



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

DATE: January 26, 2023
TO: Secretary Xavier Becerra
THROUGH: Angela Ramirez, Deputy Chief of Staff
FROM: Melanie Anne Egorin, Assistant Secretary for Legislation
SUBJECT: New Members of the 118th Congress Meeting

Details

What: New Members of the 118th Congress Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 1, 2023

Time: 11:00am--12:00pm ET

Location: Capitol Visitor Center: Room 217

External Event: Yes

Primary HHS POC(s): Melanie Anne Egorin, Assistant Secretary for Legislation, ASL

Press: No

Topic:

YOU will be meeting with the freshman class of the 118th Congress.

Objective:

To meet freshman members of the 118th Congress and show interest in working together on HHS priorities.

Secretary's Role:

Welcome members to Washington, show interest in working together on HHS issues, and share your experience as a former Member of Congress.

Secretary's Message:

Rep. Robert Garcia (D-CA-42), the President of the 118th Congress Freshman Class, asked YOU to share updates on COVID-19, pandemic preparedness, ORR, plans/opportunities for other HHS priorities, and general insight as a former Member of Congress.

List of Participants:

Other HHS Divisions:

- Melanie Anne Egorin, Assistant Secretary for Legislation, ASL
- Noah Emanuel, Special Assistant, ASL

WH/USG Participants:

- Rep. Kevin Mullin (D-CA-15)
- Rep. Sydney Kamlager (D-CA-37)
- Rep. Robert Garcia (D-CA-42)
 - President of the 118th Congress Freshman Class
- Rep. Brittany Pettersen (D-CO-7)
- Rep. Yadira Caraveo (D-CO-8)
- Rep. Maxwell Frost (D-FL-10)
- Rep. Jared Moskowitz (D-FL-23)
- Rep. Jill Tokuda (D-HI-2)
- Rep. Jonathan Jackson (D-IL-1)
- Rep. Delia Ramirez (D-IL-3)
- Rep. Nikki Budzinski (D-IL-13)
- Rep. Eric Sorensen (D-IL-17)
- Rep. Morgan McGarvey (D-KY-3)
- Rep. Glenn Ivey (D-MD-4)
- Rep. Hiliary Scholten (D-MI-3)
- Rep. Shri Thanedar (D-MI-13)
- Rep. Robert Menendez Jr. (D-NJ-8)
- Rep. Gabe Vasquez (D-NM-2)
- Rep. Daniel Goldman (D-NY-10)
- Rep. Don Davis (D-NC-1)
- Rep. Valerie Foushee (D-NC-4)
- Rep. Wiley Nickel (D-NC-13)
- Rep. Jeff Jackson (D-NC-14)
- Rep. Greg Landsman (D-OH-1)
- Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-OH-13)
- Rep. Val Hoyle (D-OR-4)
- Rep. Andrea Salinas (D-OR-6)
- Rep. Summer Lee (D-PA-12)
- Rep. Chris Deluzio (D-PA-17)
- Rep. Seth Magaziner (D-RI-2)
- Rep. Jasmine Crockett (D-TX-30)
- Rep. Greg Caser (D-TX-35)

- Rep. Becca Balint (D-Vermont, At-Large)
- Rep. Marie Glusenkamp Perez (D-WA-3)

Background:

The incoming freshman class includes 82 members – 75 in the House and seven in the Senate. They include 45 Republicans and 37 Democrats. Due to redistricting after the 2020 census, 18 representatives were elected from newly established Congressional districts. The Republican Party gained five seats in the U.S. House for these reasons. The Democratic Party gained one seat in the U.S. Senate due to retirements.

The 118th Congress is shaping up to be the most diverse ever:

- A record 149 women will serve, making up almost 28% of the legislative body. Among them are 22 new Republican women in the House and one in the Senate. The other 15 women are newly elected House Democrats.
- Thirteen House freshmen are women of color – seven Latina, five Black and one Asian American – strengthening diversity in the lower chamber.
 - o Oregon, Colorado, and Illinois elected its first Latinas to Congress.
 - o Pennsylvania elected its first Black woman.
 - o Vermont is sending its first woman and first openly LGBTQ person to Washington.
 - o Arizona elected its first Latino Republican.
 - o California elected its first openly LGBTQ immigrant.
 - o Michigan elected its first Indian American.
 - o Only 5% of members of Congress are under the age of 40. Nearly 21% of the freshman are younger than 40.

103rd Congress: YOUR first year as a Member of Congress:

- Democrats controlled Congress and the White House for the first time in 12 years after the 1992 elections.
- The 103rd Congress (1993–1995) passed two major health and medical bills:
 - o Family and Medical Leave Act: established certain requirements for unpaid family and medical leave for permanent employees.
 - o Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act: amended the federal criminal code to protect a person from obtaining or providing reproductive health services.

Demographics of Members of the 103rd Congress: House of Representatives (Members still serving in the House and *Senate*):

- 110 freshmen (25%)
 - o Sanford Bishop (D-GA-02)
 - o *Sherrod Brown (D-OH-13)*
 - o *Maria Cantwell (D-WA-01)*
 - o James Clyburn (D-SC-06)
 - o Anna Georges Eshoo (D-CA-16)
 - o *Bob Menendez (D-NJ-13)*
 - o Robert (Bobby) Scott (D-VA- 03)
 - o Bennie Thompson (D-MS-02)

- Nydia Velaquez (D-NY-07)
- Democrats: 74
- Republicans: 36
- 39 African Americans
- 47 Women
- 17 Hispanic American
- Five Asian Pacific Americans

Attachments:

1. Talking Points
2. Biographies for Non-HHS/USG Meeting Participants