

TODAY'S SPEAKERS

Representative Becca Balint *VT-AL*



Becca Balint is a mom, teacher, and progressive leader, and the first woman and openly LGBTQ person to represent Vermont in Congress. The daughter of a working-class mother and immigrant father, she spent fourteen years teaching middle school before entering public service, where she rose to President Pro Tempore of the Vermont State Senate. As Majority Leader in the legislature, she led passage of Vermont's first gun safety laws and secured the largest housing investment the state had seen in decades. In Congress, she serves on the House Judiciary and Budget Committees, co-chairs the Congressional Equality Caucus, and is a proud member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi *CA-11*



Nancy Pelosi has represented San Francisco in Congress since 1987, building one of the most consequential legislative careers in American history. She made history in 2007 as the first woman ever elected Speaker of the House, a barrier-breaking achievement she has called the proudest moment of her career, and she returned to the speakership from 2019 to 2023. As Speaker, Pelosi was the driving force behind some of the most significant legislation of the modern era, including the Affordable Care Act, which extended health coverage to millions of Americans, and the American Rescue Plan, which delivered critical relief to families and communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. She also served as House Minority Leader from 2003 to 2007 and again from 2011 to 2019, where she held the Democratic caucus together through some of its most challenging moments. In 2024, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, in recognition of her lifetime of public service.

Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries *NY-08*



Hakeem Jeffries represents New York's 8th Congressional District, encompassing large parts of Brooklyn and Queens, and since November 2022 has served as House Democratic Leader after being unanimously elected by his colleagues, making him the highest-ranking Democrat in the House of Representatives and the first Black lawmaker ever to lead a party in Congress. Before ascending to the top leadership post, Jeffries built an impressive record as Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, Whip of the Congressional Black Caucus, and co-chair of the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee, where he was a principal architect of the For the People agenda that powered House Democrats back into the majority for the first time in nearly a decade in the 2018 midterms. A Brooklyn native and former litigation attorney, Jeffries has been a relentless advocate for working families, civil rights, and accountability, bringing both sharp political instincts and a deep commitment to his constituents to everything he does.

Democratic Whip Katherine Clark *MA-05*



Katherine Clark has represented Massachusetts' 5th Congressional District since 2013, serving the coastal communities of Revere and Winthrop, the northern Boston suburbs, and the thriving towns of MetroWest. In 2022, her colleagues elected her House Democratic Whip, making her the second highest-ranking Democrat in the chamber and the highest-ranking woman in congressional leadership. In that role, Clark has been a fierce and disciplined voice for Democratic priorities, helping unify the caucus in the face of a Republican majority. Throughout her career as a legislator and prosecutor, she has been a leading champion for working families, fighting to end wage discrimination, protect access to abortion, address the gun violence epidemic, expand affordable and quality child care, and guarantee paid family and medical leave for every American worker.

Hanna Soltys *Library of Congress*



Hanna Soltys is a Congressional Relations Specialist at the Library of Congress, where she connects members of Congress with the Library's vast resources, collections, and services. She began her tenure through the inaugural Librarians-in-Residence Program in 2018, working in the Prints & Photographs Division to support public outreach and reference services. Hanna holds a Master's in Library and Information Science with a concentration in Archives Management from Simmons University. Her background in archives and public service informs her current work promoting the Library's offerings to policymakers and coordinating legislative engagement.

Representative Maxwell Frost *FL-10*



Elected in 2022, Maxwell Frost is the first Gen Z member of Congress, representing Florida's 10th District. Prior to his congressional service, he led national organizing efforts for March for Our Lives and advocated for civil liberties at the ACLU. Currently, he co-chairs the House Democratic Policy and Communications Committee (DPCC) and serves on the Committees on Oversight and Accountability and Science, Space, and Technology. Frost champions gun violence prevention, affordable housing, and climate justice.

Senator Elizabeth Warren *D-MA*



Elizabeth Warren is the senior United States Senator from Massachusetts and one of the most influential voices in American politics. A former Harvard Law professor and nationally recognized expert on bankruptcy and consumer finance, Warren built her reputation long before entering elected office as a relentless advocate for working families. Following the 2008 financial crisis, Congress appointed her to chair the Congressional Oversight Panel for TARP, where she became one of the loudest and most credible critics of Wall Street excess and a driving force behind the creation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, an agency she conceived and fought to establish. First elected to the Senate in 2012, Warren has spent her tenure fighting to hold corporations and the ultra-wealthy accountable, expand access to affordable housing and child care, and strengthen the economic security of working and middle-class families. She is widely regarded as one of the sharpest legislative minds in the chamber and a defining voice in the fight for economic justice in the United States.

Senator Ed Markey *D-MA*



Ed Markey is a United States Senator from Massachusetts and one of the most consequential progressive legislators of his generation. Before his election to the Senate in 2013, he served 37 years in the House of Representatives, building one of the most prolific legislative records in Congress across energy, environment, telecommunications, and consumer protection policy. A lifelong champion for working families and the planet, Senator Markey is perhaps best known nationally as the lead Senate sponsor of the Green New Deal, a landmark framework for confronting the climate crisis. Throughout his career he has been a tireless advocate for nuclear non-proliferation, a free and safe internet, investor protection, and safeguarding the privacy of every American. Closer to home, following the devastating Merrimack Valley gas explosions, he worked with Congresswoman Trahan to pass bicameral pipeline safety legislation, delivering real accountability and protection for Massachusetts families.

Democratic Caucus Chair Pete Aguilar *CA-33*



Pete Aguilar represents California's 33rd Congressional District and serves as Chair of the House Democratic Caucus, making him the third-highest-ranking Democrat in the House of Representatives and one of the most powerful Latino leaders in the history of Congress. A former Mayor of Redlands, California, Aguilar brings both executive experience and a deep connection to his constituents to his work in Washington. He serves on the House Appropriations Committee, the powerful panel responsible for funding all federal government programs and operations, where he has fought to direct resources toward working families, clean energy, and community health. A proud member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the New Democrat Coalition, Chairman Aguilar has been a consistent champion for expanding access to affordable health care, protecting the environment, and driving economic growth for the diverse communities he represents. As Caucus Chair, he has emerged as a sharp and steady messenger for House Democrats and a critical voice in shaping the party's strategy and vision at one of the most consequential moments in our nation's history.