

JANUARY 26, 2011.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
*Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington,
DC 20515.*

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: This letter is to notify you that as of close of business today I am resigning as the Ranking Member of the Committee on Ethics.

Sincerely,

ZOE LOFGREN,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Small Business:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
Washington, DC, January 26, 2011.

Speaker of the House JOHN BOEHNER,
*U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: This letter is to advise you that, effective today, I am taking a leave of absence from the Committee on Small Business until my tenure on the Committee on the Budget is completed. It is my understanding from Clause C of Rule 19 of the Democratic Caucus rules (referenced below) that I will continue to accrue seniority during the leave of absence, at the same rate as if I had continued to serve on the Committee on Small Business.

Rule 19, Clause C: "Any Member of the Committee on the Budget shall be entitled to take a leave of absence from service on any committee or subcommittee during the period he or she serves on the Budget Committee and seniority rights of such Member on such committee and on each subcommittee to which such Member was assigned at the time shall be fully protected as if such Member had continued to so serve during the period of the leave of absence."

Accompanying this letter is a letter from the Democratic Leader verifying that my seniority on the Committee on Small Business will continue to accrue during my absence.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

HEATH SHULER,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 62

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON ETHICS.—Ms. Linda T. Sánchez of California, Ms. Hirono, Mr. Yarmuth, Ms. Edwards, and Mr. Pierluisi.

(2) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS.—Mr. Peters, Mr. Owens, and Mr. Keating.

(3) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Mr. Donnelly of Indiana, Mr. Walz of Minnesota, Mr. Barrow, and Mr. Carnahan.

Mr. BECERRA (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 11 of rule X, clause 11 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Maryland
Mr. THOMPSON, California
Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Illinois
Mr. LANGEVIN, Rhode Island
Mr. SCHIFF, California
Mr. BOREN, Oklahoma
Mr. GUTIERREZ, Illinois
Mr. CHANDLER, Kentucky

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution:

Mr. JOHNSON, Texas
Mr. LATOURETTE, Ohio

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO UNITED STATES GROUP OF THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly:

Mr. TURNER, Ohio, Chairman
Mr. SHIMKUS, Illinois
Mr. SHUSTER, Pennsylvania
Mr. MILLER, Florida
Mrs. EMERSON, Missouri
Ms. GRANGER, Texas
Mr. BILIRAKIS, Florida

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO HOUSE DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 4(a) of House Resolution 5, 112th Congress, and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of

the following Members of the House to the House Democracy Partnership:

Mr. DREIER, California, Chairman
Mr. FORTENBERRY, Nebraska
Mrs. BIGGERT, Illinois
Mr. CONAWAY, Texas
Mr. BUCHANAN, Florida
Mr. BOUSTANY, Louisiana
Mr. WILSON, South Carolina
Mr. ROSKAM, Illinois
Mr. CRENSHAW, Florida
Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Florida

APPOINTMENT AS DIRECTOR OF CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 201(a)(2) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 601), and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Chair announces that the Speaker and President pro tempore of the Senate hereby jointly appoint Dr. Douglas W. Elmendorf as Director of the Congressional Budget Office for the term expiring January 3, 2015.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this week, January 23 to 29, is National School Choice Week. Earlier this week in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, students, parents, and legislators from both parties and varying walks of life, from across the commonwealth, gather to rally for school choice in the State capitol.

Every day, tens of thousands of children attend schools where quality education is not being offered. Meanwhile, those that defend the status quo claim that, if we just do more of the same, at some point schools will improve. Throughout the laboratories of democracy in this great Nation, concerned parents are moving forward with a different vision which is better for our children.

So as we continue in this new 112th Congress, let's make a commitment for America's parents that they will not be forced to send their children to low-quality schools without other choices. Let's provide parents with options, whether they are public, private, charter, home, or cyber schools, for the education that is the best fit for their children.

Children don't have the luxury of waiting for change. For today's students, reform only works if it takes place while they are still in school.

I commend those back home that are standing up for our children. And I will do in my part here in Washington to support their efforts, not just this week, but always, in order to ensure that each child has the opportunity to live up to his or her individual learning potential.