

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE DAN BISHOP OF NORTH CAROLINA AND THE HONORABLE GREG MURPHY OF NORTH CAROLINA TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, as dean of the North Carolina delegation, it is my privilege to introduce our two newest colleagues, Representatives GREG MURPHY and DAN BISHOP.

Representative MURPHY was born in Raleigh, our capital city, before attending Davidson College and UNC Medical School. He is a urologist by training, and he has served in the North Carolina House of Representatives since 2015, focusing on healthcare policy.

Representative BISHOP was born in Charlotte and also graduated from the University of North Carolina as an undergraduate and from the law school. He has an extensive record of public service in North Carolina, initially elected as a commissioner in Mecklenburg County in 2005 before serving in both the North Carolina House and Senate.

Madam Speaker, I want to welcome both of these new Members to the people's House. They are experienced legislators who have traveled long and sometimes unexpected paths to get here, and they both face special challenges. The Ninth District has been without a House Member for 257 days following evidence of election fraud in the 2018 election. The Third District was represented by one of the most independent-minded and well-liked Members of this institution, our friend, the late Walter Jones, Jr.

Madam Speaker, our new Members had hard-fought campaigns, and the people of North Carolina have spoken. On behalf of our entire delegation and this entire body, I want to welcome them to the House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), who is the senior Republican in our delegation.

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Congressman PRICE for his very kind comments and associate myself with them.

I want to welcome our new Members, and I want to thank all of the Members here in advance for helping them feel welcomed to this wonderful body and for helping them get adjusted in a hurry to their work here.

Former Speaker Boehner always said that the North Carolina delegation punched above its weight. I want to say that, with the addition of these two wonderful Members, we are going to continue that tradition of punching above our weight and bring to the people's House a wealth of experience and a commitment to helping all of the people of the United States of America.

So I want to welcome, again, Representative BISHOP and Representative MURPHY to the people's House and say: God bless you, and may God continue to bless all of us.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am grateful for Representative PRICE, Representative FOXX, members of the North Carolina delegation, and for all Members.

I want to say, just briefly, there is a cute, short blonde in that gallery up there. Her name is Jo Bishop, and I love her more than anything in the world. Right next to her is our only son, Jack, who needs to get back to North Carolina State University and do well in that test tomorrow.

I thank my family members—my sisters, Mary Ann and Cecelia—and the large group of our supporters for their support. I am grateful for the voters of the Ninth District and for all the Members.

Madam Speaker, I know that you and all the Members continue to feel this every day when you walk on this floor, the majesty of this place, what it represents and the history made here. It is an overwhelming experience.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to getting to know all the Members and working together with you to make commonsense solutions to make the lives of Americans better.

God bless you all.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY).

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank all the Members of the North Carolina delegation for making me feel so much at home. I thank all the Members for the warm welcome.

Just a moment of thanks:

I would like to thank my God for giving me the opportunity of life and the ability to experience all the great wonders that He has given us.

I thank this country for the freedom it has given me as an individual and how much I can enjoy that freedom.

I thank most of all, here in the room, my wonderful wife, Wendy, who has been with me side by side for all these elections. She followed me through medical school, through surgical residency, and through the maze of raising three wonderful children. I love her with all my heart.

I thank her parents, Gary and Carol Simes, who have supported me all the way; my cousins, Frank Wood and Betsy Wood; and all the clan who have come from eastern North Carolina and even from Davidson College to support me.

I thank the people of eastern North Carolina for bringing me here, and I thank, especially, one particular member of my campaign team, Lynda Blount, who could not be here tonight. She is with us in heart and spirit, and we love her very, very much.

I also want to thank Congressman Walter Jones. Walter was a friend of mine, and he was a mentor. I know he was beloved by this institution, and I would not be here today without him.

So, Madam Speaker, I look forward to working with each and every one of you and getting to know each and every one of you so that we can continue to make this the greatest nation on Earth.

May God bless you all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentlemen from North Carolina, the whole number of the House is 435.

MOTION TO CLOSE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON S. 1790, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, I move that meetings of the conference between the House and the Senate on the bill (S. 1790) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, may be closed to the public at such times as classified national security information may be discussed, provided that any sitting Member of Congress shall be entitled to attend any meeting of the conference.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule XXII, the motion is not debatable, and the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 4, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 532]

YEAS—407

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|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Adams | Bishop (UT) | Carter (GA) |
| Aderholt | Blunt Rochester | Carter (TX) |
| Aguilar | Bonamici | Cartwright |
| Allen | Bost | Case |
| Allred | Boyle, Brendan | Casten (IL) |
| Amodei | F. | Castor (FL) |
| Armstrong | Brady | Castro (TX) |
| Arrington | Brindisi | Chabot |
| Axne | Brooks (AL) | Cheney |
| Babin | Brooks (IN) | Chu, Judy |
| Bacon | Brown (MD) | Cicilline |
| Baird | Brownley (CA) | Cisneros |
| Balderson | Buchanan | Clark (MA) |
| Banks | Buck | Clarke (NY) |
| Barr | Bucshon | Cleaver |
| Barragán | Budd | Cline |
| Bass | Burchett | Cloud |
| Beatty | Burgess | Cohen |
| Bera | Bustos | Cole |
| Bergman | Butterfield | Collins (GA) |
| Beyer | Byrne | Collins (NY) |
| Biggs | Calvert | Comer |
| Bilirakis | Carbajal | Conaway |
| Bishop (GA) | Cárdenas | Connolly |
| Bishop (NC) | Carson (IN) | Cook |