittenger is serving his third term in the United States House of Representatives, representing the citizens of North Carolina's 9th Congressional District, including southern Mecklenburg County, all of Union, Anson, Richmond, Scotland, and Robeson counties, and large portions of Cumberland and Bladen counties. Congressman Pittenger's district is home to America's second largest financial center, located in Charlotte, includes many of the communities which support Ft. Bragg, and is a major producer of chicken, turkey, and pork.

Congressman Pittenger serves as Vice Chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance, where he provides leadership on efforts to intercept the money used to finance radical Islamic terrorism. As Chairman of the Congressional Task Force on Terrorism and Unconventional Warfare, Congressman Pittenger has met with hundreds of world leaders and security experts to advocate increased global cooperation in the fight against ISIS and radical Islamic jihad. To help advance these goals, Congressman Pittenger developed and has now hosted seven major forums bringing together over 600 Members of Parliament, Senators, Ambassadors, and other top officials from nearly 60 nations to discuss terrorism, terrorism financing, cyberwar, Intelligence, and security concerns with Congressional leaders and top international experts.

Congressman Pittenger serves on the House Committee on Financial Services, with a special focus on supporting small businesses, community banks, and credit unions. Additional assignments include the Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit Subcommittee and the Monetary Policy and Trade Subcommittee. House Speaker Paul Ryan also appointed Congressman Pittenger to his third term on the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, which monitors human rights in China.

Congressman Pittenger brings a strong conservative voice to his role with House Leadership, serving as a Member of the Whip Team and on the Steering Committee of the conservative Republican Study Committee.

During his tenure in the North Carolina Senate (2003-2008), Congressman Pittenger focused on strengthening the state's financial foundation, identifying over \$1.5 billion in spending cuts to balance the state's budget and fighting for lower taxes, medical litigation reform, and to eliminate waste and fraud in Medicaid. He was a lead sponsor of Right to Life legislation and the marriage amendment, and has been recognized for his strong support of the Second Amendment.

Born and raised in Texas, Robert was the youngest of four children. His dad was a small business owner, and his mother raised the children. Their guidance provided a solid foundation for honesty, hard work, and dedication. Upon graduating from the University of Texas, Congressman Pittenger worked for 10 years as Assistant to the President of Campus Crusade for Christ, helping to bring the work of the organization to over 170 countries. In 1985, Congressman Pittenger and his family moved to Charlotte, where he built a highly-respected small business from scratch.

Congressman Pittenger believes he was elected to serve. Since taking office, Congressman Pittenger and his staff have helped more than 3,000 constituents cut through federal red tape, responded directly to over 100,000 letters and e-mails, and hosted more than 30 town hall meetings. On a typical day, his team is managing 500 active VA cases for local veterans who defended our freedom. He also hosted community forums to raise awareness of human trafficking and international religious persecution, brought a national expert to Charlotte to help small businesses prepare for Obamacare, and assisted local non-profits dealing with IRS and passport/visa issues.

Congressman Pittenger and his wife, Suzanne, live in Charlotte and have four grown children and ten wonderful grandchildren. They attend Forest Hill Church.

Representative G.K. Butterfield (D-NC-1) 8th Term

Congressman G. K. Butterfield believes that if you work hard and play by the rules you deserve a fair shot at achieving the American Dream. But for many Americans, this dream seems out of reach. Too many North Carolinians are struggling to make ends meet. That is why Congressman Butterfield is working to expand opportunity to all Americans and ensure the poor and middle class have a seat at the decision making table. From the courts to Congress, G. K. Butterfield has always fought for equality of opportunity.

Congressman Butterfield's roots in Wilson, N.C. taught him the values of hard work and responsibility. His father, Dr. G. K. Butterfield Sr., was a respected dentist and elected official. Dr. Butterfield graduated from Meharry Dental College and practiced dentistry for 50 years in the poor, segregated community of East Wilson. Many of his patients had never received dental services because they were unable to afford care. However, Dr. Butterfield did not turn anyone away because they were unable to pay. To him, access to care was a right for everyone, not a privilege for the few.

Growing up in the segregated city of Wilson, N.C. gave Congressman Butterfield a front-row seat to the fight for civil rights in the South. In the late 1940s, Dr. Butterfield helped found the Wilson Branch of the NAACP, which was formed to register Black voters in the county. In 1953, Congressman Butterfield's father became the first African American elected to the city council in Wilson, and the first Black elected official in eastern North Carolina since Reconstruction.

After graduating from Charles H. Darden High School in Wilson, Congressman Butterfield earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Sociology from North Carolina Central University (NCCU). During

his time at NCCU, Congressman Butterfield was active in organizing voter registration drives in Durham. After the enactment of the Voting Rights Act in 1965, Butterfield organized a student march from the State Capital in Raleigh to the Wilson County Courthouse to draw attention to the importance of voter registration. At the conclusion of the march, Congressman Butterfield registered to vote for the first time.

After completing law school, Congressman Butterfield began his distinguished legal career as a civil rights attorney. For 14 years, Butterfield practiced law across eastern North Carolina representing mostly low-income clients who needed legal services. He also focused on protecting civil rights, winning several voting rights cases that earned him the reputation of a principled litigator. Butterfield's litigation work helped to preserve the ability of several African American communities to elect candidates of their choice to public office.

Congressman Butterfield was elected Resident Superior Court Judge for the First Judicial Division. For 13 years, he presided over civil and criminal courts in 46 counties throughout North Carolina.

In February 2001, then-Governor Mike Easley appointed Butterfield to the North Carolina Supreme Court. While serving on the highest court in the state, Congressman Butterfield authored more than 15 opinions on cases involving judicial sentencing procedures, eminent domain, and the application of capital punishment.

Despite running an aggressive statewide campaign, Butterfield lost reelection to the Court in November 2002. Following that loss, he was reappointed to the Superior Court bench and resumed his duties as a trial judge. His judicial service spanned a total of 15 years. In 2004, G. K. Butterfield retired from the bench to run in a special election to fill the unexpired term of Congressman Frank Ballance (NC-01). Congressman Butterfield won a crowded primary election to fill the seat, where he captured 71 percent of the vote.

Upon taking office in July 2004, Congressman Butterfield was determined to be a strong advocate for the people in eastern North Carolina. Recognizing the importance of agriculture and nutrition programs to the First District, Congressman Butterfield initially joined the House Agriculture Committee. He also served on the House Armed Services Committee where he was an advocate for our military, which has a strong presence throughout North Carolina. Congressman Butterfield also served on the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (Ethics Committee).

Currently, Congressman Butterfield is a member of the influential House Energy and Commerce Committee. On the Committee, he has been an advocate for access to quality healthcare, rural broadband expansion, protecting consumer privacy, promoting renewable energies, and reducing energy rates in low income communities. Congressman Butterfield sits on the Subcommittees on Communications and Technology; Energy; and Health. Previously he served as Ranking Member of the Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade Subcommittee.

In January 2007, Congressman Butterfield was appointed a Chief Deputy Whip of the House Democratic Caucus, a position in which he continues to serve. As a Chief Deputy Whip, Butterfield works with the Democratic leadership to help formulate policy and rally support for the Caucus' legislative priorities on the House Floor. Congressman Butterfield is the first Democrat from North Carolina to serve in this role.

In November 2014, Congressman Butterfield was unanimously elected Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) for the 114th Congress. As a member of the CBC, Congressman Butterfield focused on promoting anti-poverty programs, expanding economic development and job creation, protecting

voting rights, advocating for the appointment of African American to judgeships and senior Administration positions, and increasing diversity in leadership positions in corporate America. He has been an outspoken member of the CBC since his election in 2004.

Since coming to Congress, Congressman Butterfield has been a tireless advocate and champion for his constituents. He has worked to improve the lives of his constituents by proposing strong legislative initiatives, helping to direct more than \$100 million in federal dollars to the First District, and by prioritizing constituent service. He has consistently supported projects in his district that work to increase student achievement and expand opportunities for his constituents. Congressman Butterfield has successfully fought for funding for transportation and redevelopment projects and has secured funding to support important health care programs in the First District. He serves on the committee that was a key architect of the Affordable Care Act, is an outspoken opponent of any attempts to repeal the law. In addition, Congressman Butterfield fights for his constituents on many other fronts including: advocating for the equipping of first responders and municipalities with the tools they need to protect their citizenry; bringing in more than \$14 million in federal dollars to the First District to protect North Carolina's natural resources in an effort to protect the environment for future generations; and securing funding for veterans, service members, and military bases throughout eastern North Carolina.

Representative David Price (D-NC-4) 15th Term

David Price represents North Carolina's Fourth District - a rapidly growing, research-and-education-focused district that includes parts of Orange, Durham, and Wake counties. He received his undergraduate degree at UNC-Chapel Hill and went on to Yale University to earn a Bachelor of Divinity and Ph.D. in Political Science. Before he began serving in Congress in 1987, Price was a professor of Political Science and Public Policy at Duke University. He is the author of four books on Congress and the American political system.

Price currently serves on the House Appropriations Committee and is the ranking member of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Subcommittee. He is also a member of the Appropriations subcommittees covering homeland security, State Department, and foreign operations funding. He is a recognized leader in foreign policy, co-chairing the House Democracy Partnership, which he initiated to help strengthen parliaments in emerging democracies. In North Carolina, David's constituents know him as a strong supporter of education, accessible health care, affordable housing, clean air and water, and improved transportation alternatives.

David is a native of Erwin, Tennessee. He and his wife Lisa live in Chapel Hill and are parents of two children and proud grandparents of a grandson born in 2006 and a granddaughter born in 2009.

State: New Jersey

Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ) 3rd Term

Senator Bob Menendez's story is a quintessential American story. He grew up the son of Cuban immigrants in a tenement building in Union City and has risen to become one of 100 United States Senators. He served as Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in the 113th Congress. The Committee is one of the oldest and most revered Committees in the Senate, at a time when world affairs has a dramatic impact on our economy at home. He has earned a national reputation for his

international leadership in the Senate, which pairs with his long-time reputation as a fighter for New Jersey families who puts their economic security ahead of powerful special interests.

The son of immigrants, Bob understands the importance of New Jersey's Liberty State Park, in the shadow of Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty, at the gateway for millions of immigrants who came to this nation seeking the American Dream and a better life for them and their children. That's why he was one of eight Senators who wrote and fought for comprehensive immigration reform legislation that passed the Senate in 2013 with an overwhelming bipartisan show of support.

While Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, he established himself as a new foreign policy leader for a new century, seeking to do globally what he has done in New Jersey – supporting the most vulnerable in our society and lending a voice to those least able to speak for themselves. He has advocated for women and children struggling with oppressive poverty in Central America and Africa, and stood by democracy activists struggling to reform governments from Cuba to China to Russia. In addition, he has evoked a strong national security posture in the face of tyrannical leaders of Russia, Iran and Syria. He has led the Foreign Relations Committee in bipartisan efforts, reaching across the aisle in September 2013 to unanimously pass a resolution to allow the President to use military force in Syria, which led to the end of the use of chemical weapons against civilians. Bob uses economic statecraft to realize the nexus between economic issues and foreign policy to allow America – and New Jersey – to prosper in our intertwined global economy

Bob has been widely recognized for his leadership on promoting safe and healthy families. He has championed legislation to support mothers suffering from postpartum depression, help families meet the challenges of autism, and keep young athletes safe from harm on the playing field. He serves on the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee and has championed increased consumer protection and corporate accountability, fairness in lending, affordable housing, and comprehensive approaches to community revitalization. He served as Chairman of the Banking Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development where he fought for smart growth, jobs for the 21st Century and updating our aging transportation system. As a member of the Finance Committee, he has sponsored legislation increasing access to health care, advocated for fairness in the tax code to help middle class families get college educations and be able to retire, and Bob has pushed for trade initiatives to ensure America's global competitiveness.

Bob received his B.A. from St. Peter's College in Jersey City and his law degree from Rutgers University. He currently lives in Paramus and has two children, Alicia and Robert.

Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) 2nd Term

Cory Booker was raised in Harrington Park, living his life as a proud New Jerseyan. After graduating from Northern Valley Regional High School, Booker received his undergraduate degree from Stanford University where he played on the varsity football team. While at Stanford, he also was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship and went on to study at the University of Oxford where he received an honors degree in History. Booker then completed his education at Yale Law School, receiving his J.D. in 1997.

After law school, Booker moved to Newark – where he still lives to this day – and started a nonprofit organization to provide legal services for low-income families and help tenants take on slumlords, improve living conditions, and stay in their homes.

At the age of twenty-nine, Booker was elected to the Newark City Council from the city's Central Ward. In the seventeen years since, Booker has worked tirelessly at the local and national levels to improve the lives of New Jerseyans and Americans.

Starting in 2006, Booker proudly served as Newark's mayor for more than seven years. During his tenure, the city entered its largest period of economic growth since the 1960s. In addition, overall crime declined and the quality of life for residents improved due to initiatives such as more affordable housing, new green spaces and parks, increased educational opportunities, and more efficient city services.

On October 16th, 2013, Booker won a special election to represent New Jersey in the United States Senate. On November 4th, 2014, Senator Booker was re-elected to a full six year term. As New Jersey's junior Senator, Cory Booker has brought an innovative and bipartisan approach to tackling some of the most difficult problems facing New Jersey and our country.

Senator Booker has established himself as an innovative and bipartisan problem-solver committed to developing collaborative solutions that address some of our most complex challenges. Whether it's advocating for more federal resources to modernize New Jersey's transportation system, securing funds to continue the long recovery from Superstorm Sandy, or ensuring that our communities are safe from the effects of pollution and climate change, Booker has proven his steadfast commitment to standing up for what matters most to New Jerseyans. Booker has also emerged as a national leader in the Congressional push for common sense criminal justice reform, advocating for front-end sentencing reforms, pushing for the banning of juvenile solitary confinement in federal facilities, and spearheading legislation to make the hiring process fairer for the formerly incarcerated. Booker has also partnered with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to create a number of economic proposals, from increased small business investment to apprenticeship programs, with the hope of fostering greater economic mobility and opportunity for individual Americans.

Booker serves on the Senate's committees on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; Small Business and Entrepreneurship; Environment and Public Works; and Homeland Security and

Government Affairs. He is the ranking member of the Senate Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, the Senate panel responsible for overseeing Amtrak and passenger rail in the U.S.

Representative Albio Sires (D-NJ-8) 7th Term

Born in the Cuban town of Bejucal, he grew up in the waning years of pre-Communist Cuba. His family fled in January 1962 with the help of relatives in America. Congressman Sires became a star basketball player at Memorial High School and received a four-year basketball scholarship from St. Peter's College. He went on to receive a Masters Degree from Middlebury College in Vermont.

Congressman Sires was a teacher and business owner before entering public service. He proudly served as Mayor of West New York, New Jersey from 1995 to 2006. During that time, the Congressman created more affordable housing units than any municipality in the State of New Jersey by fostering public-private partnerships and the use of targeted tax incentives. He balanced twelve consecutive municipal budgets while maintaining and enhancing vital municipal services. His efforts were recognized by many, including the New Jersey State Bar Association and Legal Services and his fellow Mayors who named him, "Mayor of the Year" in 2004.

Congressman Sires also served in the New Jersey State Assembly, where he served two terms as Speaker of the Assembly. As Speaker, Congressman Sires led the effort to create the Office of Lieutenant Governor and the Assembly Committee on Homeland Security and State Preparedness, as well as, raise the minimum wage, expand job training, and fund valuable cancer research. He also created the STARS I and STARS II program, which offers full county and state college tuition scholarships to thousands of students.

During his first term in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Sires served on the Financial Services Committee. There he focused on housing, introducing legislation to aid public housing authorities and supporting housing for low-income seniors.

Today, Congressman Sires serves on two Committees: Foreign Affairs and Transportation and Infrastructure. On the Foreign Affairs Committee, Congressman Sires is the Ranking Member of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee and is a member of the Europe and Eurasia Subcommittee. He is focused on improving human rights and freedoms across the globe and building international partnerships to improve our nation's security.

The Congressman serves on three Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittees: the Highways and Transit Subcommittee, the Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee, and the Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management Subcommittee. He is actively involved in reauthorizing the Surface Transportation bill, supporting increased transit and commuting options, safer streets, and more efficient goods movement.

In an ongoing effort to shape livable, safe, and dynamic communities, Congressman Sires is a member of both the Democratic Caucus' Livable Communities Task Force and the Congressional Urban Caucus. He works with the other members of Congress in these groups to promote legislation that focuses on creating safe and more livable communities in which families have equal access to education, economic, housing and transportation opportunities.

This term, the Congressman will continue to focus his efforts on the economy, jobs, immigration, education, and affordable housing. Congressman Sires resides in West New York with his wife, Adrienne. His stepdaughter, Tara Kole, graduated from Harvard Law School, clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, and now works for a private law firm in Los Angeles.

State: New York

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) 2nd Term

Throughout her time in Congress, Senator Gillibrand has been committed to open and honest government. When she was first elected, she pledged to bring unprecedented transparency and access to her post.

Senator Gillibrand's number one priority in the U.S. Senate is to rebuild the American economy, by creating good-paying jobs, helping small businesses get loans, and partnering with the private sector to foster innovation and entrepreneurship. She wrote new legislation to strengthen and retool New York's manufacturers, stamp more products with the words "Made in America," and create new manufacturing jobs in New York.

Throughout her time in the Senate, Senator Gillibrand has led on a range of issues, from the fight to repeal the "Don't Ask Don't Tell" that banned gays from serving openly in the military, to passage of the STOCK Act, to finally make it illegal for members of Congress to financially benefit from inside information, to the long fight to provide permanent health care and compensation to the 9/11 first responders and community survivors who are sick with diseases caused by the toxins at Ground Zero. Senator Gillibrand worked to bring Democrats and Republicans together to win these legislative victories.

After attending Albany's Academy of Holy Names, Senator Gillibrand graduated in 1984 from Emma Willard School in Troy, New York, the first all-women's high school in the United States. A magna cum laude graduate of Dartmouth College in 1988, Gillibrand went on to receive her law degree from the UCLA School of Law in 1991 and served as a law clerk on the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

After working as an attorney in New York City for more than a decade, Senator Gillibrand served as Special Counsel to United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Andrew Cuomo during the Clinton Administration. She then worked as an attorney in Upstate New York before becoming a member of Congress.

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) 3rd Term

U.S. Senator Charles "Chuck" Ellis Schumer has dedicated his career to protecting the middle class and helping those working to reach it. Though he has become a leader in finding common sense solutions to national issues, Chuck has built a reputation as a tireless fighter for New York, visiting all 62 counties every year and talking to constituents in every corner of our state.

Chuck was born in Brooklyn, NY on November 23, 1950 to parents Selma, a homemaker active in the community, and Abe, who owned a small exterminating business. Chuck grew up the Sheepshead Bay neighborhood and with his siblings, Fran and Robert, attended PS 197 and Madison High School. Chuck has two daughters, Jessica and Alison, and he still resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Iris Weinsall.

In 1980, at 29, Chuck ran for and won the seat in the 9th Congressional District. Chuck represented the 9th CD in Brooklyn and Queens for eighteen years, where he established his reputation as a pioneer in the fight against crime and as a consumer advocate. Chuck authored the Omnibus Crime Bill, which put 100,000 new cops on the street. He was the leading sponsor of the Violence Against Women Act, to combat domestic violence and sexual assault, and the Brady Bill, which instituted mandatory background checks for handgun purchases. He co-wrote the Assault Weapons Ban, and sponsored the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which organized data on crimes of bigotry and allowed federal authorities to prosecute these crimes. He also sponsored legislation that required banks and credit card companies to provide greater disclosure to consumers.

In 1998, Chuck was elected to the U.S. Senate; he became New York's senior senator when Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan retired in 2000. Chuck kicked off his first Senate term by announcing he would visit each of New York's 62 counties every year, a tradition he continues today. Doing so has enabled Chuck to keep in touch with voters from every corner of the state.

Throughout his time in the Senate, Chuck has made improving New York's economy his top priority, bringing affordable air service to Upstate New York and the Hudson Valley and delivering over \$20 billion in aid to New York City following the attacks on September 11, 2001. Chuck was the author of

legislation that eliminated barriers that delay low-cost generic medications from entering the marketplace and led the charge to make college tuition tax deductible. He also aggressively championed agricultural measures to preserve vital market support programs for New York's dairy farmers and crop growers.

After New Yorkers re-elected him in 2004, Chuck was awarded two powerful posts by his colleagues. The first, a seat on the Senate Finance Committee, which oversees the nation's tax, trade, social security and health care legislation. The second honor was the Chairmanship of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC). Chuck successfully led the DSCC for two consecutive cycles before stepping down at the end of 2008.

In 2016 Chuck was named Senate Minority Leader. Chuck also serves as the Ranking Member on the Senate Rules Committee, which oversees federal elections, voting rights, campaign finance, and the operation of the Senate complex.

Representative Dan Donovan (D-NY-11) 2nd Term

Congressman Daniel "Dan" M. Donovan, Jr. represents Staten Island and parts of South Brooklyn in the 115th Congressional District of New York in the U.S. House of Representatives. Dan was elected on May 5, 2015 during a special election and sworn in on May 12, 2015.

Dan grew up on Staten Island, the only son of two working class parents. True to his modest upbringing, he worked his way through school. He earned his Bachelor's degree in criminal justice from St. John's University and his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law as an evening student.

Dan has dedicated his life to serving the people of New York. He began his career as a prosecutor under legendary Manhattan District Attorney Robert M. Morgenthau. After leaving the DA's office, Dan began serving his native Staten Island as Chief of Staff to former Borough President Guy Molinari, then as Deputy Borough President to former Borough President James Molinaro. In 2003, Dan was elected Richmond County District Attorney, beginning 12 years of service in that office. During his tenure, he earned the Diversity Champion Award from the New York City Bar Association and was elected president of the New York State District Attorney's Association.

Dan serves as Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications. In that role, he exercises oversight of the federal government's anti-terror and disaster response policies, issues critical to Staten Island and South Brooklyn. Dan also serves on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Representative Nydia Velazquez (D-NY-7) 13th Term

Congresswoman Nydia M. Velázquez is currently serving her thirteenth term as Representative for New York's 7th Congressional District. In the 115th Congress, she is the Ranking Member of the House Small Business Committee and a senior member of the Financial Services Committee.

She has made history several times during her tenure in Congress. In 1992, she was the first Puerto Rican woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. In February 1998, she was named Ranking Democratic Member of the House Small Business Committee, making her the first Hispanic woman to serve as Ranking Member of a full House committee. Most recently, in 2006, she was named Chairwoman of the House Small Business Committee, making her the first Latina to chair a full Congressional committee.

Given these achievements, her roots are humble. She was born in Yabucoa, Puerto Rico - a small town of sugar-cane fields - in 1953, and was one of nine children. Velázquez started school early, skipped several grades, and became the first person in her family to receive a college diploma. At the age of 16, she entered the University of Puerto Rico in Rio Piedras. She graduated magna cum laude in 1974 with a degree in political science. After earning a master's degree on scholarship from N.Y.U., Velázquez taught Puerto Rican studies at CUNY's Hunter College in 1981.

In 1992, after months of running a grassroots political campaign, Velázquez was elected to the House of Representatives to represent New York's 7th District. Her district, which encompasses parts of Brooklyn, Queens and the Lower East Side of Manhattan, is the only tri-borough district in the New York City congressional delegation. Encompassing many diverse neighborhoods, it is home to a large Latino population, with pockets of Polish communities, and parts of Chinatown.

As a fighter for equal rights of the underrepresented and a proponent of economic opportunity for the working class and poor, Congresswoman Velázquez combines sensibility and compassion, as she works to encourage economic development, protect community health and the environment, combat crime and worker abuses, and secure access to affordable housing, quality education and health care for all New York City families.

As the top Democrat on the House Small Business Committee, which oversees federal programs and contracts totaling \$200 billion annually, Congresswoman Velázquez has been a vocal advocate of American small business and entrepreneurship. She has established numerous small business legislative priorities, encompassing the areas of tax, regulations, access to capital, federal contracting opportunities, trade, technology, health care and pension reform, among others. Congresswoman Velázquez was named as the inaugural "Woman of the Year" by Hispanic Business Magazine in recognition of her national influence in both the political and business sectors and for her longtime support of minority enterprise.

Although her work on the Small Business Committee and the House Financial Services Committee (where she is the most senior New York Member on the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity) keeps her busy, Congresswoman Velázquez can often be found close to home, working for the residents of her district.

Representative Adriano Espaillat (D-NY-13) 1st Term

U.S. Representative Adriano Espaillat proudly represents New York's Thirteenth Congressional District. He was sworn into office on January 3, 2017, during the 115th Congress.

Congressman Espaillat was born in the Dominican Republic in 1954 and came to the United States with his family when he was nine years old. He grew up in the Washington Heights neighborhood in New York City and is the first Dominican-American to serve in the United States Congress. Congressman Espaillat currently serves as a member of the influential U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and the House Select Committee on Small Business. He is a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) and was appointed as Chairman of the CHC Task Force for Transportation, Infrastructure and Housing.

A steadfast champion for working- and middle-class New Yorkers, Congressman Espaillat is a staunch advocate of a fair living wage, immediate and effective investments in affordable housing, meaningful criminal justice reform, infrastructure improvements, expanded youth programs, and better educational opportunities.

Throughout the tenure of his career in public service, Congressman Espaillat has been a vocal advocate for protecting tenants, improving schools, and making serious, smart investments in economic development, job creation, and environmental protection. Prior to coming to Congress, he served as a New York State Senator during which he represented the neighborhoods of Marble Hill, Inwood, Washington Heights, Hamilton Heights, West Harlem, the Upper West Side, Hell's Kitchen, Clinton, and Chelsea.

While in the New York State Senate, Congressman Espaillat served as the Ranking Member of the Senate Housing, Construction, and Community Development Committee; Chairman of the Senate Puerto Rican/Latino Caucus; and as a member of the Environmental Conservation, Economic Development, Codes, Insurance, and Judiciary committees. Prior to his tenure as a state senator, he served in the New York State Assembly, and in 1996 became the first Dominican-American elected to a state legislature. In 2002, Espaillat was elected chair of the New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian Legislative Caucus.

Prior to entering elected office, Congressman Espaillat served as the Manhattan Court Services Coordinator for the NYC Criminal Justice Agency, a non-profit organization that provides indigent legal services and works to reduce unnecessary pretrial detention and post-sentence incarceration costs. He later worked as Director of the Washington Heights Victims Services Community Office, an organization offering counseling and other services to families of victims of homicides and other crimes, and as the Director of Project Right Start, a national initiative funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to combat substance abuse by educating the parents of pre-school children.

Congressman Espaillat is a proud father and grandfather.

Representative Jerrold Nadler (D-NY-10) 14th Term

Congressman Jerrold "Jerry" Nadler represents the Tenth Congressional District of New York. The Tenth, one of the nation's most dynamic and diverse districts, includes Manhattan's Upper West Side, the Theater District and Times Square, Chelsea, Greenwich Village, SoHo, Wall Street, and the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Borough Park, Bensonhurst, and Kensington, and parts of Bay Ridge, Dyker Heights, Red Hook, Sunset Park, and Midwood.

Rep. Nadler began his political career in 1976 in the New York State Assembly, where he served for 16 years. In 1992, following the death of Congressman Ted Weiss, Nadler was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in a special election and has served in Congress ever since. He was re-elected to his eleventh full term in 2012, receiving over 80 percent of the vote.

Since 2001, Rep. Nadler has served as the either Ranking Member or Chair of what is now the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. With Congressman Mel Watt's 2014 departure from Congress to lead the Federal Housing Finance Agency, Rep. Nadler changed leadership roles to become the Ranking Democrat on the Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property and the Internet. He is also the highest-ranking Northeastern member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and an Assistant Democrat Whip.

Throughout his career, Rep. Nadler has been a champion of civil liberties, civil rights (including women's and LGBT rights), safe and efficient transportation, and a host of progressive issues such as access to health care, support for the arts and protection of the Social Security system. He is considered an unapologetic defender of those who might otherwise be forgotten by the economy or legal system and is especially respected for his creative and pragmatic legislative approaches to problems. From his leadership in response to the September 11th terrorist attacks on his district to his insight and

policymaking prominence on issues facing Israel and the Middle East, Nadler has always sought to be steadfast and responsive in his service to New York and the nation.

Rep. Nadler's district includes Ground Zero, the site where the Twin Towers once stood. Since the 9/11 attacks, he has been a leader in Congress on addressing the health and environmental impacts of the collapse of the World Trade Center on first responders and area residents, workers and students. He continues to demand that the Environmental Protection Agency conduct proper testing and clean up of the affected areas.

The Tenth Congressional District of New York is also home to many of the nation's most recognizable landmarks, including the Statue of Liberty, South Street Seaport, Lincoln Center, Columbia University, and New York's City Hall.

A well-regarded source of political opinion and policy expertise, Rep. Nadler has been a featured guest on nearly every significant public affairs and news program, including NBC's Meet the Press, CBS's Face the Nation, and various shows on MSNBC. Nadler is also a reliable commentator for major print news sources, both nationally and internationally, and is often quoted in outlets such as the Associated Press, the New York Times, the New York Post, the New York Daily News and the Washington Post.

Rep. Nadler is a graduate of Crown Heights Yeshiva, Stuyvesant High School, Columbia University and Fordham Law School. He lives on the Upper West Side of Manhattan with his wife, Joyce Miller. They have one son, Michael.

State: Ohio

Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) 2nd Term

Since January of 2007, U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown – a champion of middle-class families in the Senate – has held more than 250 community roundtables across Ohio's 88 counties with students, local leaders and business owners, entrepreneurs and educators, workers and families to find ways to rebuild our economy.

Described as "Congress' leading proponent of American manufacturing," Brown is working with the Obama Administration on the creation of a national manufacturing policy that would invest in manufacturing innovation, strengthen our component supply chain, connect workers with emerging industries, and align our trade policies to promote our national interests.

He is also working with Ohio's universities, entrepreneurs, and community stakeholders to use Ohio's resources to create new jobs in high-growth industries and make Ohio a national leader in clean energy manufacturing.

And as a long-time advocate for fair trade, Senator Brown has stood up to presidents of both parties on shortsighted trade agreements that ship U.S. jobs overseas. He led the bipartisan opposition to NAFTA in 1993 – as a freshman in the U.S. House of Representatives – and to CAFTA in 2005. Sen. Brown is working on trade policies that promote our workers, small businesses, and manufacturers while creating jobs and expanding markets through an aggressive export promotion strategy.

Informed by his faith as a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), Sherrod Brown is committed to social and economic justice. He helped pass the historic health care law that will make health insurance more affordable and accessible for American families. This law also provides strong

consumer protections that will prevent insurers from placing limits on the care patients receive and discriminating against consumers based on age or pre-existing health conditions.

He has also joined with officials and community partners in cities across Ohio to rise to the White House's My Brother's Keeper Challenge to expand opportunities for boys and young men of color. Through mentoring relationships and education events, this initiative strives to ensure that all of our young people receive a quality high school education and graduate with the skills and tools needed to advance to postsecondary education or training.

For the last several years, Senator Brown has also convened a one-of-its-kind Ohio College Presidents Conference in Washington to discuss ways to leverage federal resources to promote higher education and job training in Ohio.

Senator Brown serves as the Ranking Member of the Senate Banking Committee, where he played an instrumental role in passing the historic Wall Street reform law. He also serves on the Senate Committee on Finance.

Brown is also the first Ohio Senator in 40 years to serve on the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, where he has been instrumental in strengthening the farm safety net and addressing childhood hunger. He served Chairman of the Subcommittee on Jobs, Rural Economic Growth and Energy Innovation.

Senator Brown has fought for our veterans, servicemembers, and their families throughout his career. He secured \$15 million to build the Ohio Western Reserve Cemetery for veterans, in Medina County. From his position on the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, Brown has advocated for veterans training programs to ensure returning servicemembers have access to good-paying, high-demand jobs. He is the only Ohio Senator ever to serve a full Senate term on the Veterans Affairs Committee.

Prior to serving in the United States Senate, Brown served as a United States Representative for the 13th District, Ohio's Secretary of State, a member of the Ohio General Assembly, and has taught in Ohio's public schools and at The Ohio State University. An Eagle Scout, Brown is a native of Mansfield, Ohio, where he spent summers working on his family's farm. He is married to Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Connie Schultz. They reside in Cleveland, Ohio, and have three daughters, a son, both a daughter and son-in-law, and five grandchildren.

Senator Rob Portman (R-OH) 2nd Term

Rob Portman is a United States Senator from the state of Ohio. He was first elected in 2010, running a campaign that focused on commonsense conservative ideas to help create jobs and get the deficit under control. Rob won with a margin of 57 to 39 percent, winning 82 of Ohio's 88 counties.

Rob was born and raised in Cincinnati, where he still lives today with his wife Jane. Together they have three children: Jed, Will, and Sally. Rob grew up in a small business family, where he learned early on the value of hard work, leadership, and fiscal responsibility. When Rob was young, his dad, Bill Portman, borrowed money to start Portman Equipment Company, where Rob and his brother and sister all worked while growing up. His father, and then his brother, built the family business from a small forklift truck dealership with five employees, with Rob's mom as the bookkeeper, to one that employed more

than 300 people. Rob became a lawyer and developed his own private practice, representing Portman Equipment Company and other small businesses.

In 1993, Rob was elected to Congress, where he represented the diverse, seven county Second District in southern Ohio. He was proud to serve the Second District for 12 years, and in seven elections, he never received less than 70 percent of the vote.

During his time representing the Second District, Rob earned a reputation as a serious leader who focused on results. In September 1996, Rob founded the Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati, now known as Prevention FIRST! to help keep young people from substance abuse. He authored the *Drug Free Communities Act*, which has provided more than \$1 billion to community coalitions around the country over the last 20 years.

Rob was actively involved in crafting and promoting the historic welfare reform efforts as a member of the committee that wrote the legislation, and he was a forceful advocate of the balanced budget that passed in 1997. Rob authored several federal laws to increase retirement savings, reform the IRS and add more than 50 new taxpayer rights, curb unfunded mandates, reduce taxes, and expand land conservation efforts.

In 2005, Rob left Congress when he was asked to serve as the United States Trade Representative, the Cabinet-level official responsible for implementing and enforcing U.S. trade policy. As America's Trade Representative, Rob was successful in reducing barriers to U.S. exports and increasing enforcement of trade laws to help level the playing field for American farmers, workers, and service providers. Under his leadership, American exports increased and the U.S. brought successful legal challenges against international trade law violations—including against China.

Following his accomplishments as Trade Representative, Rob was asked to serve in another Cabinet post, this time as Director of the Office of Management and Budget. Rob made his mark by proposing a balanced budget, fighting irresponsible earmarks, and putting in place new transparency measures for all federal spending.

During his first term in the U.S. Senate, Rob successfully introduced more than 180 bills, including 150 bipartisan bills, and 50 bills that were signed into law by President Obama. He authored the Senate Republican Jobs Plan, a seven-point agenda for creating jobs in Ohio and around the country through commonsense policies like tax reform, regulatory reform, and skills training. He has been a champion for underprivileged children, an advocate for policies that reduce poverty and increase opportunity, and a leader on expanding exports and American energy production.

As a Senator, Rob has also continued to fight for to expand exports and crack down on unfair and illegal imports. He co-authored the bipartisan *Leveling the Playing Field Act*, which was signed into law by President Obama and gives the federal government better tools to fight unfair imports. He also authored the *ENFORCE Act*, which President Obama signed into law and helps the federal government crackdown on countries like China that try to evade our trade laws. Rob also been a staunch advocate for Ohio jobs in dozens of cases at the International Trade Commission. He has supported cases involving solar products in Toledo, agriculture products like wheat grown throughout the state, specialty

paper in Dayton, rebar in Cincinnati and Marion, hot-rolled steel in Cleveland, high-density pipe in Columbus, roller bearings in Canton, and others.

Rob has continued the work he began in the House of Representatives on drug abuse prevention and treatment, authoring the *Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act*, which was signed into law in July 2016 and authorizes \$181 million annually to increase prevention and education, expand drug treatment, and promote community support services for those in recovery.

Rob co-founded and co-chairs the bipartisan Senate Caucus to End Human Trafficking. He is the author of five federal anti-trafficking laws signed by President Obama. He has also led a bipartisan investigation into Backpage.com, which culminated in a bipartisan report which exposed that the company knowingly facilitates criminal sex trafficking of vulnerable women and young girls and has covered up evidence of these crimes in order to increase its own profits.

Rob is also a leader in the U.S. Senate in the effort to preserve our environment. He authored several federal laws to protect Lake Erie from harmful algal blooms through scientific research prioritizing bodies of fresh water, and to stop the use of microbeads, which pollute Lake Erie and harm fish and other wildlife.

He is also the author of the *National Park Service Centennial Act*, which President Obama signed into law in December of 2016. This law ensures that the National Park Service has the resources necessary to reduce its maintenance backlog and continue keeping America beautiful.

Senator Portman is a member of the Finance Committee, the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and the Committee on Foreign Relations. He is also Chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. In 2016, he was re-elected, winning by an even larger margin of 58 to 37 and winning 84 out of Ohio's 88 counties.

Representative Steve Chabot (R-OH-1) 11th Term

U.S. Rep. Steve Chabot has proudly served Ohio's First Congressional District for 18 years. A lifelong Cincinnati, Steve previously served as a Cincinnati City Councilman and Hamilton County Commissioner for four years each prior to being elected to Congress in 1994.

Since becoming a Member of Congress, Steve has served on the Committee of the Judiciary, the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Foreign Affairs. He was named to the role of Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific in 2013, after previously serving as the Chairman of the Middle East and South Asia Subcommittee from 2011-2012. Steve also served as Chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution from 2001-2006 and as Ranking Member on the House Committee on Small Business from 2007-2008.

Steve has taken his passion to fight wasteful government spending to Congress, becoming one of the leading advocates for fiscal responsibility. Steve has consistently voted to eliminate wasteful spending and reduce the excessive tax burden on hard-working Americans. Nonpartisan taxpayer advocacy groups such as Citizens Against Government Waste, the Concord Coalition and the National Taxpayers Union have time and again rated Steve as one of the most pro-taxpayer members of Congress.

Steve has also helped lead efforts to pass product liability reform measures and toughen anti-drug laws. He is an outspoken defender of the rights of the unborn, most importantly having authored the ban on the practice of Partial-Birth Abortions.

In January 1999, Steve served as one of 12 House Managers during the Senate impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton, where he received praise for his even-handed and thoughtful approach to the trial.

Steve is a proud 1971 graduate of LaSalle High School. He went on to earn his undergraduate degree from the College of William and Mary, and then returned to Cincinnati to teach at St. Joseph's School in the West End while studying at Northern Kentucky University's Salmon P. Chase College of Law in the evening.

Steve and his wife, Donna, live in the Cincinnati neighborhood of Westwood. They have two children, Erica and Randy, and are the proud grandparents of Reed.

Representative Marcia Fudge (D-OH-11) 6th Term

Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge is a committed public servant who brings a hard-working, problem-solving spirit to Congress and to the task of creating jobs, protecting safety net programs, and improving access to quality public education, health care and healthy foods. First elected in 2008, she represents the people of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio.

Congresswoman Fudge serves on the House Committee on Agriculture and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. She is the Ranking Member on the House Committee on Agriculture Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. In the 114th Congress, the Member served as Ranking Member on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education. She is also a member of several Congressional Caucuses and a past Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Congresswoman Fudge consistently fights for equitable access to a quality education from preschool through post-secondary programs, child nutrition, food stamp (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) recipients, access to locally grown, healthy foods, fair labor practices, and civil and human rights, among other issues. Additionally, she was an early and consistent voice for voter protection and remains a steadfast advocate to strengthen and preserve Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

Congresswoman Fudge has served the people of Ohio for more than two decades, beginning with the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office. She was the first African American and the first female mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio, where she led the city in shoring up a sagging retail base and providing new residential construction.

Congresswoman Fudge earned her bachelor's degree in business from The Ohio State University and law degree from the Cleveland State University Cleveland-Marshall School of Law. She is a Past National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and a member of the Greater Cleveland Alumnae Chapter.

Congresswoman Fudge's work ethic, problem solving approach, and ability to build collaborative relationships has earned her a reputation among her colleagues in Washington and at home as an insightful leader and knowledgeable legislator. As a dedicated public servant, she begins each morning

with a firm promise “to do the people’s work.” It is this simple philosophy that defines Congresswoman Fudge as a Member of substance and character who always keeps her promise.

State: Oregon

Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) 2nd Term

Jeff Merkley has dedicated himself to fighting for opportunity for Oregon’s families. The son of a millwright, he grew up in a blue-collar neighborhood where – as Jeff says – his mother “stretched a dollar as far as anyone possibly could.” Today, he still lives in that neighborhood and his kids have gone to the same public schools he attended. Jeff has lived the American dream and has focused his whole career – both in elected office and running non-profits – on making sure that all Oregonians have the same opportunity to make a better life for themselves and their families.

Jeff has been a leader in bringing accountability and oversight back to Wall Street. He authored one of the toughest amendments in the Wall Street reform bill to separate hedge-fund-like gambling from traditional banking that businesses and families rely on. And he’s fought to keep families in their homes and end the predatory practices of the subprime mortgage crisis by writing the law that ended egregious mortgage lending practices and banned hidden steering payments, liar loans and prepayment penalties.

Jeff knows firsthand how important a strong public education system is to building strong families as well as a successful economy. He’s worked to increase investment in Head Start and K-12 education, including sponsoring legislation to boost career and technical education and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) teaching in public schools. He’s been a fierce advocate to lower student loan rates and make college more affordable for middle class families, cosponsoring a bill to allow refinancing of student loans and introducing innovative legislation based on Oregon’s “Pay It Forward” concept that would allow more students to attend college debt-free.

Jeff believes that a secure retirement is a key pillar of the American dream, and has pushed back against both Democrats and Republicans to ensure we don’t weaken Social Security and Medicare or cut the benefits that seniors have earned with a lifetime of hard work. He introduced the Fair Raises for Seniors Act to ensure that Social Security cost-of-living adjustments more accurately keep up with the expenses seniors face, and has been an outspoken supporter of the Medicare Protection Act to prevent efforts to weaken, privatize, or “voucher-ize” Medicare.

Jeff’s work in the Senate is a continuation of a lifetime of working to make Oregon and the world a better place. During his term as Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives, Jeff led a legislative session The Oregonian deemed one of “Oregon’s most productive in a generation.” Under Jeff’s leadership, the state legislature increased education funding, expanded access to affordable prescription drugs, established domestic partnerships and a landmark civil rights law to protect LGBT Oregonians from discrimination, cracked down on predatory lending, and created Oregon’s first-ever rainy day fund. Prior to running for office, Jeff ran several non-profits in Portland, including Portland Habitat for Humanity, which empowers low-income families through homeownership.

Jeff is a member of the Appropriations Committee; the Environment and Public Works Committee; the Budget Committee; and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He and his wife Mary Sorteberg, a nurse, have been married for more than twenty years and have two children, Brynne and Jonathan, and an Airedale terrier, Sadie.

Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) 3rd Term

Whether he's taking on powerful interests, listening to constituents at one of his famous town hall meetings or standing up for Oregonians on the floor of the U.S. Senate, Ron Wyden is an effective leader on the issues that matter most. As the Wall Street Journal's Kimberly Strassel recently put it: "He's best described as a wonk, a workhorse, a doer."

When principles are at stake, however, Wyden has never shied from standing alone, even when it means taking on powerful interest groups or his own party. His lone stand against the PROTECT IP Act (PIPA) and its predecessor, the Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeit Act (COICA), put a spotlight on the problematic legislation being fast tracked through Congress and served as a rallying point for the historic Internet protests that ultimately toppled the bills. He stood alone on the floor of the Senate to block right wing efforts to overturn Oregon's Death with Dignity law; a law that Oregon voters have passed twice. He went head-to-head with the E.P.A. to reduce cancer-causing benzene in gasoline sold in Oregon, and key elements of Wyden's Kinship Care Act were included as part of major reforms improving the nation's foster care system. Wyden's provisions recognized and strengthened support for kinship care, the full-time care and protection of children by relatives.

His relentless defiance of the national security community's abuse of secrecy forced the declassification of the CIA Inspector General's 9/11 report, shut down the controversial Total Information Awareness program and put a spotlight on both the Bush and Obama Administration's reliance on "secret law." To protect hard-working folks in the intelligence community and ensure informed public debate on national security issues, Wyden successfully fought to have controversial anti-leaks provisions removed from the latest intelligence authorization bill. In Oregon, Wyden has authored laws extending permanent Wilderness protections to more than 400,000 acres including Mt. Hood, the Columbia River Gorge, Oregon's Bull Run Watershed, Badlands, Spring Basin, Copper Salmon and Soda Mountain. Since 2000, the Wyden-authored Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act, commonly known as the "county payments" law, has helped provide a stable source of revenue for historically timber-dependent communities and Wyden's Combat Illegal Logging Act has helped protect Oregon's hardwood industries from the import of illegally harvested timber products.

Wyden serves on the Committees on Finance, Budget, Intelligence, and Energy and Natural Resources. He is ranking member of the Senate Finance Committee and the ranking Democrat on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Wyden began college at the University of California-Santa Barbara where he won a basketball scholarship and played in Division I competition for two seasons before transferring to Stanford University where he completed his Bachelors degree with distinction. He earned his law degree from the University of Oregon School of Law in 1974, after which he taught gerontology and co-founded the Oregon chapter of the Gray Panthers, an advocacy group for the elderly. He also served as the director of Oregon Legal Services for the Elderly from 1977 to 1979 and was a member of the Oregon State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators during that same period. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1981 until his election to the U.S. Senate.

Senator Wyden's home is in Portland; he is married to Nancy Wyden, whom he wed in September 2005. He has five children: Adam, Lilly, Ava, William and Scarlett.

Representative Kurt Schrader (D-OR-5) 5th Term

Congressman Kurt Schrader is currently serving his fifth term in the United States House of Representatives. He represents Oregon's 5th Congressional District, which includes all of Marion, Polk, Lincoln and Tillamook Counties as well as the bulk of Clackamas and small portions of Multnomah and Benton Counties. Before being elected to Congress, Schrader, a farmer and veterinarian for more than thirty years, established and managed the Clackamas County Veterinary Clinic in Oregon City and operated his farm where he grew and sold organic fruit and vegetables.

In 1996, Congressman Schrader was elected to the Oregon State House of Representatives. There he served as a member of the Joint Ways & Means Committee. Schrader was one of five legislators asked by their peers to guide Oregon through the budget crisis of 2001-2002. Schrader was elected to the Oregon State Senate in 2003 and was immediately appointed to chair the Joint Ways & Means Committee. He continued to serve in that capacity until he was elected to U.S. Congress in 2008.

Congressman Schrader attended Cornell University where he received his BA in Government in 1973. He received his veterinary degree from the University of Illinois in 1977.

Congressman Schrader currently serves as a member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce (E&C), which oversees a wide portfolio of issues ranging from health care to the environment. Prior to joining E&C, Congressman Schrader served on the House Committee on Agriculture, where he served on the Farm Bill Conference Committee that successfully passed a five year farm bill, the House Committee on Small Business and House Budget Committee. In the 115th Congress, Congressman Schrader will serve on the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health and the Subcommittee on Energy.

Schrader is also a member of the Blue Dog Coalition and New Democrat Coalition, for which he serves as a co-chair of the Affordable and Accessible Healthcare Task Force. He is also a member of the No Labels Problem Solvers Caucus.

State: Pennsylvania

Senator Bob Casey (D-PA) 2nd Term

Bob Casey believes that “all public service is a trust, given in faith and accepted in honor.”¹ Since he was elected to the United States Senate in 2006, he has worked to create family sustaining jobs and foster financial security for Pennsylvania families; protect our children and invest in their futures; ensure safety at home and respect for America abroad; promote honesty and accountability in government; preserve the dignity of the vulnerable of all ages among us; and advocate for his constituents and help them solve problems they face.

Senator Casey has established a record of results on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania. He was the prime Senate sponsor of landmark legislation for individuals with disabilities, the Stephen Beck Jr. Achieving a Better Life Experience Act (ABLE). ABLE will allow millions of families across the United States to save for the long term care of their loved ones with a disability in a tax-advantage savings account. The Associated Press hailed this legislation as “the most important new law for [those with disabilities] in 25 years.” Senator Casey believes that people with disabilities have a lot of ability and we must give those with disabilities the tools to succeed in the workforce and to live a full life.

As concerns arose across the nation about the dangers of campus sexual assault, Senator Casey took action and passed into law the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act. The Campus SaVE Act requires uniform reporting standards for sexual assaults on college campuses and requires schools to provide clear guidelines to students on their sexual assault policies. The new law also emphasizes steps schools can take to educate students and help prevent sexual assault.

In eight years as Pennsylvania Auditor General and two years as State Treasurer, Bob Casey compiled a record that focused on making government more accountable and responsive to the needs of Pennsylvanians. He has been a fiscal watchdog who made nursing homes safer, child care more affordable and government more accountable. He led the fight to reform Megan's Law to better protect Pennsylvania children and communities.

Senator Casey serves on five Senate committees: Finance; Health, Education, Labor and Pensions; Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; and the the Special Committee on Aging. Born and raised in Scranton, Pennsylvania, Bob Casey graduated from The College of the Holy Cross in 1982 and spent the following year teaching fifth grade and coaching eighth grade basketball in inner city Philadelphia for the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. He received his law degree from Catholic University in 1988 and entered the practice of law in Scranton.

Casey and his wife, Terese, were married in 1985 and live in Scranton. They have four daughters: Elyse, Caroline, Julia and Marena.

Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA) 2nd Term

Senator Pat Toomey was elected to the U.S. Senate from Pennsylvania on a platform of limited government, economic and job growth, and restoring fiscal responsibility. The Philadelphia Inquirer wrote that he has emerged as "a leading voice on money matters."

Since joining the Senate in 2011, he has distinguished himself as a leader on economic, financial services and budgetary issues, striving to restore fiscal discipline to Washington and economic opportunity for all Americans.

In 2012, Sen. Toomey helped write and enact the bipartisan JOBS Act, which cuts regulatory burdens on small and medium-sized businesses making it easier for them to raise capital and create jobs. The senator serves on the Finance; Banking; and Budget committees. He previously served on the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction.

Sen. Toomey previously served in Congress as a member of the House of Representatives from Pennsylvania's 15 Congressional District, where he championed economic growth and fiscal discipline. Honoring his pledge to limit himself to three terms, he did not seek re-election to the House in 2004.

In addition to his public service, the senator has also served as president of the Club for Growth, owned and operated a small restaurant chain in the Lehigh Valley, and worked in the financial services industry.

A graduate of Harvard University, he lives in Zionsville with his wife, Kris, and their three children.

Representative Bill Shuster (R-PA-9) 9th Term

Congressman Shuster is committed to bringing greater opportunity and a better standard of living to the people of the 9th district through his focus on economic development and transportation infrastructure. As Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Shuster continues to work to secure important funding for roadway projects in the 9th district as well as infrastructure improvements throughout Western Pennsylvania. One of the largest committees in Congress, the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee currently has jurisdiction over all modes of transportation: aviation, maritime and waterborne transportation, roads, mass transit and railroads.

Shuster has served on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee since coming to Congress in 2001. He previously served as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials and as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

In addition to Congressman Shuster's expanded role on transportation policy, he continues to be an active voice in support of our Armed Services and a recognized leader on national security matters. Shuster serves on the House Armed Services Committee, which provides him valuable insight into the Global War on Terror and how our military should transform to meet emerging threats, especially the threat of Islamic fundamentalism.

In addition to his regular committee work, Chairman McKeon named Shuster to serve as the chairman of a special panel to investigate the challenges small and medium sized businesses face in doing business with the Department of Defense. The Special Panel on Challenges in the Defense Industry has held roundtables across the country with businesses and hearings with DOD personnel in Washington, DC to find out what Congress must do to reduce barriers to entry and expand our national defense industrial base.

Prior to coming to Congress, Shuster worked on his family's farm in Bedford County, gained valuable marketing and management experience with the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Corporation as well as with Bandag Incorporated where he served as District Manager. He is also an experienced small business owner, having owned and operated an automobile dealership, in East Freedom, Pennsylvania.

Shuster was born in McKeesport, Pennsylvania on January 10, 1961. After graduating from Everett High School he attended Dickinson College in Carlisle, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History. Shortly thereafter he went on to earn a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from American University in Washington, D.C.

Representative Keith Rothfus (R-PA-12) 3rd Term

Keith Rothfus is passionate about ensuring that America remains the land of opportunity and freedom that the Founders intended it to be. He was sworn in on January 3, 2017 and is serving his third term in the United States House of Representatives.

Keith was appointed to serve as Vice Chairman of the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit for the 115th Congress. In this new role, he is working to help grow the economy by ensuring small businesses, entrepreneurs, and consumers have access to the credit they need. Keith also serves on the Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance and the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance.

As a member of the Financial Services Committee, Keith addresses issues concerning the banking system, housing, insurance, and securities markets. The committee also has jurisdiction over monetary policy, international finance, international monetary organizations, and efforts to combat terrorism financing. The committee oversees the Federal Reserve Board and individual reserve banks, the Treasury, the production and distribution of currency, and the Nation's capital markets. Keith's Financial Services work enables him to promote policies for a competitive economy that will result in more jobs and better wages.

Keith represents Pennsylvania's Twelfth Congressional District, which includes all of Beaver County and portions of Allegheny, Cambria, Lawrence, Somerset, and Westmoreland Counties in Western Pennsylvania.

The Twelfth Congressional District is the home to diverse industries such as manufacturing, energy, financial services, education, and health care. Keith is fighting to reduce federal regulations and promote free enterprise so that each of these industries can grow at a healthier pace and create jobs.

He also promotes these principles through his work on the Republican Policy Committee Budget Taskforce.

Keith graduated from the State University of New York College at Buffalo with a bachelor of science degree and earned his law degree at the University of Notre Dame.

He spent most of his professional life in the private sector. As an attorney, he helped businesses of all sizes expand and create jobs in Western Pennsylvania.

Keith served as the first director of the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). He launched and managed DHS's efforts to coordinate relief services with faith-based and community organizations after natural disasters.

He has served on the Board of Directors of the Veterans Leadership Program of Western Pennsylvania, an organization that provides support services to local veterans and their families.

Keith and his wife Elsie are raising their family in Allegheny County.

Representative Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-8) 5th Term

After dedicating his professional life to the service and protecting others, Brian Fitzpatrick was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 2016 to represent the people of Pennsylvania's Eighth Congressional District which includes all of Bucks County and a portion of northwestern Montgomery County. His top priorities in Congress are increasing economic opportunity and keeping our nation safe.

A Levittown native and graduate of Bishop Egan High School, Brian is a graduate of LaSalle University, Penn State University and the Dickinson School of Law. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant, Emergency Medical Technician as well as an attorney - having previously served as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney focused on drug crimes.

For 14 years prior to running for Congress, Brian served our country as an FBI Supervisory Special Agent fighting political corruption and supporting global counterterrorism efforts – including being embedded with U.S. Special Forces as part Operation Iraqi Freedom. Working to promote freedom and democracy, Brian also served as National Director for the FBI’s Campaign Finance and Election Crimes Enforcement Program and as a national supervisor for the FBI’s Political Corruption Unit where he is recognized as an expert in restoring integrity to governmental institutions. For his work, Brian was an inaugural recipient of the FBI Director’s Leadership Award in 2015 and was named “Investigator of the Year by the Federal Law Enforcement Foundation.

In the 115th Congress, Brian is a member of both the Foreign Affairs, Homeland Security and Small Business committees. Brian is the founding member of the Congressional Citizen Legislature Caucus, a bipartisan group of lawmakers committed to fighting for term limits and Congressional reforms, and a member of the No Labels ‘Problem Solver Caucus.’

Representative Dwight Evans (D-PA-2) 1st Term

Congressman Dwight Evans has dedicated his life to the cause of urban renewal, working to provide economic and educational opportunity to those who too often live in the shadows, the poor and underserved.

In 1980, at the age of 26, Dwight was first elected State Representative from the 203rd Legislative District. Far from being a “go-along-get-along” legislator, Dwight stood out for his tenacity in working to help the people he represents. Over the course of 36 years, he earned a reputation as a pragmatic leader who knows how to put public policy above politics.

In 1986, Dwight led a hard-fought, historic effort to win approval from city officials and state leaders to build a new convention center in Philadelphia, which has since provided tens of billions of dollars in economic impact, creating thousands of jobs.

Dwight made history in 1990 by becoming the first African-American Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. Dwight held the post for two decades. In that role, he was instrumental in helping Philadelphia and communities across Pennsylvania receive funding for economic development, job training, education, infrastructure and the arts.

A champion for teachers and innovation in education, Dwight helped start the West Oak Lane Charter School, a unionized school, which has helped teach thousands of kids from grades K-8.

One of Dwight’s proudest achievements has been his work to combat hunger and increase access to quality foods in underserved communities. He was the creator of Pennsylvania’s Fresh Food Financing Initiative, linking public and private funds to expand and build grocery stores in “food deserts” across the state. Because of this effort nearly 100 grocery stores have moved into areas that previously had little or limited to fresh fruit and vegetables, and more than 5,000 jobs have been created.

The Fresh Food Financing Initiative was widely recognized as one of the top public policy initiatives in the country by major newspapers and Harvard University. As such, the Obama administration championed Dwight's approach and used the Pennsylvania initiative as a model for the nation, replicating it in several other states across the country, including California, New York, New Jersey, Louisiana, and Illinois.

A longtime advocate for public transportation, Dwight has worked to secure dedicated, predictable and sufficient state revenues for mass transit throughout the commonwealth. In 1991, he helped establish the Public Transportation Assistance Fund, the first dedicated funding source for mass transit. In 2005, Dwight forged the establishment of a Transportation Funding and Reform Commission, an initiative adopted by former Gov. Ed Rendell that provided strategies to stabilize transit funding. In 2013, Dwight worked in a bi-partisan manner with former Gov. Tom Corbett for approval of Act 89, which provided a comprehensive statewide funding plan for transportation.

Dwight was part of Philadelphia's "Gang of Five," a bi-partisan group of legislative leaders focused on reducing crime and improving police/community relations in Philadelphia. Statewide, he was a vocal advocate for common sense handgun policies.

Representative Charlie Dent (R-PA-15) 7th Term

Charlie Dent was first sworn in to the United States House of Representatives in January 2005. He is currently serving his sixth-term.

Charlie represents Pennsylvania's 15th District, which includes all or parts of Berks, Dauphin, Lebanon, Lehigh, and Northampton counties.

Congressman Dent currently serves as the Chairman of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee for the House Appropriations Committee. He also serves on the Appropriation Committee's Subcommittees on State and Foreign Operations and on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development.

Born May 24, 1960, Charlie is a life-long Lehigh Valley resident. He was raised in Allentown by his parents, Marjorie and the late Walter R. "Pete" Dent, a Bethlehem Steel employee. Charlie and his wife Pamela live in Allentown with their three children, Kathryn, William, and Jack. Charlie is a 1978 graduate of William Allen High School. He earned a degree in Foreign Service and International Politics from the Pennsylvania State University in 1982 and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Lehigh University in 1993.

Before entering public service, Charlie worked as a development officer for Lehigh University, an industrial electronics salesman, and an aide to then-Representative Don Ritter. Charlie served eight years in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and six years in the State Senate.

Now in his fifth term in Congress, Charlie has developed an expertise in homeland security and transportation issues through his committee assignments in the House, building on his existing knowledge and experiences from 14 years in the state legislature and his educational background. In those areas, he has championed legislation that would: promote the use of the Civil Air Patrol to better secure our borders; develop a comprehensive screening system that will allow border officials to determine that passengers are who they say they are; enhance chemical plant security; expedite and

enforce the repatriation of criminal aliens; require notification to Immigration and Customs Enforcement and detention of illegal aliens that are arrested on state felony charges; advance the use of clean energy technology in public transportation applications; and establish reasonable security provisions for large aircraft.

Charlie has also been an advocate on health issues. In 2008, legislation he and his colleague Rep. Mike Doyle (PA-14) introduced to update the Veteran's Health Administration's outdated HIV/AIDS testing policy was signed into law. He has been instrumental in providing federal funding for melanoma research, and a staunch supporter of medical research through the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Charlie has worked closely with the MPS (Mucopolysaccharidoses) community to draw awareness to this devastating genetic lysosomal storage disease, caused by the body's inability to produce specific enzymes, and focus the research that is being conducted. He has also been active in advancing legislation aimed at the prevention and elimination of chronic viral hepatitis. Finally, Charlie is one of the leading voices in Congress for commonsense medical liability reforms that will increase patient safety, improve the quality of care, reduce the incidence of defensive medicine, preserve access to highly-skilled medical professionals, and ensure fair compensation for injured patients.

Representative Bob Brady (D-PA-1) 11th Term

On January 3, 2013 Congressman Robert A. Brady was sworn into office for his 9th term representing the people of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District. The First Congressional District includes portions of South Philadelphia, West Philadelphia, North Philadelphia, Northeast Philadelphia, Southwest Philadelphia, Northwest Philadelphia, Center City and parts of Delaware County. District One is among the most ethnically diverse districts in Pennsylvania.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, Brady graduated from St. Thomas More High School, found employment as a carpenter and was soon part of the leadership of the Carpenters' union. He continues to be a member of both the Carpenters' and the Teachers' unions.

Congressman Brady was elected Chairman of the Committee on House Administration in May of 2007 and served until the end of the 111th Congress in December 2010. In announcing his election, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi highlighted Brady's "...experience as a leading member of the House Administration Committee for four years and his in-depth knowledge of the internal functions of the House." She also highlighted his ability "to promote equality and diversity on Capitol Hill." Congressman Brady currently serves as the Ranking Member on the Committee.

Currently, in his role as Ranking Member, Brady helps to lead the Committee's oversight of federal elections and the day-to-day functions of the House of Representatives, as well as budget authorizations for expenses of House committees, and those for expenses of Members of Congress. The Committee is responsible for oversight of the House officers, including the administrative and technical functions of the House.

Additionally, the House Administration Committee oversees security on the House side of the Capitol Complex and works closely with the Capitol Police to ensure that every effort is made to keep the Capitol Complex secure while maintaining accessibility for the millions of constituents who visit every year. The Committee also oversees the management of the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution including the National Zoo.

Brady held various leadership positions prior to becoming a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. His accomplishments include, but are not limited to serving as Deputy Mayor for Labor

in the administration of Philadelphia Mayor W. Wilson Goode, serving as a consultant to the Pennsylvania State Senate, serving as a Pennsylvania Turnpike Commissioner and his role as a member of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority.

Throughout his legislative career, Congressman Brady has consistently earned an “A” or 100 percent rating from the AFL-CIO, NAACP, The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, the Human Rights Campaign and every other national human rights organization that scores Congress. In addition, Brady has twice been honored as a “Friend of the National Parks” by the National Parks Conservation Association for his contribution to protecting and enhancing the environment in America's national parks. He is the first Philadelphian to chair either a full or subcommittee since former Congressman Bill Gray was Chairman of the Budget Committee in the 99th and 100th Congresses.

Brady has been an unwavering advocate for legislation that supports the well-being of financially disadvantaged communities. He has sponsored or co-sponsored legislation that promotes affordable housing, as well as strategies to ensure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare and life-saving prescription drugs. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, Brady has called for programs to support veterans as well as current members of our Armed Forces. While he has been one of the strongest supporters of our men and women serving in uniform, he has also been an outspoken opponent of the escalation of the Iraq War and has supported imposing a timeline for safe and orderly withdrawal from Iraq. In his role on the Committee on House Administration, Brady has been a leading advocate for election reform.

State: Rhode Island

Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) 3rd Term

In 1996, the people of Rhode Island elected Jack Reed to succeed Claiborne Pell as Rhode Island's 46th United States Senator. Today, Reed is a national leader on consumer protection, defense, education, and economic issues. He has led efforts to promote responsible budgets, create jobs, and strengthen our economy.

As one of just eight Senators in U.S. history to graduate from West Point, Time magazine noted: “Reed is a serious, intellectually honest veteran and an expert on defense issues in the Senate,” and the New York Times describes him as “a quiet dealmaker respected by colleagues in both parties.”

A member of the powerful Appropriations Committee, which controls the funding of the federal government, Senator Reed has been described by the Boston Globe as “a relentless advocate for his home state.” As Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, he works tirelessly to direct federal funding to the Ocean State to create jobs, strengthen its infrastructure, and support economic and community development initiatives.

He has supported clean water projects to ensure both a healthy economy and a healthy environment. And he authored a trio of laws to improve children’s health care and ensure our youngest patients get the help they need when they need it: the Conquer Childhood Cancer Act, a law that expands research programs aimed at improving childhood cancer treatments with the goal of ultimately finding a cure for childhood cancer; the Trauma Care Systems Planning and Development Act to establish critical care networks nationwide so that more paramedics and first responders can get trauma care patients to the

right doctor at the right time; and the Better Pharmaceuticals and Devices for Children Act (BPDCA) to help ensure drugs and medical devices are specifically tested, labeled, and proven to be safe and effective for children.

Senator Reed has led efforts to strengthen Rhode Island's transportation network – from expanding the runway at T.F. Green Airport to increasing capacity at our ports – in order to bring more jobs and businesses to Rhode Island and better link our state to the global economy.

Reed also serves as Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee, where he has played a pivotal role in safeguarding our nation. In 2002, he voted against giving President George W. Bush the authority to go to war in Iraq because it was an ill-planned diversion from the war on terrorism. But he has always worked across the aisle to support our troops, and was instrumental in convincing Defense Secretary Robert Gates to continue serving in the Obama Administration and implement the plan to withdraw forces from Iraq.

Rhode Island's defense industry is critical to national security and our state's economy, and Senator Reed has been a leader at the federal level in growing Rhode Island's defense sector and bringing resources to the state. Thanks to his efforts on the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees, coupled with Rhode Island's talented defense workers, the U.S. Navy plans to begin building the next generation of submarines in the Ocean State, creating thousands of new, good-paying jobs in Rhode Island in the coming years.

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) 2nd Term

Rhode Islanders know they can count on Sheldon Whitehouse to fight for the middle-class values that matter most to us. Sheldon believes that every child deserves the opportunities provided by a good education, and that anyone willing to work hard should be able to find a good job. He believes in the promise of Social Security and Medicare to provide a basic measure of dignity for seniors when they retire.

Sheldon understands what Social Security and Medicare—the twin pillars of economic fairness and retirement security—mean to Rhode Island seniors and their families. Sheldon founded the Defend Social Security Caucus to extend the program's solvency without jeopardizing benefits. And he fought to close the Medicare prescription drug "doughnut hole" and to eliminate fraud and abuse—again, without cutting benefits for our seniors.

And Sheldon understands the burden of high health care costs on everyone in Rhode Island—from the families and seniors who seek quality care, to the doctors, nurses, and hospitals that provide it.

He is a member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and has played a pivotal role in the crafting and implementation of President Obama's Affordable Care Act, which is making affordable health care available to millions of Americans.

As a founder of the Rhode Island Quality Institute, Sheldon believes that rewarding good care and reducing waste in our health care system will lower costs and improve the quality of care. Thanks in part to his support for these kinds of reforms and investments in our state, Rhode Island's knowledge and health care economy is leading the nation in this effort.

Like many Rhode Islanders, Sheldon knows how devastating a cancer diagnosis can be to a family and shared his own family's story in this video. In 2013, his legislation to improve research on the deadliest forms of cancer was signed into law.

Sheldon also works on the HELP Committee to strengthen struggling schools and prevent students from falling behind. National PTA President Betsy Landers has said, "Our nation's families are fortunate to have a true advocate for children in Senator Whitehouse." Sheldon is also fighting to ensure that Senator Pell's legacy—the Federal Pell Grant program—remains strong so the next generation of Americans can turn the dream of a college education into a reality.

A graduate of Yale University and the University of Virginia School of Law, Sheldon served as Rhode Island's Director of Business Regulation under Governor Sundlun before being recommended by Senator Pell and nominated by President Bill Clinton to be Rhode Island's United States Attorney in 1994. He was elected Attorney General of Rhode Island in 1998, a position in which he served until 2003. On November 7, 2006, Rhode Islanders elected Sheldon to the United States Senate, where he is a member of the Budget Committee; the Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW); the Judiciary Committee; the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee; and the Special Committee on Aging. He is the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism and of the EPW Subcommittee on Oversight.

Representative James Langevin (D-RI-2) 9th Term

Born April 22, 1964, Langevin is the first quadriplegic to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.

At the age of 16, Langevin was injured while working with the Warwick Police Department in the Boy Scout Explorer program. A gun accidentally discharged and a bullet struck Langevin, leaving him paralyzed. The tremendous outpouring of support from his community inspired Langevin to give something back and enter public service.

Langevin graduated from Rhode Island College and earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He resides in Warwick, Rhode Island.

Throughout his career, Congressman Jim Langevin has made Rhode Island's priorities his own and fought to open the doors of government to its rightful owners - the people of this great nation.

Recognized as a national and party leader on national security, health care and cybersecurity, Congressman Jim Langevin has dedicated his many years of public service at the federal and state levels to the hard-working citizens of Rhode Island.

Langevin is a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee, where he is the Ranking Member of the Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee, and also serves on the Subcommittees on Seapower and Projection Forces and Tactical Air and Land Forces. As a supporter of the critical national security work done by Rhode Island's defense industry, he has worked in committee to double production of the extraordinary Virginia Class Submarines built in Quonset, meeting military needs and creating hundreds of new jobs.

After fulfilling an eight-year term on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Langevin returned as a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, where he serves as a

member of the Subcommittees on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communications.

As part of the Democratic Leadership team, Langevin serves as both a Democratic Regional Whip for New England and a member of House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer's Senior Whip Team. In these roles, he is responsible for educating other Democratic members on key issues and helping to craft the party's strategy and legislative agenda.

Securing our nation's technology infrastructure against cyber attack is a top priority for Langevin. As the Co-Founder and Co-Chairman of the bipartisan Congressional Cybersecurity Caucus, he led the way in raising awareness of cybersecurity issues in Congress and fostering dialogue and debate on the critical questions surrounding this topic. He co-chaired the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Commission on Cyber Security for the 44th Presidency, which made policy recommendations to President Obama. Langevin has introduced the Personal Data Notification and Protection Act to ensure consumers are appropriately alerted when their sensitive information is compromised. To further improve cybersecurity, he has also introduced the Executive Cyberspace Coordination Act, which aims to strengthen the country's defenses against cyber threats and reflects concerns listed in the Commission's report, including the vulnerability of critical infrastructure.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Career and Technical Education Caucus, Langevin advocates to improve and increase access to training that gives students and workers the skills that best fit the needs of expanding industries. Among efforts to boost Rhode Island's workforce, he has launched a competition to introduce high school students to the rapidly growing cybersecurity field and has helped obtain funding to start other workforce development initiatives. The Counseling for Career Choice Act that Langevin introduced in February 2015 would support the development of comprehensive career counseling programs to ensure that high school students are made fully aware of their career and education options prior to graduation.

A voice for those facing serious challenges, Langevin championed passage of a bipartisan bill to expand services for families caring for their elderly and disabled loved ones and authored a breakthrough law to protect foster youth. He is a strong advocate for inclusion and independence for people with disabilities, and helped pass the ADA Amendments Act that strengthened the protections of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

His commitment to advancing the science of stem cell research has earned Langevin recognition as a national leader who works tirelessly to educate and encourage his colleagues to embrace medical research in all of its forms. Langevin helped champion the passage of legislation to expand the federal policy on embryonic stem cell research and proudly joined President Obama in 2009 as he signed an Executive Order lifting the Bush Administration's restrictions on embryonic stem cell funding. In the 114th Congress (2015-16), Langevin prioritized rebuilding the economy through workforce development, strong skills training and a focus on growth sectors in Rhode Island including IT, cybersecurity, health care and the food economy. He is advocating investments in the middle class, a balanced approach to tax reform and a budget that reduces the deficit without enacting additional cuts to social safety net programs.

State: Tennessee

Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN) 3rd Term

Alexander, a seventh-generation Tennessean born and raised in Maryville, was twice elected governor of Tennessee. He has always believed that in most cases the best decisions are made by those closest to the people.

Today, Alexander chairs the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, where he is working on legislation to bring safe drugs and medical devices to doctors' offices and patients' medicine cabinets more quickly.

Alexander is also chairman of the Senate Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee, where he works to boost funding for basic energy research and invest in our inland waterways and harbors.

Alexander was first elected to the Senate in 2002 and has been re-elected twice. His Republican colleagues elected him three times to be chairman of the Senate Republican Conference.

He has previously served as president of the University of Tennessee and as U.S. Secretary of Education under George H.W. Bush.

He is a classical and country pianist and the author of seven books.

Lamar Alexander and his wife Honey have four children and eight grandchildren and a dog named Rufus.

State: Texas

Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) 3rd Term

In 2014, Texans overwhelmingly re-elected Senator John Cornyn to represent them for a third term in the U.S. Senate. Since he was first elected in 2002, Sen. Cornyn has earned a national reputation as an articulate and powerful voice for Texas and conservative values in Washington. Sen. Cornyn, a San Antonio native, strongly believes that we need more Texas solutions in Washington, which is why he consistently fights to bring the Lone Star State's commonsense solutions to the federal level.

He has committed himself to strengthening our national defense, securing our borders, repairing our broken immigration system and strengthening the economy by keeping taxes low, reducing federal spending, and fighting job-killing regulations from Washington bureaucrats. Sen. Cornyn has also been a tireless advocate for Texas military personnel, veterans, and their families, and he has fought to provide these brave Americans with the best possible support, care, and benefits.

In addition to serving on the Senate Finance and Judiciary Committees, Sen. Cornyn serves as the Majority Whip, a position that gives Texas a powerful seat at Congress' leadership table.

Sen. Cornyn has served the people of Texas for the last three decades, first as a district judge and later as a member of the Texas Supreme Court and Texas Attorney General. He received his undergraduate degree from Trinity University, his law degree from St. Mary's School of Law, and his LLM from the

University of Virginia Law School. Sen. Cornyn married his wife Sandy in 1979, and they have two grown daughters.

Senator Ted Cruz (R-TX) 1st Term

As Solicitor General for the State of Texas and in private practice, Ted authored more than 80 U.S. Supreme Court briefs and argued 43 oral arguments, including nine before the U.S. Supreme Court, and has won an unprecedented series of landmark national victories including defending U.S. sovereignty against the UN and the World Court in *Medellin v. Texas*, defending our Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms, defending the constitutionality of the Ten Commandments monument at the Texas State Capitol and the words “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance.

In the U.S. Senate, Ted has led the fight to repeal Obamacare, to stop President Obama’s illegal and unconstitutional executive amnesty, and to defend life, marriage, the First Amendment, the Second Amendment, and our entire Bill of Rights. And most important, he’s kept his promise to speak the truth and do what he said he’d do.

Ted has proven to be the exact type of courageous conservative we need to reignite the promise of America, restore our Constitution, and defend the values we all hold dear.

Ted, his wife Heidi, their two daughters Caroline and Catherine, and his entire family have been blessed to live the American Dream — the idea that anyone, through hard work and determination, can achieve anything. And he is committed to ensuring every family has that same opportunity.

Representative Ted Poe (R-TX-2) 7th Term

As a 6th generation Texan, Congressman Ted Poe learned very early on the meaning of “God and Texas.” Born and raised in Texas, his grandmother instilled in him a love for Texas, faith, public service and conservative principles. Elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2004 to represent the Second Congressional District of Texas, Congressman Poe brings his nonsensical style to Washington, DC. He is a leading voice for Texans standing up for conservative principles, reducing the size of the federal government and promoting constitutional and individual liberties.

Prior to serving in Congress, Ted Poe served in the United States Air Force Reserves, taught high school and college classes and earned a law degree from the University of Houston. Soon after graduation, he accepted a position as a prosecutor in Houston, Texas. During his eight years of service with the Harris County District Attorney’s Office, he became the chief felony prosecutor and never lost a jury trial. He later became one of the youngest judges ever appointed in Texas and one of the first Republicans elected since Reconstruction. Judge Poe was elected six times over twenty plus years on the bench and heard more than 20,000 of the worst criminal cases.

On the bench, Judge Poe garnered national media attention for his creative sentencing for criminals and hard-nosed approach to enforcing the law. Dubbed by the media as “Poetic Justice” punishments, he ordered thieves to carry signs in front of stores from which they stole; commanded sex offenders to place warning signs on their homes after serving jail time; and directed murderers to place a photo of their victims on the wall of their prison cells reminding them of their crime.

Congressman Poe proudly serves on the House Judiciary Committee, and the House Foreign Affairs Committee as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade. An outspoken

advocate in Washington on border security, Congressman Poe travels regularly to the southern border to meet directly with local law enforcement and residents. Combating illegal immigration and supporting law enforcement on the border led to Congressman Poe's push to exonerate wrongfully convicted Border Patrol Agents Ramos and Compean.

In 2005, Congressman Poe established the bipartisan Victims' Rights Caucus (VRC) to advocate on behalf of victims in our nation's capital. As co-chair of the VRC, Ted Poe plays a vital role in passing legislation to safeguard our children and to ensure that the needs and issues facing victims of crime are equally represented. In addition, in 2011, Congressman Poe founded the bipartisan PORTS (Ports Opportunity, Renewal, Trade, and Security) Caucus to promote the importance of U.S. ports to the nation's economy.

Congressman Poe is recognized nationally for his efforts to secure our borders and to establish a plan for energy independence. He regularly visits our troops in the War Zones of Iraq and Afghanistan. He is a strong Constitutionalist and stands firmly in the principle of "We the People" not "We the Subjects."

State: Virginia

Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA) 1st Term

Tim Kaine has helped people throughout his life as a missionary, civil rights lawyer, teacher and elected official. He is one of 30 people in American history to have served as a Mayor, Governor and United States Senator.

Tim was elected to the Senate in 2012 as a can-do optimist skilled in bringing people together across old lines of party, race or region. In the Senate, he serves on the Armed Services, Budget, Foreign Relations and Aging Committees. He is Ranking Member of the Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee and the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations and Bilateral International Development.

As a new member of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee in the 115th Congress, Tim will have the opportunity to focus on two of his longtime passions: health care and education. In this critical time for health care in America, Tim is motivated now more than ever to fight against harmful policy proposals that seek to reverse the progress we've made in increasing access to care for millions of Americans. Tim will also use his new role to look for ways to further address the opioid abuse epidemic that affects every corner of the Commonwealth.

Tim is a founder and co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education (CTE) Caucus, which focuses on improving access to CTE programs to ensure that students of all ages are prepared with the skills they need for the jobs of the 21st century. Many of his proposals to advance CTE were included in the 2015 re-write of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Tim also supports expanding economic opportunity through infrastructure investment, immigration reform and smart strategies to expand affordable health care access.

In the 114th Congress, Tim introduced many pieces of important legislation for Virginia, including a bill to recognize six Virginia Indian tribes. Inspired by a discussion he had with advocates for sexual assault survivors at the University of Virginia, Tim championed successful legislation to encourage public secondary schools to teach students about how to prevent dating violence and sexual assault. And after numerous discussions with recovering addicts, families, medical professionals and law enforcement

officials about the growing opioid epidemic in Virginia, Tim introduced legislation to increase access to life-saving overdose medication and prevent drug-related deaths.

In the 113th Congress, Tim introduced legislation to preserve the Commonwealth's historic Civil War battlegrounds, which President Obama signed into law. He also worked to pass bipartisan legislation to expand pediatric cancer research at the National Institutes of Health in honor of Gabriella Miller, a young girl from Leesburg, Virginia who lost her battle with brain cancer in October 2013.

Tim was first elected to office in 1994, serving as a city councilmember and then Mayor of Richmond. He became Lieutenant Governor of Virginia in 2002 and was inaugurated as Virginia's 70th Governor in 2006.

Senator Mark Warner (D-VA) 2nd Term

Senator Warner was elected to the U.S. Senate in November 2008 and reelected to a second term in November 2014. He serves on the Senate Finance, Banking, Budget, and Rules Committees as well as the Select Committee on Intelligence, where he is the Vice Chairman. During his time in the Senate, Senator Warner has established himself as a bipartisan leader who has worked with Republicans and Democrats alike to cut red tape, increase government performance and accountability, and promote private sector innovation and job creation. Senator Warner has been recognized as a national leader in fighting for our military men and women and veterans, and in working to find bipartisan, balanced solutions to address our country's debt and deficit.

From 2002 to 2006, he served as Governor of Virginia. When he left office in 2006, Virginia was ranked as the best state for business, the best managed state, and the best state in which to receive a public education.

The first in his family to graduate from college, Mark Warner spent 20 years as a successful technology and business leader in Virginia before entering public office. An early investor in the cellular telephone business, he co-founded the company that became Nextel and invested in hundreds of start-up technology companies that created tens of thousands of jobs.

Senator Warner, his wife Lisa Collis, and their three daughters live in Alexandria, Virginia.

Representative Donald Beyer (D-VA-4) 2nd Term

Congressman Don Beyer is serving his first term as the U.S. Representative from Virginia's 8th District, representing Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church, and parts of Fairfax County. He serves on the Joint Economic Committee, the House Committee on Natural Resources, is Vice Ranking Member of the Science Space and Technology Committee, Ranking Member on the Oversight Subcommittee, and a member of the New Democrat Coalition. He was the Lieutenant Governor of Virginia from 1990 to 1998, and was Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein under President Obama.

Rep. Beyer's signature work as lieutenant governor included advocacy for Virginians with disabilities and ensuring protections for Virginia's most vulnerable populations as the Commonwealth reformed its welfare system in the mid-1990s. Rep. Beyer was Virginia's Democratic nominee for governor in 1997.

After leaving office, Rep. Beyer spent fourteen years as Chair of Jobs for Virginia Graduates, a highly

successful high school dropout prevention program, and was active for a decade on the board of the D.C. Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. As Chair of the Virginia Economic Recovery Commission, he helped pass permanent pro-business reforms and was co-founder of the Northern Virginia Technology Council.

President Obama nominated Rep. Beyer to serve as Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein in 2009. He used his position to advocate for stricter sanctions to compel Iran to begin nuclear disarmament discussions. As Ambassador, Rep. Beyer was integral to US Department of Justice efforts to halt the abuses of Swiss bank secrecy by wealthy Americans.

Rep. Beyer has spent four decades building his family business in Northern Virginia after a summer job at a car dealership in 1974. He is a graduate of Williams College and Gonzaga College High School in Washington, DC. He was named a Presidential Scholar by President Lyndon Johnson.

Rep. Beyer has four children and two grandchildren. He and his wife Megan live in Alexandria, Virginia.

Representative Donald McEachin (D-VA-4) 1st Term

The son of an Army veteran and a public school teacher, state Sen. Donald McEachin grew up in Richmond. He returned home after law school, and has been working to lift his community ever since. He has spent his career fighting for the underdog — as both an attorney and a public servant.

Donald has been a citizen legislator in Virginia's General Assembly for most of the last twenty years, serving first as a delegate and currently as a senator. Throughout that time, he has fought to protect our most vulnerable citizens — and to defend the rights of all Virginians. Donald has worked to create jobs, improve public schools, and expand access to health care. He has been a progressive champion, leading efforts to promote equality, curb gun violence, and protect our environment. His commitment to helping working families has never wavered.

As Chair of the Senate Democratic Caucus, Donald has partnered with leaders from both parties to move Virginia forward. Since 2014, he has worked closely with Gov. Terry McAuliffe, seeking to expand Medicaid, rebuild our economy, and swiftly restore former offenders' right to vote. Donald's legislative work has earned praise from across the political spectrum; he has won awards from groups as diverse as the Virginia Sheriffs' Association, the Virginia Education Association, and the UFCW Minority Coalition.

Donald is also a successful small businessman. With his partner, he has built a local law firm — McEachin & Gee — that has branches across Southside and the Richmond area. For 26 years, their firm has helped secure just outcomes for countless Virginians, ensuring they receive the resources they need to recover from accident or injury. The firm has also given out hundreds of scholarships to local students.

When not in the court room or Capitol, Donald participates in many civic and community groups. He is a member of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Hanover, the NAACP, and the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association; he is also a lifetime member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. He has served on numerous boards and commissions, including the VCU Health System Board of Directors.

Donald is a graduate of American University and the University Of Virginia School Of Law. In 2008, he received his Master of Divinity degree from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University.

Donald and his wife, Colette, are the parents of three wonderful children. They have been married for 28 years.

Representative Gerry Connolly (D-VA-11) 5th Term

Congressman Gerald E. “Gerry” Connolly is serving his fifth term in the U.S. House of Representatives from Virginia’s 11th District, which includes Fairfax County, Prince William County, and the City of Fairfax in Northern Virginia. Prior to his election to Congress, he served 14 years on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, including five years as Chairman. Throughout his career, protecting and growing Northern Virginia’s economy has been his top priority.

In Congress, he has played a key role in securing federal dollars for transportation improvements in Northern Virginia, including completion of the Fairfax County Parkway, widening the Prince William County Parkway, providing ongoing support for Rail to Dulles, and securing the annual federal commitment of \$150 million for the regional Metro system.

Congressman Connolly is a senior member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and serves as the Ranking Democratic of the Subcommittee on Government Operations. In this role, he is responsible for shaping government-wide policy for a broad range of issues, including federal workforce and federal agency oversight, federal procurement and information policy, national drug policy, regulatory reform, the United States Postal Service, the United States Census Bureau, and the District of Columbia.

Congressman Connolly also serves on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Using his extensive background in foreign policy, including as a senior staff member on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, he has become a leading voice on foreign assistance reform, war powers, embassy security, and democracy promotion abroad.

Congressman Connolly co-authored the bipartisan Issa-Connolly Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA), which was signed into law in 2014, and represents the first major overhaul of the federal laws governing IT management since enactment of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996. In 2016, Connolly passed the Land Management Workforce Flexibility Act, which allows temporary employees of land management agencies to now be eligible for civil servant positions. He also helped pass the Telework Enhancement Act, which requires the federal government to increase the use of telework by federal employees to ensure continuity of operations by federal agencies during emergency situations, enhance recruitment of a quality federal workforce, reduce traffic congestion, and improve the region’s air quality.

For his efforts, he has twice been recognized as a Federal Computer Week Fed 100 winner, was named the 2013 FedScoop Tech Champion of the Year, the 2015 FCW Eagle Award recipient, and received the AFFIRM Award for Leadership in the IT community.

He has also introduced important legislation to streamline and improve our election system, find savings in federal IT procurement and data center consolidation, and reform U.S. Foreign Aid.

In addition to his Committee assignments, Congressman Connolly serves as Whip for the New Democrat Coalition, chair of the Smart Contracting Caucus, co-chair of the Sustainable Energy and Environment

Caucus, co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on U.S.-Turkey Relations and Turkish Americans, co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Korea, co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Georgia and co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Taiwan.

Prior to his election to Congress, Congressman Connolly served as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in Fairfax County, the largest jurisdiction in the Washington, D.C. metro area with more than 1.1 million residents. He earned a reputation as a pragmatic leader for his initiatives to expand affordable housing opportunities, reduce gang violence, promote reusable energy, and advance critical transportation improvements. During his tenure as Chairman, Fairfax was recognized as a Best Managed County.

Congressman Connolly received an M.A. in Public Administration from Harvard University in 1979. He received a B.A. in Literature from Maryknoll College in Glen Ellyn, Illinois.

Congressman Connolly has worked in the non-profit sector, primarily advocating for hunger aid and international assistance. He also has strong ties to the business community having spent two decades working for organizations and companies involved in international trade, regulatory matters, technology, and research.

He resides in Fairfax with his wife Cathy and has a daughter Caitlin.

Representative Dave Brat (R-VA-7) 3rd Term

For years in Virginia -- and long before he entered politics -- the media, elected officials, and community organizations sought out Dr. Dave Brat for his insight on the economy and budgets. That's because he combined an expertise in economics, the principles of our constitutional founding, and the practice of real-world ethics to show lawmakers and others how governments' decisions affect average citizens.

Congressman Brat served two Virginia governors on their economic advisory boards, providing them with critical economic forecasts to help manage the Commonwealth. He also served as president of the Virginia Association of Economists.

It's precisely because he's an economist that Congressman Brat understands that a free and growing economy is necessary for people to have good jobs, raise stable families, and thrive in this country. His message of economic prosperity has spread not only through the Seventh District of Virginia, it is spreading throughout the nation.

He has a masters of divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in economics from American University. He worked for the World Bank assisting developing world economies and in the private sector for Arthur Andersen before he became a professor of economics and chairman of the economics department at Randolph Macon College.

He and his wife, Laura, have two children, Jonathan and Sophia, who attend public school in Henrico County.

Congressman Brat is a member of the House Budget Committee, Education and the Workforce Committee, and Small Business Committee. He is the Chairman of the Small Business Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access.

State: Washington

Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) 3rd Term

Maria Cantwell currently serves as a United States Senator for the State of Washington. As a respected leader – both in public service and in the private sector – Maria has always embraced the values she first learned growing up in a strong working-class family. With the help of Pell Grants, Maria was the first member of her family to graduate college. Later, a successful businesswoman in Washington's hi-tech industry, she helped build a company that created hundreds of high-paying jobs from the ground up.

Maria was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2000, 2006 and again in 2012, pledging to honor the hard work, aspirations and faith of the people of Washington state. She is working to create affordable opportunities for consumers, businesses and families, to make our nation more secure today, to foster innovation for tomorrow, and to stand with parents as they educate and care for their children.

Maria gets results. She cut taxes for the middle-class by ensuring that Washington taxpayers can deduct state and local taxes from their federal returns. She fought attempts by the Bush Administration to raise local electricity rates. When bankrupt Enron officials tried to charge Washington ratepayers for millions of dollars in undelivered electricity, Maria led the effort that successfully stopped them. Maria has protected countless jobs in Washington's aerospace industry by cracking down on foreign companies' unfair trade practices and has worked to create still more well-paying jobs through effective investments in new technology and valuable job training. Maria successfully led the fight to stop drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and is leading efforts in the Senate to make America more energy independent. She has been a proud advocate for better educational opportunities for our children and less expensive, more accessible health care for our families. Maria continues to build new growth and strong partnerships, insisting on responsibility and making life more affordable for all of Washington's families.

Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) 3rd Term

As Washington state's senior Senator, Patty Murray has a proven track record spanning more than two decades of fighting for Washington state. 2012 - PM Official Photo - Colorfamilies in the United States Senate. Serving as a member of Senate Democratic leadership since 2007, Patty has established herself as a tireless and effective leader on education, transportation, budget issues, port security, healthcare, women, and veterans issues.

In addition to being the first female Senator from Washington state, Patty served as the first female Chair of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee during the 112th Congress and served as the first female Chair of the Senate Budget Committee during the 113th Congress. She is currently Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

Patty was born and raised in Bothell, Washington. Her dad ran a five and dime store on Main Street, where she and her siblings all worked growing up. As a twin and one of seven children, she quickly learned the value of a strong work ethic and a country that supports those who fall on hard times when her father fell ill when she was 15. Patty's father – a World War II veteran and a Purple Heart recipient – was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis and in a few short years, his illness got so bad he couldn't work anymore. Patty's mother, who had stayed home to raise their family, had to take care of him while also working to support their family. She found some work, but it didn't pay enough to support Patty and her

six brothers and sisters—and a husband with growing medical bills. Thankfully, they lived in a country where the government didn't just say “tough luck.”

Patty's family received some help from the VA for their father's medical care, but for several months her family had to rely on food stamps. However, thanks to a program established by the federal government, Patty's mother was able to go back to school in order to find a better paying job. And thanks to federal grants and student loans, Patty and her siblings were all able to attend college. While attending Washington State University, Patty took an internship in the psychiatric ward of the Seattle VA. It was there she personally witnessed the sacrifices of young Vietnam War veterans.

Never planning to enter politics, in the 1980's a state politician told her she “couldn't make a difference” when she went to Olympia as a parent to advocate for a local preschool program targeted by state budget cuts. Patty responded by organizing a grassroots coalition of 13,000 parents that fought successfully to save the program. Patty went on to serve on the Shoreline School Board, and in 1988 was elected to the Washington State Senate. In 1992, she ran for the United States Senate as a voice for Washington families who were not being heard. Dramatically outspent, Patty ran a grassroots campaign of family, friends, supporters, and public interest groups to beat a 10-year veteran of the U.S. House of Representatives. Patty was re-elected in 1998, 2004, and 2010.

Patty met her husband of over 40 years, Rob Murray, while attending Washington State University. They have two grown children, Sara and Randy. Patty enjoys fishing, exploring Washington state's great outdoors and spending time with her family.

Representative Adam Smith (D-WA-9) 11th Term

Adam Smith was born on June 15, 1965, in Washington, D.C. Adam was raised in SeaTac, Washington where his father, Ben, worked as a ramp serviceman at SeaTac Airport and was active in the local Machinists' Union. His mother, Leila, stayed at home, raising Adam and his two brothers. Adam attended Bow Lake Elementary, Chinook Middle School, and Tyee High School, graduating from Tyee in 1983.

After a year at Western Washington University, Adam transferred to Fordham University, where he worked his way through college loading trucks for United Parcel Service and graduated in 1987 with a degree in Political Science. Following his graduation, Adam attended the University Of Washington School Of Law, and earned his law degree in 1990. He later worked in both private and public practice, first as a lawyer at Cromwell, Mendoza and Belur in 1992, and then as a prosecutor for the City of Seattle from 1993-1995. As a prosecutor, Adam focused on drunk driving and domestic violence cases, and in 1996, went on to work as a judge pro tempore.

During his final year at UW, Adam decided to run for the State Senate in the 33rd Legislative District, where he grew up. He campaigned door to door, eventually doorbelling the entire district twice and defeating the 16 year incumbent in the 1990 election. When he took office in January 1991, Adam was 25 years old and the youngest State Senator in the country. While in the State Senate, Adam served on the Education and Law and Justice Committees, and served as Chair of the Law and Justice Committee from 1993-1997. Despite the strong Republican tide in 1994, Adam was re-elected to the State Senate in 1994 and his victory helped the Democrats retain control of the State Senate by one seat. During his time in the State Senate, Adam developed a reputation for having a thoughtful and common sense approach to governance.

Adam also understands the importance of passing comprehensive immigration reform. He has been a strong voice in Congress advocating for the House of Representatives to pass legislation that creates a pathway to citizenship. For too long our immigration system has been broken and it continues to rip families apart. Adam has also been leader in advocating for new legislation and policy changes to reform deportation and detention policies.

Now in his 11th term, Adam serves as Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Committee, where he is a strong advocate for our military personnel and their families. Adam is also committed to providing our military personnel with the best equipment available to carry out their current and future missions while ensuring that the Pentagon spends taxpayer dollars in the most efficient and effective manner. This includes carefully examining our current policies and working to eliminate fraud, waste and abuse.

Having served on the on the House Armed Services Committee since 1997, Adam formerly chaired the subcommittee on Air and Land Forces (ALF), which has jurisdiction over all Army and nearly all Air Force acquisition programs. Prior to serving as Chair of ALF, Adam chaired the Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities subcommittee, which oversees the United States Special Operations Forces and counter-terrorism policy, among other critical areas. Adam has also previously served on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Given his current and previous committee assignments and extensive travel, Adam has unique insights into today's foremost national security issues throughout the Middle East, including the war in Afghanistan, as well as Northern Africa and our larger efforts to stop the spread of violent extremist groups and their ideology around the globe. Understanding the need for a holistic approach to national security, Adam recognizes the importance of poverty reduction, access to education, sustainable global markets, diplomatic engagement, good governance and other measures to enable our pursuit of stable international partners. As such, he has been a long-time advocate of strengthening American diplomacy and development as well as defense.

Congressman Smith sees a clear need to reform our foreign assistance and improve these two pillars of national security that have been under-resourced and underutilized for too long. He has supported efforts to reform American foreign assistance, introduced legislation to address global poverty, and created the bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Effective Foreign Assistance (CCEFA) with Congressman Ander Crenshaw.

Representative Pramila Jayapal (D-WA-7) 1st Term

Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal represents Washington's 7th District, which encompasses most of Seattle and surrounding areas including Vashon Island, Lake Forest Park, Edmonds and parts of Burien, Shoreline and Normandy Park.

Congresswoman Jayapal is committed to ensuring that every resident of the district has economic opportunity; fairness and equity; and safe and healthy communities. She is proud of the district's role in leading the country on issues like the minimum wage, racial equity and innovation, and will work to support that work and lift it up as a model for the rest of the country.

Her focus is on ensuring income equality; access to education, from early learning to higher education, including debt-free college; expanding Social Security and Medicare; protecting our environment for our next generation; and ensuring immigrant, civil and human rights for all.

Jayapal will relentlessly challenge systems that corrupt our democracy, pushing for campaign finance reform, tax reform, voting rights and an end to institutionalized racism. In all of these endeavors, she'll continue to build the movement to expand our democracy and create the political space for policy change that benefits working families and responsible businesses.

The first Indian-American woman in the House of Representatives, Jayapal has spent the last twenty years working internationally and domestically as a leading national advocate for women's, immigrant, civil, and human rights.

She came to the United States by herself at the age of 16 to attend college at Georgetown University and later received her MBA from Northwestern University. She has worked in a number of industries in both the public and private sector.

Jayapal began working in international public health in 1991 at Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), a nonprofit based in Seattle. At PATH, she served for several years as the director of the Fund for Technology Transfer, a loan fund that had tremendous success in providing capital for socially responsible health projects, including primary health clinics, small businesses, and micro-credit programs across Africa, Latin America and Asia. Jayapal went on to become a Fellow of the Institute of Current World Affairs, living for two years in villages and small towns across her birth country of India, exploring development issues. She published her first book in 2000, *Pilgrimage to India: A Woman Revisits Her Homeland*.

Jayapal was elected to the Washington State Senate in 2014, becoming the first South Asian American ever elected to the State Legislature and the only woman of color in the Washington State Senate. As a Washington State Senator, serving in a Republican majority Senate, Jayapal fought for gender equity, expanded access to contraceptives for all women, including those on Medicaid, and introduced legislation to increase the statewide minimum wage and provide free community college. She stood up to members of her own party against giveaways to predatory payday lenders, and secured \$5.25 million into transportation pre-apprenticeship programs for women and people of color.

State: Wisconsin

Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI) 2nd Term

Both of Ron's parents were born and raised on farms. Their work ethic and small-town values were naturally passed along to their own children. As a result, Ron has worked hard all his life. As a boy, he mowed lawns, shoveled snow, delivered papers, and caddied for a few extra bucks. At the age of 15, he obtained his first tax-paying job as a dishwasher in a Walgreens grill. He rose through the ranks as a soda jerk, fry cook, and finally night manager before reaching the age of 16.

He gained early acceptance to the University of Minnesota, so he skipped his senior year of High School and worked full time while obtaining his degree in business and accounting. In 1977, after graduating with a BSB-Accounting degree, he married his wife Jane, and started working as an accountant at Jostens. He also continued his education by enrolling in an MBA night program.

In July of 1979, Ron and Jane moved to Oshkosh to start a business with Jane's brother. The company - PACUR- began producing plastic sheet for packaging and printing applications. From operating the equipment, to keeping the company books, and selling its products, Ron has been involved in every function of the business. It is this body of experience and private sector perspective that he now brings to the Senate.

Ron came to Washington because the federal government is bankrupting America. He thinks it is important for citizen legislators to ally with those who are seriously facing that reality. Ron's manufacturing background has taught him to attack the root cause of a problem, not mere symptoms. He believes huge deficits, slow economic activity, high unemployment and woefully inadequate job creation are severe symptoms of the problem – but not the root cause. The ever expanding size, scope and cost of government is.

Ron is Chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and also serves on the Budget, Foreign Relations, and Commerce, Science and Transportation committees. He resides in Oshkosh, Wisconsin with his wife Jane. They have three children and two grandchildren.

Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) 1st Term

Tammy was elected to the U.S. Senate on November 6, 2012, winning a hard fought race and making history as Wisconsin's first woman to serve in the U.S. Senate and the first openly gay member elected to the Senate. In the Senate, Senator Baldwin is committed to working across party lines to strengthen the essential pillars of economic security for the middle class - investments in education and workforce readiness, quality health care for all Americans, building a strong manufacturing economy, and ensuring retirement security for today's seniors and future generations.

Senator Baldwin has made addressing the student debt crisis and college affordability a top priority, leading many efforts and introducing legislation to meet problems with solutions. She is a lead cosponsor of the Bank on Students Emergency Loan Refinancing Act, which would allow struggling borrowers to refinance their student loans and take advantage of lower interest rates – the same way people refinance a mortgage, a car loan or business debt. And after holding roundtables with students and recent graduates struggling with the cost of a higher education, Senator Baldwin introduced the America's College Promise Act, the Working Student Act, and spearheaded the bipartisan Senate effort to save the federal Perkins loans aid program for low-income students. In 2016, Senator Baldwin introduced the In The Red Act, a major reform to address college affordability and put America on a path toward debt-free college. The legislation will allow student loan borrowers to refinance outstanding debt at lower rates, increase Pell Grants to keep pace with rising costs and make a new investment in community college.

As a co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus (CTE), Senator Baldwin has worked across the aisle to introduce reforms that prioritize CTE, STEM education, and offer stronger support for workforce readiness programs.

Senator Baldwin believes that more must be done to build an economy that works for everyone, not just the wealthy few. Tammy has worked to strengthen our manufacturing economy and is a leader in the Senate of the Manufacturing Jobs for America campaign to rally bipartisan support for legislation that would help manufacturers grow and create jobs.

Senator Baldwin has worked to ensure Washington does more to respect hard work, invest in economic growth, and give the middle class a fair shot at getting ahead. At a time when too many Wall Street millionaires pay a lower effective tax rate than some truck drivers, teachers and nurses, Senator Baldwin has introduced legislation to eliminate the carried interest tax loophole for hedge fund managers on Wall Street and make sure those at the top are paying their fair share.

In the Senate she has worked across the aisle, to ensure that our veterans, military families and wounded warriors receive the support and care that they have earned and deserve. The Jason Simcakoski Memorial Opioid Safety Act, bipartisan legislation authored by Senator Baldwin in close consultation with medical professionals, veteran's service organizations, and the Simcakoski family, focuses on providing safer and more effective pain management services to our nation's veterans.

Senator Baldwin serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP), and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Representative Mark Pocan (D-WI-2) 3rd Term

Congressman Mark Pocan was sworn in as the U.S. Representative for Wisconsin's second congressional district in 2013 following 14 years in the Wisconsin State Assembly. A small business owner, union member and lifelong advocate for progressive causes, Rep. Pocan is committed to using his unique experience from both the private and public sector to fight for policies that promote job growth and support the families of south central Wisconsin. In the 115th Congress, he serves on the House Appropriations Committee where he sits on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education, and the Subcommittee on Agriculture. He previously served on the Budget Committee and the Committee on Education and the Workforce. Rep. Pocan is also the First Vice Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus (CPC). The First Vice Chair's leadership responsibilities include new member recruitment to expand the Caucus and being a strong voice for progressive values in Congress.

Representative Jim Sensenbrenner (D-WI-5) 20th Term

F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (Jim) represents the Fifth Congressional District of Wisconsin, which includes parts of Milwaukee, Dodge, and Waukesha counties, and all of Washington and Jefferson counties. Jim was born in Chicago and later moved to Wisconsin with his family. He graduated from the Milwaukee County Day School and did his undergraduate studies at Stanford University, where he majored in political science. He later earned his law degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

After serving ten years in the Wisconsin State Legislature, Jim ran for the United States House of Representatives and was elected in November, 1978.

Jim currently serves on the House Committees on the Judiciary and Foreign Affairs. He formerly served as House Judiciary Chairman, and is the current chairman of the Immigration and Border Security Subcommittee, as well as a former chairman and current member of the Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Oversight Subcommittee. Jim is also a member of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittees of Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats and Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations. He was previously the Chairman of the House Science Committee, where he solidified his reputation as an independent leader on science-related issues and oversight.

Throughout his public life, Jim has been at the forefront of efforts to preserve the sanctity of life, eliminate wasteful government funding spending, and protect the interests of American taxpayers. He has regularly been cited by the National Taxpayers Union as one of the most fiscally responsible House Members and is well known for completing his financial disclosure forms down to the penny.

Recently, Jim has been a leader in the bipartisan, bicameral push to reform America's broken criminal justice system. From his sponsorships of the Due Process Act and the Second Chance Reauthorization Act, Jim's efforts have focused on changing the way evidence is collected and analyzed, defending innocent Americans against a bloated criminal code, and protecting citizens' property rights.

Shortly after the attacks of September 11, Jim introduced the PATRIOT Act in the House as a method to help keep America safe by enhancing the tools our law enforcement officials could use to thwart another terrorist attack. President George W. Bush signed the PATRIOT Act into law in October, 2001. Following revelations of the National Security Agency's bulk collection of data and the misinterpretation of Section 215 of the PATRIOT Act, Jim authored the USA FREEDOM Act – bipartisan, bicameral, and comprehensive legislation to rein in abuse, put an end to bulk collection, increase the transparency of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, and ensure the proper balance between national security and privacy is struck. The USA FREEDOM Act was signed into law May, 2015.

He also introduced the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act. This Act, which is now law, expanded coverage of the national sex offender registry, mandates the collection of DCA from sex offenders, and forces states to comply with strict requirements to keep the information of sex offenders current.

Throughout his tenure in Congress, Jim has fought to protect the gains made during the Civil Rights Movement. As Judiciary Committee chairman, he introduced the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act (VRA), the Fannie Lou Hamer, Rose Parks, and Coretta Scott King Voting Rights Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2006. After approximately 20 hearings, the measure passed with overwhelming bipartisan support. However, the Supreme Court struck down a key provision of this law. After, Jim introduced the Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2014, a bipartisan, bicameral modernization of the original 1965 law that ensures Americans' most sacred right is protected.

In 1977, Jim married Cheryl Warren of Green Bay, Wisconsin – a staunch advocate for the rights of the disabled. Together, they have two adult children, Frank and Bob, and one grandson, Kevin. In his free time, Jim enjoys watching the Green Bay Packers and reading.