

## ALABAMA (2)

**Martha Roby, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Bobby Bright, D**Residence:** Montgomery**Born:** July 26, 1976; Montgomery, Ala.**Religion:** Presbyterian**Family:** Husband, Riley Roby; two children**Education:** New York U., B.M. 1998 (music, business and technology); Samford U., J.D. 2001**Career:** Lawyer**Political highlights:** Montgomery City Council, 2004-present

**L**ike others who sought congressional seats this year, Roby is most concerned about improving the job situation in her district. But she also wants to weed out “waste and inefficiency” in Washington.



Roby plans to stay as close as possible to the ideological sweet spot of Republican politics in a solidly GOP district that gave Sen. John McCain 63 percent of the vote during his presidential bid in 2008.

Roby wants to help rein in federal domestic spending and “get money back to the private sector.” But she also wants to maintain robust military spending to support “the tip of the spear,” and will work to bolster agriculture in her district, home to many family farms. To that end, she hopes for an assignment to the Agriculture Committee, in addition to the Armed Services Committee.

Roby plans to be a champion for two large military installations in her district: Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, headquarters of the Air University and the 42nd Air Base Wing, and Fort Rucker, the Army’s primary air training base, which includes two aviation brigades. She hopes to protect the bases through what likely will be a difficult financial period for the Defense Department, as well as for the rest of government spending.

“My goal is to maintain and expand their missions,” Roby said of the bases. “We need to prioritize defense spending and get money back into the private sector so they can create jobs and stimulate the economy.”

## ALABAMA (5)

**Mo Brooks, R****Election:** Defeated Steve Raby, D, after defeating Rep. Parker Griffith in the primary**Residence:** Huntsville**Born:** April 29, 1954; Charleston, S.C.**Religion:** Christian**Family:** Wife, Martha Brooks; four children**Education:** Duke U., B.A. 1975 (economics & political science); U. of Alabama, J.D. 1978**Career:** Special assistant state attorney general; lawyer; county prosecutor**Political highlights:** Ala. House, 1983-91; Madison Co. district attorney, 1991-93; Madison Co. Commission, 1996-present; sought Republican nomination for lieutenant governor, 2006

**B**rooks’ top priority is a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget. “The most significant national security threat America faces are these unsustainable budget deficits,” he says.



He would balance the budget by passing economic policies — such as lower taxes on businesses and fewer regulations — that he contends would generate growth.

He would also push to cut federal spending by reducing appropriations for what he calls “wealth transfer” programs, potentially including Aid to Families with Dependent Children and subsidized public housing. But he promises not to trim spending on Social Security and programs to aid the elderly, the handicapped, and abandoned or orphaned children. While he has not explicitly exempted the Defense Department from his brand of cutbacks, he has made clear that overall Pentagon spending should not come down.

His priorities also include repealing the 2010 health care overhaul law and “getting illegal aliens out of America.”

As a freshman, Brooks will have only a limited ability to bring about change. He wants a seat on the Appropriations Committee but knows that will take “magic.”

He would also like to serve on committees where he can help his district: Armed Services (to support Army and Missile Defense Agency programs), Science and Technology (biotech companies and NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center), or Transportation and Infrastructure (highways and Tennessee Valley Authority facilities in his state).

## ALABAMA (7)

**Terri A. Sewell, D****Pronounced:** SUE-ell**Election:** Defeated Don Chamberlain, R, to succeed Artur Davis, D, who ran for governor**Residence:** Birmingham**Born:** Jan. 1, 1965; Huntsville, Ala.**Religion:** Christian**Family:** Single**Education:** Princeton U., A.B. 1986 (Woodrow Wilson School); Oxford U., M.A. 1988 (politics; Marshall Scholar); Harvard, J.D. 1992**Career:** Lawyer**Political highlights:** No previous office

**S**ewell becomes the first African-American woman from Alabama to serve in Congress and the first Alabama woman of any race to be elected, rather than appointed, to serve a full congressional term.



Her top priority is creating jobs in what she claims has been a particularly hard-hit portion of the country.

“It really has to be the No. 1 issue: trying to figure out ways to create jobs and to provide opportunities for people to get skilled to get better jobs,” she says.

To accomplish that goal, Sewell wants to secure funding for infrastructure projects — including roads, bridges, sewers and broadband Internet hardware. Such initiatives create jobs directly and also make the district more attractive to businesses, she says.

Training and development, she says, will also make workers in her district more attractive to companies such as Mercedes-Benz, which operates a plant in Vance. Sewell also advocates tax breaks for small businesses and plans to help promote tourism at civil rights landmarks in places such as Selma.

Health care, education and agriculture round out her list of top interests.

Like most freshmen, she would like a seat on the Appropriations Committee but realizes that such an assignment is unlikely. Sewell also has her eye on the Ways and Means seat held by her predecessor, Democrat Artur Davis, who unsuccessfully ran for governor, and the Transportation and Infrastructure or Financial Services committees.

## ARIZONA (1)

**Paul Gosar, R****Pronounced:** go-SAR**Election:** Defeated Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick, D**Residence:** Flagstaff**Born:** Nov. 27, 1958; Rock Springs, Wyo.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Maude Gosar; three children**Education:** Creighton U., B.S. 1981 (biology), D.D.S. 1985**Career:** Dentist**Political highlights:** No previous office

Gosar's 25 years as a dentist give him a perspective on the health care system and small businesses that makes him determined to end the Democrats' "job-killing agenda" and bureaucratic ways, he says. Democrats have "built levels upon levels of bureaucracy" that are choking off job creation and that must be stripped away, he says. A case in point: environmental regulation. Businesses not only must deal with the EPA, but also with state and local regulators, he explains.



He believes the health care law will cut off access to doctors and dentists by imposing new paperwork burdens, lowering reimbursement and allowing mid-level practitioners such as dental aides to stand in for dentists and doctors on certain procedures. The way to lower health costs is through market forces, not government, he explains.

Gosar has had the backing of Sarah Palin and the tea party, but he emphasizes his independence by calling himself a "Paul Gosar Republican."

He would like to cut federal spending and the federal workforce to help make the government "lean and mean." But he says government investment has a role to play in strengthening business and economic activity by building roads, bridges and other infrastructure and by spending on agriculture. "I also know that you have to invest in things," he says. "You just can't always cut, cut, cut." Gosar also supports assistance for American Indians.

His background and policy concerns make the Energy and Commerce Committee a natural assignment, Gosar says.

## ARIZONA (3)

**Ben Quayle, R****Election:** Defeated Jon Hulburt, D, to succeed John Shadegg, R, who retired**Residence:** Phoenix**Born:** Nov. 5, 1976; Fort Wayne, Ind.**Religion:** Christian**Family:** Wife, Tiffany Quayle**Education:** Duke U., B.A. 1998 (history); Vanderbilt U., J.D. 2002**Career:** Business investment company owner; lawyer**Political highlights:** No previous office

Quayle hadn't even been elected to the House yet when the speculation began about whether the 33-year-old son of former Vice President Dan Quayle might follow his father's footsteps to the Senate and beyond.



Quayle's father was elected to the House from Indiana at age 29 and moved to the Senate four years later before George H. W. Bush tapped him to be his vice presidential nominee at age 41. But Quayle says his ambition will not extend beyond the boundaries of his district.

"I'll solely be focused on the job at hand," he says.

The family name — and the Quayles' party fundraising connections — helped him win a 10-way primary to replace Republican John Shadegg in this heavily GOP district. Quayle made headlines with some caustic campaign rhetoric, labeling Barack Obama "the worst president in history" and running an ad promising to "knock the hell out of" Washington.

His general-election contest proved closer than expected, in part because his opponent questioned his character, assailing Quayle's prior postings on a racy website.

His agenda is more or less typical for winning GOP candidates this year. He says his top three priorities will be border security, creating new jobs and curbing "out-of-control government spending."

Quayle says that prior to Election Day he was too superstitious to venture a guess about the sorts of committees he might like to serve on, a task he says will now be "the first order of business."

## ARIZONA (5)

**David Schweikert, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Harry E. Mitchell, D**Residence:** Fountain Hills**Born:** March 3, 1962; Los Angeles, Calif.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Joyce Schweikert**Education:** Scottsdale Community College, A.A. 1985; Arizona State U., B.S. 1987, M.B.A. 2005**Career:** Realtor; financial consultant**Political highlights:** Sought Republican nomination for Ariz. House, 1988; Ariz. House, 1991-95; sought Republican nomination for U.S. House, 1994; Ariz. State Board of Equalization chairman, 1995-2003; Maricopa Co. treasurer, 2004-06; Republican nominee for U.S. House, 2008

Schweikert plans to pack a calculator when he heads to Washington and use it to hack away at the federal budget. "People around here seem to make decisions by folklore instead of facts. What I'd love to do is budgeting based on what the numbers really are," he says.



Schweikert is vague on what programs he would cut, saying his experience as treasurer of Arizona's Maricopa County taught him that he should study the figures before making any decisions.

He is no fan of how Democrats have run the government for the last two years. He opposes the health care overhaul for being "devastating fiscally," financial regulation for missing an opportunity to increase transparency in the sector and the stimulus packages for being ineffective.

Schweikert proposes a flat-tax structure as a way to revive the economy. "I believe the fastest way to create economic growth is to get the government out of the so-called job-creation business. It doesn't do it and it doesn't do it well," he says. The government spent billions of dollars but only created hundreds of jobs in his district, he says.

He believes a carbon tax as part of the president's cap-and-trade proposal on climate change could be "devastating to economic growth" and the nation's competitiveness abroad.

Immigration also concerns the Arizona lawmaker, who defended his state's recently enacted enforcement law. "We're carrying as a state something that was supposed to be controlled and regulated by the federal government," he says.

## ARKANSAS (1)

**Rick Crawford, R**

**Election:** Defeated Chad Causey, D, to succeed Marion Berry, D, who retired

**Residence:** Jonesboro

**Born:** Jan. 22, 1966; Homestead Air Force Base, Fla.

**Religion:** Southern Baptist

**Family:** Wife, Stacy Crawford; two children

**Education:** Arkansas State U., B.S. 1996 (agriculture business economics)

**Military:** Army 1985-89

**Career:** Agricultural news service owner; radio and television broadcaster; rodeo announcer; automotive decal and sign shop employee

**Political highlights:** No previous office

Crawford is a newcomer to elective politics who rode the wave of voter anger to capture an open seat that had been in Democratic control for more than a century.



The 1st District's economy is heavily focused on agriculture, and Crawford has been personally invested in the field. He has spent most of his working life in agriculture-related news services, including stints as an agriculture reporter for TV and radio stations. He also owns AgWatch, a farm news radio and TV network that is broadcasted in multiple Southern states.

But he is no stranger to politics. In 2006, former Republican Rep. Asa Hutchinson of Arkansas enlisted Crawford as an adviser to his gubernatorial campaign with a focus on agriculture issues.

Given his expertise and his district's economic focus, Crawford would like to win a seat on the Agriculture Committee. John A. Boehner of Ohio, who is expected to become Speaker, has promised to support his efforts to reach that goal.

"Agriculture is the No. 1 industry hands-down in this district. The constituents here are going to expect that that be a front-and-center issue," Crawford says.

Crawford, an Army veteran whose father was in the Air Force, says he would also welcome a spot on the Foreign Affairs or Armed Services committees.

A self-described deficit hawk, Crawford says he will focus on reducing spending and deficits. Like other Republicans who campaigned on the issue, he also wants to repeal and replace the 2010 health care overhaul.

## ARKANSAS (2)

**Tim Griffin, R**

**Election:** Defeated Joyce Elliott, D, to succeed Vic Snyder, D, who retired

**Residence:** Little Rock

**Born:** Aug. 21, 1968; Charlotte, N.C.

**Religion:** Baptist

**Family:** Wife, Elizabeth Griffin; two children

**Education:** Hendrix College, B.A. 1990 (economics and business); Oxford U., attended 1991 (history); Tulane U., J.D. 1994

**Military:** Army Reserve 1996-present

**Career:** Lawyer; White House aide; federal prosecutor; party official; congressional aide; associate investigative counsel

**Political highlights:** Asst. U.S. attorney, 2006-07

Griffin vows to boost job creation through what he considers pro-growth tax policies, such as cutting marginal tax rates on workers and employers as well as extending the Bush tax cuts. He also opposes the estate tax.



But he also opposes tax "rebates," which he says are "indistinguishable from government spending."

Beyond tax policy, Griffin has signaled that he favors a minimalist approach to stimulating the economy. He told an Arkansas television station in September that "the private sector, not the government, is going to be the job creator that gets us out of this mess."

He calls the national debt "the greatest threat facing the United States." He supports holding discretionary spending at pre-economic stimulus levels, and also freezing the salaries of federal employees for one year. Griffin, a JAG lawyer and major in the Army Reserve, has called for trimming the federal workforce to "pre-Obama" levels, with exemptions for the departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs.

Griffin says he'll back "common-sense reform" of entitlement programs and pledged to support a repeal of the health care overhaul. But he backs one key provision in the law: access to insurance for individuals with pre-existing conditions.

Griffin, who served in the Iraq War for a few months in 2006, says the U.S. has an obligation to leave Iraq and Afghanistan able to govern themselves. He says "all options" should be considered to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

## ARKANSAS (3)

**Steve Womack, R**

**Election:** Defeated David Whitaker, D, to succeed John Boozman, R, who ran for Senate

**Residence:** Rogers

**Born:** Feb. 18, 1957; Russellville, Ark.

**Religion:** Baptist

**Family:** Wife, Terri Williams; three children

**Education:** Arkansas Tech, B.A. 1979 (speech)

**Military:** Ark. National Guard 1979-2009

**Career:** Securities broker; college ROTC program director; radio station manager

**Political highlights:** Rogers City Council, 1983-84, 1997-98; mayor of Rogers, 1999-present

Womack pledges to be a team player for the Republican Party and says he will fight legislation he considers a costly burden on businesses.



He opposes legislation that would make it easier for labor unions to recruit members and any efforts to revive cap-and-trade limits on carbon emissions.

Womack also sees the health care law as a costly mandate on business but says it would be difficult to repeal. He says Congress can blunt the law's effect by withholding funding for key portions of it.

He would like a spot on a committee involving infrastructure. And after 30 years as an officer in the Arkansas Army National Guard and a stint as the executive officer for the Reserve Officers' Training Corps at the University of Arkansas, he is interested in military issues as well.

Womack is used to being in charge and getting things done quickly as mayor of Rogers, one of Arkansas's largest mid-sized cities, but he says he is getting ready for a far different experience in Washington.

"I've tried to mentally prepare myself for being one of 435 people," Womack says.

He says that during his tenure as mayor, the city has benefited from more than \$1 billion in improved infrastructure and development that attracted retailers, a convention hotel and other businesses. Being a neighbor of Bentonville, the world headquarters for retail giant Wal-Mart, didn't hurt either, he says.

Womack promises "to do everything I can do" in Congress to improve the nation's economy and reduce the deficit.



## CALIFORNIA (19)

**Jeff Denham, R**

**Election:** Defeated Loraine Goodwin, D, to succeed George Radanovich, R, who retired

**Residence:** Atwater

**Born:** July 29, 1967; Hawthorne, Calif.

**Religion:** Presbyterian

**Family:** Wife, Sonia Denham; two children

**Education:** Victor Valley Junior College, A.A. 1989 (liberal arts); California Polytechnic State U., San Luis Obispo, B.A. 1992 (political science)

**Military:** Air Force 1984-88; Air Force Reserve 1988-00

**Career:** Agricultural packaging company owner; almond farmer

**Political highlights:** Republican nominee for Calif. Assembly, 2000; Calif. Senate, 2002-present

Denham, a self-described fiscal conservative, says that one of his top priorities as a freshman member of Congress will be to find ways to reduce the national debt.

"I think it is hurting us on a worldwide scale," Denham says. The debt has led to a "lack of confidence from consumers and from businesses."

Denham, who owns an almond orchard in California's Central Valley, got his start in politics as a state senator. He also owns a plastic container company and plans to set up his congressional office "more as a business than a bureaucracy," with an eye toward his constituents' needs.

"Customer service is not something that's talked about in politics very much," Denham says.

Given his agricultural background and experience dealing with water supply issues, Denham would like to land a spot on the Natural Resources Committee.

Denham, who served in the Air Force, also wants a seat on the Veterans Affairs Committee. He participated in Operation Desert Storm in Iraq in the early 1990s and is particularly interested in addressing issues facing the large number of recent Iraq and Afghanistan combat veterans.

Denham, whose state senate district is no stranger to the pressures of political life. He was targeted unsuccessfully with a recall campaign in 2008. But he says that serving in Congress will be a whole new experience, which he likens to "drinking water from a fire hose."



## CALIFORNIA (33)

**Karen Bass, D**

**Election:** Defeated James Andion, R, to succeed Diane Watson, D, who retired

**Residence:** Los Angeles

**Born:** Oct. 3, 1953; Los Angeles, Calif.

**Religion:** Baptist

**Family:** Divorced; one child (deceased) and four stepchildren

**Education:** San Diego State U., attended 1971-73 (philosophy); California State U., Dominguez Hills, B.S. 1990 (health sciences)

**Career:** Nonprofit community activism organization founder; physician assistant

**Political highlights:** Calif. Assembly, 2004-present (Speaker, 2008-10)

Bass brings to the House her experience as a legislator during difficult economic times and a track record as a fast riser in political ranks.

Four years after her election to the California Assembly, Bass was elected Speaker, making her one of the most powerful politicians in the nation's most populous state. The first black woman to lead the chamber, Bass drew praise from California's most prominent Republican, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who said that she earned her post "the old-fashioned way — she worked."

During her tenure as Speaker, while unemployment in California rose from 6.6 percent to 12.6 percent, jobs legislation occupied a great deal of her time. Bass also was a strong proponent of legislation expanding health care coverage. In the 112th Congress, she intends to work for policies that increase employment in her district, specifically in the transportation and the entertainment industries. She also expects to continue to address pressing needs in health care, and to support legislation that can keep children from entering the foster care system and aid those who do go into it.

Bass founded the nonprofit Community Coalition in 1990 in response to the crack cocaine epidemic of the 1980s and served as the organization's executive director for 14 years. A former physician assistant, she has also been a clinical instructor in the Physician Assistant Program at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine.



## COLORADO (3)

**Scott Tipton, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. John Salazar, D

**Residence:** Cortez

**Born:** Nov. 9, 1956; Española, N.M.

**Religion:** Anglican

**Family:** Wife, Jean Tipton; two children

**Education:** Fort Lewis College, B.A. 1978 (political science)

**Career:** Pottery company owner

**Political highlights:** Montezuma County Republican Party chairman, 1980-84; Republican nominee for U.S. House, 2006; Colo. House, 2009-present

A small-business owner who served a single term in his state's General Assembly, Tipton wants to cut spending and taxes while reducing the federal deficit.

He also is seeking to redo much of the health care overhaul, calling it "disastrous." He says people who buy their own health insurance should get the same tax breaks that companies receive when providing insurance to employees.

When it comes to the budget, Tipton has called for a 10 percent cut in discretionary spending — excluding defense programs — and a flat 10 percent corporate tax with no deductions and no loopholes.

The husband of a retired teacher, Tipton also lists education among his priorities. He backs tougher graduation standards, stronger safety programs at schools and more federal support for charter schools.

Agriculture is the "backbone" of the district, he says, adding that it is important to protect the water supply from "downstream threats, and from in-state water grabs."

On social issues, Tipton supports strong gun rights, opposes amnesty for illegal immigrants and says abortion should be limited to cases of "rape, incest or threat to the life of the mother."

Tipton worked for Ronald Reagan's 1976 presidential bid and was a delegate to that year's Republican National Convention.

After college, he co-founded Mesa Verde Pottery with his brother, selling handmade Navajo and Ute items.

Tipton says he would prefer seats on the Agriculture and Energy and Commerce committees.



## COLORADO (4)

**Cory Gardner, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Betsy Markey, D  
**Residence:** Yuma  
**Born:** Aug. 22, 1974; Yuma, Colo.  
**Religion:** Lutheran - Missouri Synod  
**Family:** Wife, Jaime Gardner; one child  
**Education:** Colorado State U., B.A. 1997 (political science); U. of Colorado, J.D. 2001  
**Career:** Lawyer; congressional aide; agricultural advocacy organization spokesman; farm equipment parts dealer  
**Political highlights:** Colo. House, 2005-present

Gardner, a fifth-generation Coloradan, hopes for seats on the Agriculture and Natural Resources committees, which are important to his Mountain West state and largely rural district.



But he won't stick exclusively to farming, land and water issues.

His first bills in Congress, he says, will focus on reducing federal spending and encouraging a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution.

As a state legislator, Gardner already represented half the land area in his district but only 20 percent of the people. He bridged that gap with voters in the northwestern part of the district during his campaign, and he now plans to make himself a regular presence throughout northern and eastern Colorado.

"This is a district where the people expect you to be in their living rooms and on Main Street, and that's what I plan to do," he says.

His experience in Denver and in Washington, where he was a Senate aide, gives him some familiarity with the legislative process. He wants to draw on that background to reduce the federal government's regulatory burden on water storage projects, which are vital to both farming and residential development.

He does not like to compare himself to the last Republican to hold the seat, the outspoken social conservative Marilyn Musgrave.

"Obviously will be my own person," says Gardner, whose recent homefront hobbies included turning an antique dresser into a sink.

## DELAWARE (AL)

**John Carney, D**

**Election:** Defeated Glen Urquhart, R, to succeed Michael N. Castle, R, who ran for Senate  
**Residence:** Wilmington  
**Born:** May 20, 1956; Wilmington, Del.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Tracey Quillen; two children  
**Education:** Dartmouth College, A.B. 1978 (English); U. of Delaware, M.P.A. 1987  
**Career:** Energy company executive; gubernatorial and congressional aide; county government official; youth programs coordinator; coach  
**Political highlights:** Del. secretary of finance, 1997-2000; lieutenant governor, 2001-09; sought Democratic nomination for governor, 2008

Carney overcame the electoral challenges facing Democrats this year to wrest his state's lone House seat from the GOP. But he insists he will not arrive in Washington as a partisan.



In Congress, Carney says, he will work with his colleagues from both parties, especially on his primary focus: energy issues. And he intends to criticize ideas from his own party when he is in disagreement.

"I'll be that kind of leader in Congress — one who works with both Republicans and Democrats to move our country forward, starting with a focus on creating jobs and getting our economy back on track," he says.

And he was not afraid to go against the party during his congressional campaign: Carney was one of the first Democratic candidates to attack the Obama administration's plan to drill for oil off the shores of the East Coast.

"I strongly support the goal of energy independence, however I am opposed to oil exploration and drilling off the coast of Delaware," he said at the time. "I have serious concerns about the impact of offshore oil drilling on our beaches and fragile coastal areas."

Carney, who declined to say which committee assignments he is seeking, has been a fixture in Delaware politics for 20 years. But recently he has been spending time in the private sector: After his 2008 gubernatorial primary loss, he became president and chief operating officer of Transformative Technologies LLC, a renewable-energy company.

## FLORIDA (2)

**Steve Southerland, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Allen Boyd, D  
**Residence:** Panama City  
**Born:** Oct. 10, 1965; Nashville, Tenn.  
**Religion:** Southern Baptist  
**Family:** Wife, Susan Southerland; four children  
**Education:** Troy State U., B.S. 1987 (business management); Jefferson State Community College, A.A. 1989 (mortuary science)  
**Career:** Funeral home owner  
**Political highlights:** Fla. Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers, 1992-95

One of Southerland's top priorities will be shrinking the federal government by cutting taxes and spending, as well as rolling back federal regulations.



"Government has expanded way beyond their means," Southerland says. "Every dollar Congress has is a dollar it's taken away from the family budget and taken away from small business."

Southerland singled out the 2010 health care overhaul as an "egregious" example of the growth of government. He says that a repeal of the law "realistically can't be done" in the 112th Congress, but he signals that he would support efforts to limit funding for some of its provisions.

"If you believe that government is growing beyond a sustainable level, then you've got to go back to that piece of legislation," he says.

Southerland, who is the CEO of his family's funeral home business, says that small businesses like his are "battling senseless regulation," which he likens to kudzu.

A self-described conservative from a conservative family, Southerland intends to make constituent outreach a high priority. "We've got to have representatives that interact on a more consistent basis and listen to the people," he says.

Southerland, who has four children, is also interested in issues related to childhood health and education. "Early childhood health is a critical component to expecting that child to learn," he says.

## FLORIDA (5)

**Richard Nugent, R**

**Election:** Defeated Jim Piccillo, D, to succeed Ginny Brown-Waite, R, who retired  
**Residence:** Spring Hill  
**Born:** May 26, 1951; Evergreen Park, Ill.  
**Religion:** United Methodist  
**Family:** Wife, Wendy Nugent; three children  
**Education:** Saint Leo College, B.A. 1991 (criminology); Troy State U., MacDill Air Force Base, M.P.A. 1995  
**Military:** Ill. Air National Guard 1969-75  
**Career:** Deputy county sheriff  
**Political highlights:** Hernando County sheriff, 2001-present

Nugent has a simple priority in Congress: "Repeal Obamacare. It has absolutely nothing to do with health care," he says. "All it's going to do is create jobs for government workers, in the IRS or someplace else."

The longtime elected sheriff, who has spent his professional life in suburban law enforcement, doesn't stop there, however. Nugent also intends to follow in the footsteps of the GOP congresswoman who retired and endorsed his candidacy, Ginny Brown-Waite. That means focusing on issues of importance to his expansive district north of Tampa, home to vast numbers of retirees, many of them ex-military.

"There are so many things that are broken today," he says. "Everything from Social Security to Medicare. We need to be part of [fixing] that."

His top committee choices are Ways and Means (to deal with Social Security and Medicare), Oversight and Government Reform ("I could be a help with my investigative background when you start looking at holding the Obama administration accountable," he says) and Veterans' Affairs. That last one reflects personal as well as professional concerns.

As a new lawmaker with a large veteran population in his district, Nugent would like to make the Department of Veterans Affairs less complicated for his constituents to deal with. And on a personal level, he has three sons currently serving in the military: "With the number of vets that we have in this district, and my three kids in it, that's obviously close to my heart."



## FLORIDA (8)

**Daniel Webster, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Alan Grayson, D  
**Residence:** Orlando  
**Born:** April 27, 1949; Charleston, W.Va.  
**Religion:** Baptist  
**Family:** Wife, Sandy Webster; six children  
**Education:** Georgia Institute of Technology, B.E.E. 1971  
**Career:** Air conditioning and heating company owner  
**Political highlights:** Fla. House, 1980-98 (minority leader pro tempore, 1992-94; minority leader, 1994-96; Speaker, 1996-98); Fla. Senate, 1998-2008 (majority leader, 2006-08)

Webster's top priorities as a House member include repealing the health care overhaul and halting the flow of federal stimulus funds.

He sees both steps as necessary to reducing the federal deficit, and they are typical of his strong opposition to the economic policies put forth by President Obama.

Like other Republicans, he also wants to reduce taxes and regulations.

"Webster is a fiscal conservative who believes that lowering the tax burden on families and businesses will spur economic growth and prosperity," a campaign staff member said.

Webster was the first GOP speaker of the Florida House in more than a century and majority leader in the state Senate.

The devout Baptist and social conservative operates his family's air conditioning business, an experience that allows him to connect with other small-business owners. "In these difficult times, they make the hard choices to cut out unnecessary expenses, pay off credit cards, and save for the future. The government must start doing the same," he wrote in an editorial.

Webster favors reducing non-defense discretionary spending to fiscal 2008 levels and paring entitlement spending.

He wants the federal government to tighten border controls and increase immigration enforcement as matters of national security and fiscal responsibility.

Webster's background in the legislature has spurred his interest in seats on the Transportation and Infrastructure, Judiciary and Rules committees.



## FLORIDA (12)

**Dennis Ross, R**

**Election:** Defeated Lori Edwards, D, to succeed Adam H. Putnam, R, who retired  
**Residence:** Lakeland  
**Born:** Oct. 18, 1959; Lakeland, Fla.  
**Religion:** Presbyterian  
**Family:** Wife, Cindy Ross; two children  
**Education:** U. of Florida, attended 1977-78; Auburn U., B.S.B.A. 1981 (organization management); Samford U., J.D. 1987  
**Career:** Lawyer; state legislative aide  
**Political highlights:** Polk County Republican Party chairman, 1992-95; Republican nominee for Fla. Senate, 1996; Fla. House, 2000-2008

Ross acknowledges that it won't be easy to replicate the rapid rise of his predecessor, Adam H. Putnam, a one-time member of the House GOP leadership who left the seat open to run for state agricultural commissioner, a race he won.

"Those are some big shoes to fill even though he's 14 years younger than I am," Ross says. "It's going to be quite a challenge."

Ross says his primary legislative mission — job creation — will be informed by his two decades running a small law firm that he started after borrowing money from a neighbor.

"That means extending the Bush tax cuts and incentivizing economic development, whether it be ensuring corporate taxes aren't higher than European corporate taxes or eliminating the capital gains tax," Ross says. "I want to do whatever we can do to allow the infusion of private capital back into the economy so that people start creating jobs again."

Like his predecessor, Ross would like a seat on the Financial Services Committee and also has an interest in agriculture policy, given his district is home to Florida's top citrus-producing county. Ross also retains an interest in transportation issues, something he focused on during his four terms as a state legislator.

And like Putnam, Ross intends to "take an aggressive role in leadership" within the GOP caucus.

"My goal is to hopefully be a part of leadership," Ross says. "That's going to allow me to make the necessary changes the country needs."





## FLORIDA (17)

**Frederica Wilson, D**

**Election:** Defeated Roderick Vereen, I, to succeed Kendrick B. Meek, D, who ran for Senate

**Residence:** Miami

**Born:** Nov. 5, 1942; Miami, Fla.

**Religion:** Episcopalian

**Family:** Widowed; three children

**Education:** Fisk U., B.A. 1963 (childhood education); U. of Miami, M.Ed. 1972 (elementary education)

**Career:** At-risk youth mentorship program founder; elementary school principal; homemaker

**Political highlights:** Miami-Dade County School Board, 1992-98; Fla. House, 1998-2002; Fla. Senate, 2002-present

It will be hard to miss Wilson, who's well-known in Florida for her flamboyant hats, when she arrives on Capitol Hill next year.



An educator before she launched a political career, Wilson hopes to play a role in revamping the No Child Left Behind Act, which she says has hurt some students with its focus on testing and college preparedness. For many of her constituents, she argues, college isn't the right goal: "I'm just astounded that everyone in America feels that each and every child should go to college. That's unrealistic."

Wilson, who spent 12 years as an elementary school principal before her election to Miami-Dade County's School Board in 1992, wants the next version of the law to provide incentives for school districts to offer more vocational training, with the aim of teaching students how to become small-business owners and entrepreneurs.

As a state representative and senator, Wilson worked to make Florida's criminal justice system safer for inmates and wants to continue those efforts in Washington. "Nobody wants to look at how incarceration rates in this country suck up money that could be used for education," she says.

During 17 years in Florida politics, Wilson gained a reputation for working across the aisle. She teamed with Republican Gov. Jeb Bush, for example, on criminal justice issues and on removing the Confederate flag from the state Capitol. "I'm no stranger to working with Republicans," she says.

## FLORIDA (22)

**Allen West, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Ron Klein, D

**Residence:** Plantation

**Born:** Feb. 7, 1961; Atlanta, Ga.

**Religion:** Christian

**Family:** Wife, Angela West; two children

**Education:** U. of Tennessee, B.A. 1983 (political science); Kansas State U., M.A. 1996 (political science)

**Military:** Army 1983-2004

**Career:** Army officer; military training consultant; high school teacher

**Political highlights:** Republican nominee for U.S. House, 2008

A favorite of tea party activists, West says House Republicans' "Pledge to America" agenda must make a bigger commitment to reducing government spending. It should be a "very specific and concrete document that can be executable" during the 112th Congress, he says.



GOP leaders should embrace freshmen "and not push us off to the side," because voters want "vibrant new energy," he says. "They want individuals who are committed to the constitutional principles and values that made America great and what it is."

West wants "to reform our tax code because the progressive tax system lends itself to class warfare." But he does not expect a prized seat on the Ways and Means Committee.

He says that the United States must stay on the offensive against Islamic radicalism and that Israel "needs stronger representation in Congress."

West argues that the Armed Services Committee could use his military experience. After his discharge, he trained Afghan soldiers as a private contractor.

While on active duty in Iraq, he made headlines in 2003 for firing a pistol near the head of an Iraqi policeman believed to have information about an attack. The man admitted to a plot and named accomplices, but he later recanted all of it. No concrete evidence was found, but the incident made West a hero to conservatives. West was found guilty of aggravated assault and fined \$5,000, but the Army decided against a court-martial.

## FLORIDA (24)

**Sandy Adams, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Suzanne M. Kosmas, D

**Residence:** Orlando

**Born:** Dec. 14, 1956; Wyandotte, Mich.

**Religion:** Episcopalian

**Family:** Husband, John H. Adams; three children

**Education:** Columbia College, Orlando, B.A. 2000 (criminal justice administration)

**Military:** Air Force 1974-75

**Career:** Deputy county sheriff

**Political highlights:** Fla. House, 2002-present

Adams is a high school dropout, an Air Force veteran, a former law enforcement officer and a state lawmaker. The former single mother says her life experiences will help guide her first term in Congress.



Like most other GOP freshmen, Adams says she will focus on reducing federal spending. She learned to balance her personal budget under difficult circumstances and says the federal government should do the same.

But Adams promises to be an aggressive advocate for NASA, which is a significant contributor to the central Florida economy. "They spent a lot of money over the last few years," she says of the Democratic-controlled Congress. "Some of that money could have been devoted to the space industry. We need to reprioritize."

An Orange County deputy sheriff for 17 years, Adams ran for the Florida House in 2002 to advocate for victims' rights. The cause was personal; her first husband, also a deputy, died in the line of duty in 1989.

Having grown up in a military family, she quit high school at 17 and joined the Air Force. She hopes to utilize her military background as a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee. She also would welcome a seat on the Science and Technology or Financial Services committees.

Adams, who defeated freshman Democrat Suzanne M. Kosmas, pledges to help eliminate funding for the health care overhaul, seek a flatter tax code, push Congress to adopt zero-based budgeting and crack down on illegal immigration.

## FLORIDA (25)

**David Rivera, R**

**Election:** Defeated Joe Garcia, D, to succeed Mario Diaz-Balart, R

**Residence:** Miami

**Born:** Sept. 16, 1965; Brooklyn, N.Y.

**Religion:** Roman Catholic

**Family:** Single

**Education:** Florida International U., B.A. 1986 (political science), M.P.A. 1994

**Career:** State party Hispanic outreach director; U.S. broadcasting agency aide; human rights organization aide; congressional and campaign aide

**Political highlights:** Fla. House, 2002-present; Miami-Dade County Republican Party chairman, 2008-present

Rivera, a former House Appropriations panel chairman in Florida, says that he plans to focus on the economy. His constituents can expect him to champion traditional Republican policies such as cutting spending and easing taxes on small businesses.

Rivera says his first goal will be supporting measures — such as tax cuts — that are intended to give private employers incentives to hire more workers. He also says that he wants to see a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget.

As a representative from a Hispanic-majority district, Rivera says he also will focus on policy toward Latin America, particularly concerning trade and relations with Cuba.

Congress should move forward on the stalled free-trade deal with Colombia, he says, estimating that it could create hundreds of thousands of jobs in his district and elsewhere.

"The import-export market is very important in South Florida," he says.

Like his predecessor, Republican Mario Diaz-Balart (who won election to the neighboring 21st District), Rivera takes a hard line with the Cuban government. Rivera was the author of a 2006 Florida law that bans state funding for education research and travel to nations that are deemed to be "sponsors of terrorism," a designation that includes Cuba.

"I do not believe we should give any unilateral concessions until all political prisoners are freed, civil liberties are restored, and free elections are held," he says.



## GEORGIA (7)

**Rob Woodall, R**

**Election:** Defeated Doug Heckman, D, to succeed John Linder, R, who retired

**Residence:** Lawrenceville

**Born:** Feb. 11, 1970; Athens, Ga.

**Religion:** Methodist

**Family:** Single

**Education:** Furman U., B.A. 1992 (political science); U. of Georgia, J.D. 1997

**Career:** Congressional aide

**Political highlights:** No previous office

Woodall already knows the hallways and back rooms of the Capitol. After 16 years as a legislative staff member on the Hill, he won't waste time finding his way around when he reports for his first day on the job.

"What we'll bring to the table is the ability to start work on day one," says Woodall, who will represent an increasingly diverse suburban district.

One of his top priorities will be a proposal for a national sales tax, which he calls the "FairTax Plan." He is continuing to push a "near and dear" cause backed by his former boss and predecessor, retiring Republican John Linder. Simplifying the tax code, he says, would help create jobs and encourage investment in the U.S. economy.

But don't expect Woodall, who is hoping for a spot on the powerful Rules Committee, always to agree with his own party. Newly elected Republicans, he believes, must not repeat the mistakes of Republicans who won in 1994 but subsequently lost their way.

Republicans, he says, should put their small-government principles ahead of partisan politics.

"If it's wrong when Nancy Pelosi does it, then it's also going to be wrong when John Boehner does it," he says.

Woodall, who is an anti-abortion conservative and a supporter of gun rights, considers himself an outdoorsman and hiker. He is unmarried and views his single status as an asset for his constituents: "That gives me twice as much time to work for the people."



## GEORGIA (8)

**Austin Scott, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Jim Marshall, D

**Residence:** Ashburn

**Born:** Dec. 10, 1969; Augusta, Ga.

**Religion:** Baptist

**Family:** Wife, Vivien Scott; one child

**Education:** U. of Georgia, B.B.A. 1993 (risk management and insurance)

**Career:** Insurance agency owner

**Political highlights:** Ga. House, 1997-present

Scott, who owns an insurance brokerage firm, has hewn to the traditional Republican principles of limited government, tax cuts and support for small business throughout his 13-year state legislative career.

He wants to zero in on bringing down the federal deficit — and to start the process he would prevent unspent stimulus money from being used and cut the number of federal government employees. He also supports a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget. To boost the economy he would extend all of the Bush-era tax cuts that are set to expire. In campaign materials, he said he would "de-fund," repeal and replace the Democrats' health care overhaul.

Scott served as chairman of the Governmental Affairs Committee in the General Assembly, focusing on budget transparency. But he has secured a commitment from GOP leaders that he will be given a seat on the Armed Services Committee. From that perch, he hopes to support veterans and workers affiliated with Warner Robins Air Force Base, a major employer and community institution in the 8th District.

John A. Boehner of Ohio, who is expected to be Speaker, pledged that Scott would get the committee seat during a campaign swing through the district to give him a boost against Democratic incumbent and eight-year panel veteran Jim Marshall. Scott said during a debate that he would bring a different generational mind-set to the job than his Baby Boomer predecessor, who is two decades his senior.





## HAWAII (1)

**Colleen Hanabusa, D****Election:** Defeated Rep. Charles K. Djou, R**Residence:** Honolulu**Born:** May 4, 1951; Honolulu, Hawaii**Religion:** Buddhist**Family:** Husband, John Souza**Education:** U. of Hawaii, B.A. 1973 (economics & sociology), M.A. 1975 (sociology), J.D. 1977**Career:** Lawyer**Political highlights:** Hawaii Senate, 1999-present (majority leader, 2003-07; president, 2007-present); candidate for U.S. House (special election), 2003; sought Democratic nomination for U.S. House, 2006; candidate for U.S. House (special election), 2010

Hanabusa won Hawaii's 1st District seat on her second attempt, after a three-way special election in May split the Democratic vote, handing victory to Republican Charles J. Djou.



Hanabusa, a lawyer, comes to Washington after 12 years in the Hawaii Senate, where she had been Senate president since January 2007. The first woman in Hawaii's history to hold the position, she brings solid liberal credentials with her.

She intends to push legislation that would expand self-governmental rights of Native Hawaiians through a "governing entity" that represents them in negotiations with federal and state governments. The bill passed the House in February, but has not made it through the Senate.

A Buddhist, Hanabusa joins two other members who share her faith, which she describes as "more of a philosophy than a religion" for her. She opposed the invasion of Iraq but supports the mission in Afghanistan, a stance she attributes to her friendship with Ambassador Karl W. Eikenberry.

Jobs and the economy will be her priorities, and she said she is eager to make Hawaii a leader in green energy, considering the state's abundant renewable resources. "We have wind, we have sun, like no one else does," says Hanabusa, who cites the Natural Resources Committee as one of three panels where she could best serve Hawaii (along with the Energy and Commerce Committee and Ways and Means).

Of course, Hanabusa would like to serve on the Appropriations Committee but recognizes she must "pay my dues" first.

## IDAHO (1)

**Raúl R. Labrador, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Walt Minnick, D**Residence:** Eagle**Born:** Dec. 8, 1967; Carolina, P.R.**Religion:** Mormon**Family:** Wife, Rebecca Johnson Labrador; five children**Education:** Brigham Young U., B.A. 1992 (Spanish); U. of Washington, J.D. 1995**Career:** Lawyer**Political highlights:** Idaho House, 2006-present

With more than 15 years of experience as an immigration lawyer, Labrador is likely to make a splash in the immigration debate.

He has already met with Steve King, currently the ranking Republican on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, and says that he expects to be placed on that panel.

Labrador says that he will push to secure the U.S. border with Mexico. He advocates sending the U.S. military to the border "to battle the drug terrorists just like they are battling Islamic terrorists in Afghanistan and Iraq."

Labrador opposes amnesty for undocumented immigrants, but he does support development of a program that would offer those here illegally an incentive to come forward — such as guaranteeing them first consideration by the State Department to return legally after going back to their countries.

"Those we have to go find and arrest . . . well, they go to the very end of the line," he says.

He also urges that the guest worker program be streamlined — particularly for agricultural workers, who play an important role in his state's economy.

But his primary focus in Washington, he says, will be on jobs and the economy.

As a member of the Idaho House, Labrador proposed legislation that would have provided broad-based tax cuts for businesses, individuals and families, and he opposed raising the gas tax.

On Capitol Hill, he says, he will do the same.



## ILLINOIS (10)

**Robert Dold, R****Election:** Defeated Dan Seals, D, to succeed Mark Steven Kirk, R, who ran for Senate**Residence:** Kenilworth**Born:** June 23, 1969; Evanston, Ill.**Religion:** Christian**Family:** Wife, Danielle Dold; three children**Education:** Denison U., B.A. 1991 (political science); Indiana U., J.D. 1996; Northwestern U., M.B.A. 2000**Career:** Pest control company owner; Internet data storage company manager; congressional aide; White House aide**Political highlights:** No previous office

A self-described fiscal conservative and social moderate, Dold says a responsible politician doesn't simply stay true to his party and his constituents but also understands the importance of "staying true to yourself."

It is an easy-to-follow mantra for Dold, whose family has lived in the 10th District for three generations.

Dold says his priority is to "get people back to work and jump-start the economy." As the owner of a small pest control business, he says he understands the pressures small-business owners face every day and will use his expertise to create jobs in his district.

"I meet a payroll. I hire people. I understand what regulations do to small businesses. I live it each and every day," he says. "I get up each and every day worrying about other people. That's something I hope to leverage as a legislator."

As the economy struggles to emerge from the deep recession, Dold wants to lower the corporate tax rate for businesses. He also supports an indefinite extension of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for all Americans.

Dold opposes the 2010 health care overhaul and espouses sweeping tort reform to reduce malpractice litigation and the costs of defensive medicine. He also wants to provide greater transparency in medical pricing and outcomes.

Dold is interested in serving on the Budget, Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure committees.



## ILLINOIS (11)

**Adam Kinzinger, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Debbie Halvorson, D  
**Residence:** Manteno  
**Born:** Feb. 27, 1978; Kankakee, Ill.  
**Religion:** Protestant  
**Family:** Single  
**Education:** Illinois State U., B.A. 2000 (political science)  
**Military:** Wis. Air National Guard 2003-present; Ill. Air National Guard 2001-03  
**Career:** Information technology services company account representative  
**Political highlights:** McLean County Board, 1998-2003

**W**hat compelled Kinzinger to seek and win a seat on the county board when he was 20 years old continues to drive him now: He wants to give voters a sense that they are being heard — and heeded.



“They just want to be heard,” the 32-year-old says of his district’s constituents. “They are literally clamoring for an opportunity to be heard.”

Like many office-seekers this year, he says he will give priority to restoring the economy and doing something about his region’s 12 percent unemployment rate.

“You don’t do it with more programs and spending,” he says. “You do that with a promise to start fiscal restraint.”

Along with extending the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, Kinzinger’s five-pronged approach for turning around the economy would limit the federal government’s role in the private sector, provide additional business tax incentives, provide new spending only for national security and infrastructure, and explore new energy resources.

Kinzinger, who conducted five tours in Iraq and Afghanistan as an Air Force pilot, says his experiences would be valuable on the Armed Services Committee. But he also would like to take a lead in identifying new energy sources and working toward energy independence, he says. His district has three nuclear power plants, and Illinois leads the country in nuclear power production. He would relish a seat on the Energy and Commerce Committee, an ambitious reach for a freshman member.

## ILLINOIS (14)

**Randy Hultgren, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Bill Foster, D  
**Residence:** Winfield  
**Born:** March 1, 1966; Park Ridge, Ill.  
**Religion:** Protestant  
**Family:** Wife, Christy Hultgren; four children  
**Education:** Bethel College, B.A. 1988 (communications & political science); Illinois Institute of Technology, J.D. 1993  
**Career:** Securities company executive; financial planning consultant; lawyer; congressional aide  
**Political highlights:** DuPage County Board, 1994-98; DuPage County Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners, 1994-98; Ill. House, 1999-2007; Ill. Senate, 2007-present

**A**mainline conservative who has served in the Illinois legislature for more than a decade, Hultgren plans to focus on the economy and drawing jobs to his district, which lies west of Chicago. The best way to do that, he says, is by shrinking the size of the federal government and ensuring that laws already in place are implemented correctly and explained to his constituents.



“Our manufacturers are nervous with how many of the big new pieces of legislation that have been passed will be implemented,” Hultgren says. “I want to bring some stability back, bring some confidence back.”

Of particular concern is the health care overhaul law passed earlier this year. “I don’t think the bill that was passed will decrease costs at all,” Hultgren says.

While in the state legislature, he cosponsored a successful medical malpractice reform bill. Hultgren would like to continue working to lower health care costs and sees the potential for doing so by creating more price transparency and nationwide competition among insurers.

Hultgren says a spot on the Energy and Commerce Committee would be a good fit given both his interests and his experiences. In addition, he believes that his career as an investment adviser would help him serve effectively on the Financial Services Committee.

Hultgren notes that all his legislative successes have come while serving in the minority, and he says that experience will help him build relationships with members on both sides of the aisle.

## ILLINOIS (17)

**Bobby Schilling, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Phil Hare, D  
**Residence:** Colona  
**Born:** Jan. 23, 1964; Rock Island, Ill.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Christie Schilling; ten children  
**Education:** Black Hawk College, attended 1982-83  
**Career:** Restaurateur; financial services agent; factory worker  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

**S**chilling is leaving pizza for politics. The owner of Saint Giuseppe’s Heavenly Pizza arrives in the House with a vow to oppose all tax increases and to slash discretionary federal spending in his quest to improve job prospects in his native western Illinois.



Schilling says his experience as a small-business operator leads him to believe the corporate tax rate is too high and should be reduced to increase job competitiveness.

He also supports extending the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts at every income level. “We’ve got to use things that have a proven track record,” says Schilling, citing tax cuts made during President John F. Kennedy’s administration. He judges the stimulus law as a “complete failure” because it was accompanied by deficit spending, and he will oppose any initiative that would build on it.

“We need to take a look at an across-the-board — say a 10 percent — cut” in discretionary spending, he adds. He wants Congress to take a closer look at waste and fraud in programs such as Medicare. It is unrealistic to think the GOP could repeal the health care law, he says, so he wants to pass legislation removing some provisions, including the medical device tax, while retaining new protections for health insurance consumers.

Schilling signed a pledge to refuse congressional pay raises and to accept a term limit of eight years in the House.

He would like to be named to the Agriculture, Small Business or Veterans’ Affairs committees to represent interests in his district.

## INDIANA (3)

**Marlin Stutzman, R**

**Election:** Defeated Tom Hayhurst, D, to fill a vacancy

**Residence:** Howe

**Born:** Aug. 31, 1976; Sturgis, Mich.

**Religion:** Baptist

**Family:** Wife, Christy Stutzman; two children

**Education:** Tri-State U., attended 2005-07; Glen Oaks Community College, attended 1999

**Career:** Farmer; commercial trucking company owner

**Political highlights:** Ind. House, 2003-09; Ind. Senate, 2009-present

Stutzman brings political experience and a bit of tea-party zeitgeist to Washington after eight years as a state legislator and two congressional campaigns covering three races in 2010.



A farmer and owner of a farm-trucking company, Stutzman has an interest in small business and agriculture issues. He opposes pro-union “card check” legislation and argues in favor of eliminating taxes on capital gains to spur job creation.

Stutzman supports gun owners’ rights; in the state House, he won enactment of a 2006 law creating handgun permits that last for a gun owner’s lifetime.

He backs a balanced budget amendment and full repeal of the health care overhaul while opposing abortion rights. He also backs expanded development of domestic coal, oil and natural gas resources to promote U.S. energy independence, and supports exploring renewable-energy sources.

However, Stutzman calls cap-and-trade legislation to limit carbon emissions “a direct attack on Indiana’s economy.”

Unlike most freshmen, Stutzman will take office almost immediately.

Despite having built a statewide base in his bid to succeed retiring Sen. Evan Bayh in May 2010, Stutzman did not survive the primary. So when Republican Rep. Mark Souder resigned in May after confessing to an extramarital affair, Stutzman joined the special election contest to succeed him. He simultaneously won both the special election and the race for a full term in the 112th Congress.

## INDIANA (4)

**Todd Rokita, R**

**Pronounced:** ro-KEE-ta

**Election:** Defeated David Sanders, D, to succeed Steve Buyer, R, who retired

**Residence:** Indianapolis

**Born:** Feb. 9, 1970; Chicago, Ill.

**Religion:** Roman Catholic

**Family:** Wife, Kathy Rokita; two children

**Education:** Wabash College, B.A. 1992 (political science); Indiana U., Indianapolis, J.D. 1995

**Career:** State government official; lawyer

**Political highlights:** Ind. secretary of state, 2003-present

Rokita, a veteran of the state government, emphasizes the need to improve government services while scaling back the growth of federal spending. His own fiscal to-do list includes making the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts permanent, reducing the number of tax brackets, curbing debt-limit increases and establishing presidential line-item veto authority.



He says government should act “in precise, laser-like fashion to incentivize business growth and not dictate economic outcomes.” Rokita backs targeted business tax breaks and measures that could help farmers, such as free-trade deals and a repeal of the estate tax.

Rokita also argues that government should “protect our citizens and ensure interstate commerce, while creating a level and fair playing field for all participants.” He takes a conservative stance on social issues, opposing abortion and gun control.

Rokita, who was a regulator of the securities industry as Indiana’s secretary of state, has an eye on the Financial Services Committee. He also could be a good fit for the Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

During his tenure, he created an online service center for businesses registered with his office. He also helped win a mandate for the use of voter photo identification cards such as driver’s licenses at polling places. He served as president of the National Association of Secretaries of State from 2007 to 2008.

## INDIANA (8)

**Larry Bucshon, R**

**Pronounced:** boo-SHON

**Election:** Defeated Trent Van Haaften, D, to succeed Brad Ellsworth, D, who ran for Senate

**Residence:** Newburgh

**Born:** May 31, 1962; Taylorville, Ill.

**Religion:** Lutheran

**Family:** Wife, Kathryn Bucshon; four children

**Education:** U. of Illinois, B.S. 1984 (chemistry); U. of Illinois, Chicago, M.D. 1988

**Military:** Naval Reserve 1989-98

**Career:** Surgeon

**Political highlights:** No previous office

The only criticisms Bucshon faced from conservative voters during the campaign were complaints that he was too neatly in line with Washington Republicans. His political philosophy reflects the meat and potatoes of the GOP platform.



“I’m a person that always believes in limited government, low taxation by government on business, and I’m a strong believer in the private sector and free-market economy,” he says. “I’m a fiscal conservative, a social conservative.”

A cardiothoracic surgeon, Bucshon wants to push for repeal of this year’s health care overhaul, even though he thinks it is unlikely to happen while President Obama is in office. His more immediate goal is to prevent any tax increases amid the current economic difficulties, and he says that cutting government spending will help create jobs.

He also gives priority to national issues that have ramifications for the 8th District. As an example, he says he would fight Democrats’ cap-and-trade legislation, contending it would damage the coal industry — a major employer in Indiana and specifically in the district.

Bucshon says he would like a seat on the Armed Services Committee to protect the Naval Surface Warfare Center in Crane, Ind., but he also is interested in serving on the Energy and Commerce Committee and its health panel. A spot on the Transportation and Infrastructure panel, meanwhile, would allow him to address highway and railroad issues in his state, he says.



## INDIANA (9)

**Todd Young, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Baron P. Hill, D  
**Residence:** Bloomington  
**Born:** Aug. 24, 1972; Lancaster, Pa.  
**Religion:** Christian  
**Family:** Wife, Jennifer Young; four children  
**Education:** U.S. Naval Academy, B.S. 1995 (political science); U. of London, M.A. 2001 (United States studies); U. of Chicago, M.B.A. 2002; Indiana U., Indianapolis, J.D. 2006  
**Military:** Navy 1990-91; Marine Corps 1995-00  
**Career:** Lawyer; congressional aide  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

Young describes himself as a libertarian conservative in the model of Ronald Reagan and says he has one goal as a legislator: to “get our balance sheet back in order as a country.”



Young says that until Congress shrinks the federal budget, it will remain his only concern. “Everything seemingly comes back to this massive issue,” he says. “If we get this one knocked out while I’m there, maybe there’ll be something else that I’ll turn most of my attention to.”

His plan involves passing balanced-budget legislation and eliminating waste across government, including areas where many Republicans are reluctant to make cuts. “I’m not one of these legislators who, without pause, thinks we ought to ramp up our spending in the military,” he says.

Young also says he would support proposals to repeal and replace the 2010 health care overhaul. He wants Congress to boost investment in critical infrastructure and remove regulations he says are harmful to businesses. And he opposes any cap-and-trade program for controlling greenhouse gas emissions.

Young says he has no illusions about the limited power of a freshman, but he does not think he will be overwhelmed by the transition to federal lawmaking.

His previous Capitol Hill experience includes a stint as an energy and economic policy aide for Sen. Richard G. Lugar, an Indiana Republican. He lists former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as “one of the statesmen that I respect most in history.”

## KANSAS (1)

**Tim Huelskamp, R**

**Pronounced:** HYOOLS-camp  
**Election:** Defeated Alan Jilka, D, to succeed Jerry Moran, R, who ran for Senate  
**Residence:** Fowler  
**Born:** Nov. 11, 1968; Fowler, Kan.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Angela Huelskamp; four children  
**Education:** College of Santa Fe, B.A. 1991 (education); American U., Ph.D. 1995 (political science)  
**Career:** Farmer  
**Political highlights:** Kan. Senate, 1997-present

Huelskamp says he will be a “reliable conservative vote” in Congress, and he has a record in the Kansas Senate to prove it.

During his 14-year tenure there, he sponsored an amendment to strip Planned Parenthood of its state funding and pushed for amendments to the state constitution to ban gay marriage and guarantee individual gun rights.

On Capitol Hill, Huelskamp says, he plans to work with the far-right contingent of the Republican Party to battle the health care overhaul enacted in 2010 and to block legislation that would create a cap-and-trade system for greenhouse gas emissions.

He has experiences that could make him a leading voice on other issues: A career farmer, Huelskamp says the EPA has “a real anti-farmer agenda,” citing its efforts to ban chemicals that farmers use to grow crops.

He has a familiarity with immigration: Two of his four adopted children are from Haiti. Although he says the international adoption process could be streamlined, he advocates a hard-line approach to illegal immigration. He pushes for more secure borders and giving employers the right to do status checks on employees.

“I’ve been through Immigration and Customs Enforcement [and] the paperwork,” Huelskamp says. “And it was a difficult situation, going through all that paper. But when I look at that situation, I see that citizenship should be a privilege, not a right. It should be difficult.”



## KANSAS (3)

**Kevin Yoder, R**

**Election:** Defeated Stephen Moore, D, to succeed Dennis Moore, D, who retired  
**Residence:** Overland Park  
**Born:** Jan. 8, 1976; Hutchinson, Kan.  
**Religion:** Christian  
**Family:** Wife, Brooke Robinson Yoder  
**Education:** U. of Kansas, B.A. 1999 (political science & English), J.D. 2002  
**Career:** Lawyer  
**Political highlights:** Kan. House, 2003-present

Yoder is expected to join the ranks of the conservative Republican Study Committee, where he will focus on fiscal responsibility, building the economy and cutting spending to reduce government debt. During his eight years in the Kansas House of Representatives, he developed a reputation as a champion of small businesses and earned a “pro-business” rating from the Kansas Chamber of Commerce in 2009.

Having served as chairman of the state House Appropriations Committee, Yoder is most interested in a seat on the Appropriations Committee as well as the Ways and Means Committee, where he would push for permanent elimination of the estate tax.

Yoder was first elected to the state legislature in 2002 and served all eight years of his tenure on that chamber’s Judiciary Committee. His background as a business, banking and real estate lawyer — as well as an interest in driving the brewing debate over a comprehensive overhaul of immigration laws — has fueled an interest in a seat on the House Judiciary Committee as well.

A fifth generation Kansan who grew up on a grain and livestock farm near the community that carries his family name, Yoder supports private-sector innovation and free-market competition. His first year agenda will include a push for legislation to create private-sector jobs and a repeal of portions of the Democratic-driven health care law enacted in 2010 that he says will drive up patient costs and grow government bureaucracy.



## KANSAS (4)

**Mike Pompeo, R****Pronounced:** pom-PAY-oh**Election:** Defeated Raj Goyle, D, to succeed Todd Tiahrt, R, who ran for Senate**Residence:** Wichita**Born:** Dec. 30, 1963; Orange, Calif.**Religion:** Presbyterian**Family:** Wife, Susan Pompeo; one child**Education:** U.S. Military Academy, B.S. 1986 (engineering management); Harvard U., J.D. 1994**Military:** Army 1986-91**Career:** Oilfield equipment and aerospace manufacturing companies president; lawyer**Political highlights:** Republican National Committee, 2008-present

**P**ompeo is expected to fit comfortably with his fellow incoming GOP conservatives.

He was one of the first candidates in the country to be endorsed by the Club for Growth, a political group that supports fiscal conservatives. The endorsement, together with a Pompeo commercial that accused one of his primary opponents of being a RINO (Republican In Name Only), helped him grab the nomination in the heavily Republican district. He succeeds Republican Todd Tiahrt, who made an unsuccessful bid for the party's Senate nomination.

Pompeo intends to try to reduce the size of government, which he says is destroying jobs and creating uncertainty for private sector job creators.

He also believes the government should work to eliminate or outsource social programs. Instead, he says, the nation should rely more on the good works of individuals to take care of the poor and marginalized.

He plans to focus on de-funding and repealing the 2010 health care overhaul, securing the nation's borders, strengthening national security and promoting growth in the private sector.

Pompeo graduated first in his class from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point before serving as a tank commander in the 1980s. After leaving the Army, he earned a law degree from Harvard and moved to Kansas to co-found an aerospace company. He sold his share of it in 2006 and is now president of an oil services equipment company.



## LOUISIANA (2)

**Cedric Richmond, D****Election:** Defeated Rep. Anh "Joseph" Cao, R**Residence:** New Orleans**Born:** Sept. 13, 1973; New Orleans, La.**Religion:** Baptist**Family:** Single**Education:** Morehouse College, B.A. 1995 (business administration); Tulane U., J.D. 1998**Career:** Lawyer**Political highlights:** La. House, 2000-present; sought Democratic nomination for U.S. House, 2008

**R**ichmond's proposals read like they come straight from the Democratic playbook — of 2008.

The incoming lawmaker says he wants to broaden eligibility for the earned-income tax credit, provide a federal match of up to \$1,000 for new retirement plans, lower interest rates on student loans, increase Pell grants and crack down on subprime and predatory lending.

The former state representative, whose largely Democratic, African-American constituency includes most of New Orleans, says his support for such big-ticket items as the health care overhaul and economic stimulus laws can be summed up in a single word: recovery.

"As far as the national deficit and spending ... those things are on the minds of the voters in the 2nd Congressional District, but not as much as recovery," Richmond says. "We will not get full recovery without more federal help."

He hopes for committee spots that match up with his economic agenda. "I know they're ambitious," he says, "but I prefer Appropriations and Ways and Means, and we'll go from there."

Improving health care also is vital to his district's recovery, says Richmond, who supports expanding primary care clinics.

Another main goal is to move up the date for sharing federal oil revenue with Gulf Coast states, now scheduled for 2017. The move, he says, could provide money for his proposals and help erase Louisiana's budget deficit, which could result in hospital and school closings.



## LOUISIANA (3)

**Jeff Landry, R****Election:** Defeated Ravi Sangisetty, D, to succeed Charlie Melancon, D, who ran for Senate**Residence:** New Iberia**Born:** Dec. 23, 1970; St. Martinville, La.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Sharon Landry; one child**Education:** U. of Southwestern Louisiana, B.S. 1999; Southern U. Law School, attended 2001-03; Loyola U. New Orleans, J.D. 2004**Military:** La. National Guard 1987-98**Career:** Lawyer; oil and gas contamination cleanup company owner**Political highlights:** Republican nominee for La. Senate, 2007

**L**andry heads to Washington intent on getting the economy back on track. He says his experience owning a business has prepared him for the task.

Endorsed by leaders of the tea party movement, Landry is likely to be a reliably conservative voice in Congress. He opposes abortion rights, gun-control measures and tax hikes. He says a good Republican is "one who follows the fundamentals of the party: less government, fiscally conservative, a strict adherence to constitutional principles."

He supports a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution and a two-thirds majority requirement for Congress to raise taxes. Landry says he would like to serve on the Transportation and Infrastructure and Natural Resources committees, where he could work on projects that have been "needed for years" in southern Louisiana.

And even though the BP oil spill caused damage in his district, Landry says he will be an ally to the petroleum industry. He opposes cap-and-trade energy proposals, which he says would devastate economies that depend on oil and gas.

The 3rd District, where Landry was born and raised, serves as a hub for the oil industry in the Gulf of Mexico. While President Obama has lifted an oil-drilling moratorium there, Landry has criticized the slow pace of new drilling permits. "We must deal with a de facto moratorium placed on the shelf that is killing independent drillers that are the backbone of the oil and gas industry in Louisiana," he said in a statement.



## MARYLAND (1)

**Andy Harris, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Frank Kratovil Jr., D  
**Residence:** Cockeysville  
**Born:** Jan. 25, 1957; Brooklyn, N.Y.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Sylvia "Cookie" Harris; five children  
**Education:** Johns Hopkins U., M.H.S. 1995 (health finance & management); U. of Pennsylvania, attended 1973-75; Johns Hopkins U., B.A. 1977 (human biology), M.D. 1980  
**Military:** Naval Reserve 1988-2005  
**Career:** Physician  
**Political highlights:** Md. Senate, 1999-present (Republican whip, 2003-06); Republican nominee for U.S. House, 2008

Harris is the first person from the Chesapeake Bay's western shore to win the 1st District in two decades and the first ever from Baltimore County.



He opposes abortion, takes a tough stance on immigration, opposes gun control and favors opening up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and the outer continental shelf for oil and gas production. He wants to make the Bush-era tax cuts permanent and eliminate earmarks, which he vows he will never seek. He favors cutting the size of the government by, for example, eliminating the Education Department.

Although his official residence is on the bay's western shore, he owns a condo in Cambridge on the Eastern Shore. An anesthesiologist, he has worked at hospitals in Salisbury and Easton.

Eastern Shore residents are particularly concerned about the environmental health of the bay. Harris wants to "assess the effectiveness and funding of federal programs and to ensure collaboration between state and federal agencies to accomplish these goals." And he wants to make a priority of preserving the legs of the Eastern Shore economy — poultry, fishing, agriculture and tourism — through private sector job creation and cutting taxes.

He says the first bill he will sponsor would limit House members to six terms and senators to two terms.

He would like a seat on the Agriculture Committee, to fit his district's rural character, as well as on the Energy and Commerce or Armed Services panels.

## MASSACHUSETTS (10)

**William Keating, D**

**Election:** Defeated Jeff Perry, R, to succeed Bill Delahunt, D, who retired  
**Residence:** Quincy  
**Born:** Sept. 6, 1952; Norwood, Mass.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Tevis Keating; two children  
**Education:** Boston College, B.A. 1974 (political science), M.B.A. 1982; Suffolk U., J.D. 1985  
**Career:** Lawyer  
**Political highlights:** Mass. House, 1977-85; Mass. Senate, 1985-99; Norfolk County district attorney, 1999-present

After capturing the Open 10th District seat in a hard-fought campaign, Keating says he will head to Washington ready to take a bipartisan approach.



"It's an electorate right now that has lost some trust in our institution, so I think they're frustrated with the inability of government trying to deal with issues," he says, suggesting that both parties should work together to boost job and economic growth in the country.

Keating, who takes the seat held for seven terms by retiring Democrat Bill Delahunt, will represent a district that sprawls from Quincy just south of Boston all the way to the tip of Nantucket. Republican Scott P. Brown carried the 10th in his 2010 special election for the Senate, and Keating's own tough election battle suggests that in his first term he may take a centrist approach on some issues.

Having served as the Norfolk County district attorney since 1999, Keating says he would like a seat on the Judiciary Committee — where Delahunt has been serving.

He supports abortion rights and repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" law barring military service by openly gay individuals.

Given the coastal sweep of his district, Keating also pays close attention to environmental issues. As a state senator, he sponsored a law that virtually banned phosphates in household cleaners. He supported the fiercely contested wind farm project off Cape Cod, appropriately named Cape Wind, as a source of clean, renewable energy.

## MICHIGAN (1)

**Dan Benishek, R**

**Election:** Defeated Gary McDowell, D, to succeed Bart Stupak, D, who retired  
**Residence:** Crystal Falls  
**Born:** April 20, 1952; Iron River, Mich.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Judy Benishek; five children  
**Education:** U. of Michigan, B.S. 1974 (biology); Wayne State U., M.D. 1978  
**Career:** Surgeon  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

Benishek, a surgeon who had never run for political office, says he decided to launch his congressional bid after the \$787 billion economic stimulus legislation passed in February 2009.



"I just couldn't believe they would spend nearly a trillion dollars without reading the legislation," he says. "This just put me over the top."

It's no surprise then that cutting federal spending is his top priority in his new job. But health care, too, will be a defining issue. He pledges to read every bill before voting on it, and he will work to repeal the health care overhaul enacted in 2010.

Benishek says he is interested in seats on the Budget and Oversight and Government Reform committees. As the father of a veteran, he also would like to pursue a post on the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

He proposes a hiring freeze in the federal government, and he wants an extension of the Bush-era tax cuts. Benishek describes his ideas as a combination of basic conservative philosophy mixed with the concerns of his northern Michigan constituents.

"I'm sort of a common-sense guy. I've got a lot to learn — I admit that," he says. "I'm a quick learner."

When Benishek was 5 years old, his father died while working in the mines of Iron County, Mich., leaving Benishek's mother to raise the family.

"I didn't really get too much handed to me. I had to work my entire life," he says. "I think that's all Americans want — an opportunity to work. People of my district feel that way."



## MICHIGAN (2)

**Bill Huizenga, R**

**Pronounced:** HI-zing-uh  
**Election:** Defeated Fred Johnson, D, to succeed Peter Hoekstra, R, who retired  
**Residence:** Zeeland  
**Born:** Jan. 31, 1969; Zeeland, Mich.  
**Religion:** Christian Reformed  
**Family:** Wife, Natalie Huizenga; five children  
**Education:** Calvin College, B.A. 1992 (political science)  
**Career:** Private school fundraiser; congressional district aide; realtor  
**Political highlights:** Mich. House, 2003-09

**H**uizenga says he plans to be a voice of fiscal restraint — a member of Congress who “rages against the spending machine.”

The first piece of legislation he plans to offer would amend the Constitution to require a balanced budget.

He cites the growing debt and government regulation as major roadblocks to economic prosperity. To address those areas of concern, Huizenga says, he wants a seat on a committee with an economic purview, preferably Energy and Commerce, Financial Services or Budget.

On matters ranging from health care to energy, Huizenga claims the private sector has to be the vehicle for reform and that he will be a stalwart advocate for solutions pointing in that direction.

Huizenga takes over Michigan’s most conservative House district from his former boss, Republican Peter Hoekstra, who unsuccessfully ran for governor. Huizenga worked for Hoekstra as his director of public policy before becoming a state representative in 2003, and he says his social and fiscal beliefs are closely aligned with those of his old boss.

Huizenga, who co-owns a small gravel business, will be a reliable Republican vote. But he is careful to note that Republicans must offer alternatives to Democratic programs like cap and trade for carbon emissions and the health care overhaul.

“We can’t just be the party of ‘no.’ We have to offer alternative solutions. We can’t just repeal. We need to work toward creating different systems,” he says.



## MICHIGAN (3)

**Justin Amash, R**

**Pronounced:** ah-MAHS  
**Election:** Defeated Pat Miles, D, to succeed Vernon J. Ehlers, R, who retired  
**Residence:** Cascade Township  
**Born:** April 18, 1980; Grand Rapids, Mich.  
**Religion:** Eastern Orthodox  
**Family:** Wife, Kara Amash; three children  
**Education:** U. of Michigan, B.A. 2002 (economics), J.D. 2005  
**Career:** Lawyer; marketing consultant  
**Political highlights:** Mich. House, 2009-present

**C**entral Michigan, represented by soft-spoken Republican Vernon J. Ehlers for eight full terms, is in for big stylistic changes in Amash. The member-elect was already well on his way to becoming a national celebrity before Election Day, earning a spot on Time magazine’s “40 Under 40” list of rising political stars in October.

The ambitious lawmaker says his primary initiatives on Capitol Hill will be to increase transparency in the legislative process and to interact with constituents using online tools such as Facebook and Twitter.

“One of the things that I do as a state legislator is to explain every single vote that I take in real time on the Internet, and I’d like to carry the practice forth to Congress,” Amash says. “We might have some sort of website where you can show how your members of Congress are voting and have some kind of congressional social network.”

Amash says he will seek spots on the Energy and Commerce, Financial Services or Judiciary committees. He also says he will vote to extend the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts.

“I’ll have a very strong focus on economic issues, limiting government, decreasing the size and scope of government and also on some criminal justice issues,” Amash says.

Just don’t expect him to cut a similar profile to Ehlers.

“We come from different generations,” Amash says. “My predecessor was in his 70s, and I’m a 30-year-old.”



## MICHIGAN (7)

**Tim Walberg, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Mark Schauer, D  
**Residence:** Tipton  
**Born:** April 12, 1951; Chicago, Ill.  
**Religion:** Protestant  
**Family:** Wife, Sue Walberg; three children  
**Education:** Fort Wayne Bible College, B.S. 1975; Wheaton College (Ill.), M.A. 1978  
**Career:** Religious school fundraiser; education think tank president; minister  
**Political highlights:** Candidate for Onsted Community Schools Board of Education, 1981; Mich. House, 1983-98; sought Republican nomination for U.S. House, 2004; U.S. House, 2007-09; defeated for re-election to U.S. House, 2008

**W**alberg will pick up where he left off two years ago, advocating for conservative causes in the House. He served one term before losing to Democrat Mark Schauer in 2008 — and then defeated him to reclaim the seat.

Walberg is a proponent of repealing the Democratic-backed health care overhaul, extending all Bush-era tax cuts and enacting spending cuts.

“The trillion-dollar stimulus, government takeover of health care, and Speaker Pelosi’s budget with trillion-dollar deficits are placing America on an unsustainable financial course,” he says. He also favors line-item veto power for the president and a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget.

Walberg supports increased exploration of U.S. oil and natural gas reserves, along with development of wind and solar energy as well as other alternative sources.

In the 110th Congress, he had seats on the Agriculture and Education and Labor panels — assignments that reflected some of his constituents’ needs. Farming is a big part of the district’s economy, while Michigan’s jobless rate remains high.

Walberg positions himself as a “traditional values” lawmaker, saying he opposes abortion, gay marriage and allowing illegal immigrants to obtain driver’s licenses. He supports making English the nation’s official language.

He also favors privatizing Social Security, saying that younger workers should have “the option to save their own money in their own name in their own account.”



## MICHIGAN (13)

**Hansen Clarke, D**

**Election:** Defeated John Hauler, R, after defeating Rep. Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick in the primary

**Residence:** Detroit

**Born:** March 2, 1957; Detroit, Mich.

**Religion:** Roman Catholic

**Family:** Wife, Choi Palms-Cohen

**Education:** Cornell U., B.F.A. 1984 (painting); Georgetown U., J.D. 1987

**Career:** County government acquisitions administrator; congressional district aide

**Political highlights:** Mich. House, 1991-93; defeated for re-election to Mich. House, 1992; Mich. House, 1999-2003; Democratic nominee for Detroit City Council, 2001; candidate for Detroit mayor, 2005; Mich. Senate, 2003-present

Clarke plans to use the regulatory process to get funds for his economically hard-hit district. "I'll likely work a lot through the administrative agencies — a lot of times you can get more done that way," he says. "I'm looking more at the objective, the outcome . . . that's putting more people back to work, helping them become more financially secure."

Education also will be a chief concern, Clarke says. He cites a shortage of nurses in his district as an example of how furloughed manufacturing workers can be retrained. "In Michigan, we're having to hire foreign workers on a temporary basis to meet that need," he says. "I want to see metro Detroiters doing that."

Clarke wants to find funding for year-round schooling and after-school programs, as well as for adult-education initiatives. He also advocates for partnering schools with government agencies to provide recreational activities to youth.

He also says he supports a pathway to citizenship for workers in the country illegally and allowing the 2001 and 2003 tax breaks to expire for the wealthy, depending on "how that revenue will be applied."

He hopes to sidestep the fights over committee seats that are typical after an election, saying he does not have any assignments in mind for himself.

Clarke wants to change Detroit's political culture. "Many times [politicians] actually believe they're more important than the people they serve," he says. "That creates a culture of entitlement that's really been evident in Detroit politics for decades."



## MINNESOTA (8)

**Chip Cravaack, R**

**Pronounced:** kruh-VACK

**Election:** Defeated Rep. James L. Oberstar, D

**Residence:** Lindstrom

**Born:** Jan. 29, 1959; Charleston, W.Va.

**Religion:** Roman Catholic

**Family:** Wife, Traci Cravaack; two children

**Education:** U.S. Naval Academy, B.S. 1981; U. of West Florida, M.Ed. 1989

**Military:** Navy Reserve 1981-2005

**Career:** Airline pilot

**Political highlights:** No previous position

A Navy veteran and Northwest Airlines pilot, Cravaack sees reducing the government's role in business as the best way to promote economic growth and create jobs.

To boost employment in his district, he wants to ease regulatory restrictions and thus speed projects intended to aid nickel, copper and platinum mining.

Cravaack was once a union steward at Northwest and talked during the campaign about his days manning a picket line. He says Democrats have abandoned unionized workers like those in the Iron Range to curry favor with environmentalists. He opposes so-called card-check legislation that would allow unions to organize workplaces without a secret ballot.

Cravaack calls the 2009 economic stimulus "ludicrous" and says the rapid growth in government spending and debt threatens the country. He would extend the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for all income levels and eliminate the deficit by limiting spending; one pot of funding that he calls unnecessary is for bike trails, which have been championed by Oberstar.

On social issues, Cravaack is just as conservative. He won the endorsement of Gun Owners of America, a group that argues the National Rifle Association is too prone to compromise.

His experience as a pilot — and the fact he defeated the chairman — could point Cravaack toward the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. He also expressed an interest in Education and Labor, Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.



## MISSISSIPPI (1)

**Alan Nunnelee, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Travis W. Childers, D

**Residence:** Tupelo

**Born:** Oct. 9, 1958; Tupelo, Miss.

**Religion:** Baptist

**Family:** Wife, Tori Nunnelee; three children

**Education:** Mississippi State U., B.S. 1980 (marketing)

**Career:** Insurance company owner

**Political highlights:** Miss. Senate, 1995-present

Nunnelee brings to Congress a wealth of appropriations experience, a distaste for government debt and a reliably conservative vote on abortion, gun rights and national security.

He predicts that job creation will be the most important issue facing northern Mississippi for decades to come. He says Congress should end its "senseless borrowing" and explore ways to spur private sector growth through tax policies like the Gulf Opportunity Zones formed after Hurricane Katrina. "You can literally draw a line on the map" between the zones and the areas still struggling with historic unemployment in the absence of aid, he says.

Nunnelee says his experience with making the "difficult decisions" involved in balancing state budgets as chairman of the Mississippi Senate Appropriations Committee will come in handy in Washington, but he says his main expertise is in health policy. Congress should repeal the health care overhaul and replace it with "patient-centered health care reform," he says.

Nunnelee says the United States should "treat terrorists as enemies and not give them the rights of the very Constitution they wish to destroy." He also approves of Arizona's immigration enforcement law.

A disease blinded Nunnelee by the time he was a college senior. "I learned not to be embarrassed to ask for other people's help," he says. Doctors restored his vision with two cornea transplants.

He says the knowledge that another person's death made it possible for him to see gives him "a very keen sense of responsibility."



## MISSISSIPPI (4)

**Steven Palazzo, R****Pronounced:** puh-LAZZ-oh**Election:** Defeated Rep. Gene Taylor, D**Residence:** Biloxi**Born:** Feb. 21, 1970; Gulfport, Miss.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Lisa Palazzo; three children**Education:** U. of Southern Mississippi, B.S.B.A. 1994 (accounting), M.B.A. 1996**Military:** Marine Corps Reserve 1988-96; Mississippi National Guard 1997-present**Career:** Accountant; defense contracting company financial manager; oil rig inventory supervisor**Political highlights:** Miss. House, 2007-present

Palazzo says his top priority will be job creation and that the way to do that is by reducing government regulations and spending, blocking the “unionization of the entire United States” and cutting taxes.



He also wants to bolster national defense, an important issue in a district that boasts military installations such as Keesler Air Force Base, the Naval Construction Training Center Gulfport, the Naval Oceanographic Office and a significant military shipbuilding industry.

“We’re in a global war on terror that will last through my children’s lifetime,” the retired Marine says. “Equipping, training and preparing for future threats will be something I’ll be focused on. We can’t sacrifice that for any reason. That is why pruning the budget in other areas is extremely important.”

Palazzo, who would like a post on the Armed Services Committee, says he will push for a significant expansion of the Navy.

But with defense representing more than 50 percent of all discretionary spending, he says budget cutting will be “a long and arduous process,” and he called for a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution.

With his background as a CPA and business owner, Palazzo would like also to serve on the Ways and Means Committee, a rare assignment for a freshman lawmaker.

In addition, the former state legislator expressed interest in serving on the Agriculture and Transportation and Infrastructure panels.

## MISSOURI (4)

**Vicky Hartzler, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Ike Skelton, D**Residence:** Harrisonville**Born:** Oct. 13, 1960; Archie, Mo.**Religion:** Evangelical Christian**Family:** Husband, Lowell Hartzler; one child**Education:** U. of Missouri, B.S. 1983 (home economics & education); Central Missouri State U., M.S. 1992 (education)**Career:** Farmer; rancher; farm equipment dealership owner; homemaker; teacher**Political highlights:** Mo. House, 1995-2001

Hartzler literally wrote the book on waging faith-based political campaigns — it’s called “Running God’s Way” and is based on her election to the Missouri House.



Improving the economy, creating jobs and balancing the budget will be her priorities. “We’ve got to make sure we’ve got a stable economy for our future and not bankrupt our country with the runaway spending that’s under way,” she says.

Hartzler would vote to extend the Bush-era tax cuts across the board. She also calls estate taxes “highway robbery” and says she wants them kept low, if not eliminated.

She will seek to repeal the 2010 health care overhaul, preferring a revamp of the tort system and greater transparency in medical pricing. She backs gun rights and supports a constitutional amendment to ban abortion.

Hartzler opposes climate legislation that would cap carbon emissions. “There’s no reason to stifle our energy production here in America when our competitors aren’t going to have to abide by the onerous regulations in that bill,” she says. She supports expanded use of nuclear energy.

Her largely agricultural district includes Fort Leonard Wood and Whiteman Air Force Base, and thus Hartzler is interested in serving on the Agriculture and Armed Services committees. Minority Leader John A. Boehner of Ohio has promised her a seat on Armed Services, and she will work to expand the missions of the military bases, she says. Hartzler, who owns an agricultural equipment business with her husband, also expresses interest in the Small Business Committee.

## MISSOURI (7)

**Billy Long, R****Election:** Defeated Scott Eckersley, D, to succeed Roy Blunt, R, who ran for Senate**Residence:** Springfield**Born:** August 11, 1955; Springfield, Mo.**Religion:** Presbyterian**Family:** Wife, Barbara Long; two children**Education:** U. of Missouri, attended 1973-74**Career:** Auction company owner; Realtor; radio talk show host**Political highlights:** No previous office

Long’s campaign focused on his catch phrase of being “fed up” with what he called career politicians, but he is likely to a dependable vote for GOP leaders on both economic and social issues.



An auctioneer and Realtor, he has never served in elective office before.

But Long isn’t worried about not knowing his way around. He told the Joplin Globe that there is “enough experience in Washington to choke a horse.”

He says his first order of business is to repeal the Democrats’ health care overhaul, which he has called an “unmitigated disaster.” He backs giving small businesses more leeway to join together to buy coverage, health savings accounts and overhauling the medical liability system. Specific to his region, he favors loan forgiveness programs to encourage providers to serve rural areas.

He endorses a balanced-budget constitutional amendment coupled with an amendment to cap taxes at a specified percentage of personal income. And he promises not to “seek, support, or enact earmarks.”

Long also is a strong proponent of free trade, saying the opening up of new markets is essential to growing the economy of his southwest Missouri district. He wants to eliminate “obsolete” agricultural subsidies, but is not specific on which ones qualify as obsolete.

On social issues, Long is just as conservative. He calls himself “100 percent pro-life” and says marriage should be defined as between one man and one woman.



## NEVADA (3)

**Joe Heck, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Dina Titus, D**Residence:** Henderson**Born:** Oct. 30, 1961; Queens, N.Y.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Lisa Heck; three children**Education:** Pennsylvania State U., B.S. 1984 (health education); Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, D.O. 1988**Military:** Army Reserve 1991-present**Career:** Physician; medical response training consultant; Defense Department medical school administrator**Political highlights:** Nev. Senate, 2004-08; defeated for re-election to Nev. Senate, 2008

Representing a district hurt more than most by the economic downturn and real estate crisis, Heck will look to help mold a fiscal policy aimed squarely at job creation.



"The No. 1 issue we're facing is the fact that no matter what's coming out of Washington there's been absolutely nothing to stimulate our economy and create an environment where we can have sustainable job growth," Heck says. "It seems like the folks in Washington don't have a clue."

There is no doubt that Heck's constituents have had a rough time lately. Comprising much of the Las Vegas suburbs, his district has seen home prices fall steeply while unemployment has steadily risen.

As a member of Congress, Heck will embrace a "fair" tax structure that, he says, would allow citizens to keep a larger percentage of their income. His proposed policies include lowering the long-term capital gains tax rate and eliminating the estate tax.

The nation's health care system is also a central concern for Heck, a practicing physician.

"I think that we need to rely more on people who have real-world experience to craft changes to our health care system, as opposed to a 2,700-page behemoth," he says.

Heck's ideas for improving the health care system include implementing an individual-based (rather than employer-provided) insurance option, passing tort reform and improving the health of the nation through more nutritious diet plans.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE (1)

**Frank Guinta, R****Pronounced:** GIN (sounds like "grin")-ta**Election:** Defeated Rep. Carol Shea-Porter, D**Residence:** Manchester**Born:** Sept. 26, 1970; Edison, N.J.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Morgan Guinta; two children**Education:** Assumption College, B.A. 1993; Franklin Pierce Law Center, M.I.P. 2000**Career:** Campaign and congressional district aide; insurance and risk management consultant; insurance claims manager**Political highlights:** N.H. House, 2000-2002; Manchester Board of Mayor and Aldermen, 2002-06; mayor of Manchester, 2006-10

Guinta says he is "a small-government kind of guy" who wants to focus on tax policy, with an eye toward economic growth and job creation.



He takes credit for several fiscal moves made in Manchester while he was mayor, including a tax cut, budget cuts and a tax cap. Federal lawmakers, he says, should approach the nation's budget with "common sense, responsibility and accountability." Small businesses, meanwhile, should receive more tax incentives, he says.

Guinta acknowledges that freshmen have limited influence, but he says that he learned a few things as a New Hampshire-based aide to Republican Jeb Bradley, who held the same seat from 2003 to 2007.

"Certainly having two years of experience understanding the needs of constituents and how the process works in Washington gives me a leg up," Guinta says.

He opposes the 2010 health care law and says it should be replaced with measures that allow small businesses to pool employees together in larger groups and allow people to cross state lines to purchase insurance.

Guinta supports gun rights and opposes abortion, saying that society can do more to help women in "crisis pregnancies" to find alternatives to abortion.

Guinta says a seat on the Ways and Means or Budget committees would be ideal, although he acknowledges they are long shots. His other choices include Transportation and Infrastructure, Veterans' Affairs, Energy and Commerce, or Financial Services.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE (2)

**Charles Bass, R****Election:** Defeated Ann McLane Kuster, D, to succeed Paul W. Hodes, D, who ran for Senate**Residence:** Peterborough**Born:** Jan. 8, 1952; Boston, Mass.**Religion:** Episcopal**Family:** Wife, Lisa L. Bass; two children**Education:** Dartmouth College, A.B. 1974**Career:** Congressional aide; architectural products executive; energy consultant**Political highlights:** Sought GOP nom. for U.S. House, 1980; N.H. House, 1982-88; N.H. Senate, 1988-92; defeated in primary for re-election to N.H. Senate, 1992; U.S. House, 1995-2007; defeated for re-election to U.S. House, 2006

Bass is no stranger to the 12th District — he held the seat for 12 years, winning election as part of the 1994 "Republican revolution," but was ousted in 2006.



He says he wanted to reclaim his old seat to counteract the "arrogance" Democrats have shown since gaining control of Congress in 2006. The Congressional Budget Office's prediction of \$1 trillion annual federal deficits over the next decade was "the straw that broke the camel's back for me," he says.

Bass wants to return to the Energy and Commerce Committee, where he has six years of experience and played a role in writing the 2005 energy bill. Since leaving Congress, he has worked as a consultant with companies that develop alternative-energy technologies, and he wants to form a biomass energy caucus in Congress to promote such technology, which uses plant material and animal waste to generate power.

Bass also wants his colleagues to establish a new standing committee dedicated to spending reduction. It would recommend cuts to the full House, he says, giving members the opportunity to vote on them as resolutions.

Though Bass is more socially liberal than many Republicans — he opposes a constitutional amendment to define marriage as a union between a man and a woman — he says he generally supports the GOP's "Pledge to America." The campaign platform's fiscal recommendations are most important, he says: "We've got to cut spending — that's going to be the hardest part of all."

## NEW JERSEY (3)

**Jon Runyan, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. John Adler, D  
**Residence:** Mt. Laurel  
**Born:** Nov. 27, 1973; Flint, Mich.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Loretta Runyan; three children  
**Education:** U. of Michigan, attended 1992-95 (movement science)  
**Career:** Professional football player; professional arena football team owner  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

Runyan, a hulking former professional football player, likely will stand out more for his 6-foot-7-inch frame than for his political views.

He expects to align closely with the positions of the most recent Republican to hold his seat: H. James Saxton, who retired in 2009. Runyan wants seats on the same committees occupied by Saxton: Armed Services and Natural Resources. He says those assignments would allow him to look out for one of his district's biggest employers — the mega military complex composed of McGuire Air Force Base, Fort Dix and the Lakehurst naval station — and to protect the pinelands and beaches of southern New Jersey.

Even though he would have voted against the health care overhaul, Runyan says a full repeal is unrealistic. Instead, lawmakers should “chip away at it” by eliminating its most costly provisions, he says.

Runyan will also focus on finding ways to reduce federal spending and to jumpstart the economy. “We really need a balanced budget amendment,” he adds.

Though he's an economic conservative, Runyan supports abortion rights, except for late-term and partial-birth abortions. While believing marriage should be between a man and a woman, he backs civil unions for gay people. “Social issues are the only issues that really pull me back to be a moderate,” Runyan says.

Runyan, who spent most of his 13-year NFL career with the Philadelphia Eagles, says his charity work put him in touch with community leaders who urged him to run for Congress.



## NEW MEXICO (2)

**Steve Pearce, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Harry Teague, D  
**Residence:** Hobbs  
**Born:** Aug. 24, 1947; Lamesa, Texas  
**Religion:** Baptist  
**Family:** Wife, Cynthia Pearce; one child  
**Education:** New Mexico State U., B.B.A. 1970 (economics); Eastern New Mexico U., M.B.A. 1991  
**Military:** Air Force 1970-76  
**Career:** Oil well services company owner; pilot  
**Political highlights:** N.M. House, 1997-00; sought Republican nomination for U.S. Senate, 2000; U.S. House, 2003-09; Republican nominee for U.S. Senate, 2008

Pearce won his old job back, and now he wants to pick up where he left off on the House Financial Services Committee.

Pearce served on the committee in the 110th Congress and was the deputy ranking member of its Housing and Community Opportunity Subcommittee prior to his unwelcome two-year hiatus from Capitol Hill.

A slot on the panel would give him a platform for several of his priority issues, which include reducing taxes on investments and capital gains. Pearce says such cuts would give the economy a boost.

Another way to foster growth is to bring stability to the dollar, he says.

Pearce, who left the Hill following an unsuccessful run for Senate, also would feel familiar on the Natural Resources Committee, another panel he served on during his first stint in the House. He was the ranking member on the Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee and he has extensive experience with mineral resources from owning Lea Fishing Tools, an oilfield services firm.

He also is likely to reprise his role as a point person on the immigration debate.

While representing a district that shares a border with Mexico, Pearce served as a co-chairman of the Border Security Caucus. He supports upping the man hours spent on patrolling the border, so that officials can more quickly respond to reports of illegal crossings.

Pearce and his wife, who have been married for nearly 30 years, reside in the same town where he was raised.



## NEW YORK (13)

**Michael Grimm, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Michael E. McMahon, D  
**Residence:** Staten Island  
**Born:** Feb. 7, 1970; Brooklyn, N.Y.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Divorced  
**Education:** Baruch College, B.B.A. 1994; New York Law School, J.D. 2002  
**Military:** Marine Corps 1989-90; Marine Corps Reserve 1990-97  
**Career:** Health food store owner; FBI agent; stockbroker  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

Grimm cites his days in the Marine Corps when he talks about the importance of teamwork in policymaking, especially with Congress so polarized.

“It’s stifled our ability to lead,” he says. “In the military, there are arguments, there are fights. The Navy fights with the Marines. But when it’s time to get back to work, we all have each other’s hands and move forward.”

“Congress needs to take a page out of the military’s book,” he continued. “At the end of the day, we’re all Americans.”

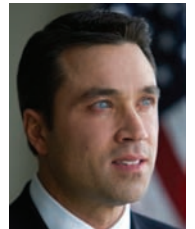
As a Republican, Grimm describes his politics as “just right of center” — he wants to repeal the 2010 health care overhaul law and opposes cap-and-trade energy policy and gay marriage.

But he says that he could side with Democrats if they introduce legislation he thinks would benefit his constituents.

“If they put forth a bill that’s good for my district and this country, I’m supporting it . . . regardless of who gets the credit.”

His days as an undercover FBI agent on Wall Street, cracking down on white collar crime, position him to back moves against corruption in big businesses.

As founder of a health-food restaurant and owner of a biofuels company, he supports policy initiatives that could help struggling and aspiring entrepreneurs alike. He advocates dispensing with the capital gains taxes for the next two years; temporarily reducing the payroll tax by 30 percent to 40 percent, and redirecting unspent stimulus money to help small businesses.



## NEW YORK (19)

**Nan Hayworth, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. John Hall, D**Residence:** Mount Kisco**Born:** Dec. 14, 1959; Chicago, Ill.**Religion:** Lutheran**Family:** Husband, Scott Hayworth; two children**Education:** Princeton U., A.B. 1981 (biology); Cornell U., M.D. 1985**Career:** Ophthalmologist; health care advertising firm executive**Political highlights:** No previous office

A retired ophthalmologist who later became vice president of a health care advertising agency, Hayworth wants to spend the 112th Congress on the “depowering” of the 2010 health care overhaul.



Specifically, she wants to work on legislation that would give consumers more choices by facilitating the sale of insurance across state lines and ensuring that health savings accounts are not discouraged.

Hayworth hopes to make changes to Medicare, and she wants to guarantee that doctors are adequately reimbursed by the program.

“Right now, Medicare providers are headed for an enormous cut in reimbursements,” Hayworth says. “That needs to be worked out, and that needs to be a pay-for.”

She wants a seat on the Energy and Commerce Committee, in order to have a say on those issues as well as focus on helping to develop nuclear energy.

Interested in education and jobs issues as well, Hayworth would like a seat on the Education and Labor Committee if she cannot serve on Energy and Commerce. But as a fiscal conservative who wants to cut taxes and balance the budget, she believes funding for the Education Department should not be increased and other non-military federal spending should be cut.

“The Department of Education, unfortunately, however nobly intended, has not produced any benefit to our nation’s students,” Hayworth says. “We need to cut spending. We need to facilitate growth.”

## NEW YORK (20)

**Chris Gibson, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Scott Murphy, D**Residence:** Kinderhook**Born:** May 13, 1964; Rockville Centre, N.Y.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Mary Jo Gibson; three children**Education:** Siena College, B.A. 1986 (history); Cornell U., M.A. 1995 (government), Ph.D. 1998 (government)**Military:** Army 1986-2010**Career:** Army officer**Political highlights:** No previous office

A retired colonel, Gibson spent nearly a quarter century in the Army before retiring earlier this year to pursue a political career. But Gibson doesn’t want to be typecast in Congress as a military man.



He says his first priority is to help repair the ailing economy, particularly the hard-hit farm sector of his upstate district. That means cutting taxes and burdensome regulations while expanding free trade, Gibson says.

To that end, he wants to repeal the new health care law, which he fears will bust the budget and sap small businesses, and shelve legislation aimed at combating global warming by capping emissions of greenhouse gases. He also would vote to extend the tax cuts enacted in 2001 and 2003. “There are three specific reasons small-business owners say they are not going to grow next year: taxes, regulation and health care costs,” he says.

Gibson says he wants to serve on the Agriculture Committee as well as Ways and Means or Energy and Commerce. Armed Services is another choice, although it ranks behind the others on his priority list.

That’s not to say Gibson doesn’t have some thoughts on military issues. He’s the author of a 2008 book, “Securing the State,” which argues for a more cooperative relationship between civilian and military leaders. He praises Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates for doing a good job repairing that rift. And Gibson says he supports President Obama’s approach to the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

## NEW YORK (24)

**Richard Hanna, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Michael Arcuri, D**Residence:** Barneveld**Born:** Jan. 25, 1951; Utica, N.Y.**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife Kim Hanna; two children**Education:** Reed College, B.A. 1976 (economics and political science)**Career:** Construction company owner; property development company manager**Political highlights:** Republican nominee for U.S. House, 2008

A native of the 24th district, Hanna prevailed in a rematch against Arcuri, who bested him in 2008 when Democrats were riding high.



Rebuilding the economy will be a core issue for the business owner and philanthropist. Hanna says he is ready to “immerse in big problems” and mentions spending caps as well as permanent small-business tax credits as possible policy options in the 112th Congress.

Hanna says that “neither party has it right” on everything, but Republicans have “a much better handle” on economic issues. He describes himself as a fiscal conservative but a social moderate; he supports civil unions for same-sex partners and abortion rights. Currently, he says, many “social issues are really a diversion from the desperate need we have to regrow our economy.”

To serve his farm-dependent district, Hanna will probably try for a seat on the Agriculture Committee. He also would be interested in serving on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

His father died when Hanna was 20 years old, leaving Hanna and his sister to provide for the family. He put himself through college during the next several years and afterward founded Hanna Construction, which he still owns and manages.

Since then, Hanna has played an active role in the community, serving on local boards and charities. He is also a “sustaining member” of the libertarian Cato Institute.



## NEW YORK (29)

**Tom Reed, R**

**Election:** Defeated Matt Zeller, D, to fill a vacancy  
**Residence:** Corning  
**Born:** Nov. 18, 1971; Joliet, Ill.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Jean Reed; two children  
**Education:** Alfred U., B.A. 1993 (political science); Ohio Northern U., J.D. 1996  
**Career:** Lawyer; real estate company owner  
**Political highlights:** Mayor of Corning, 2008-09

Reed brings a conservative voice to Washington, D.C., for a district that has had no representative in the House since March 2010, when Democrat Eric Massa resigned after being accused of sexually harassing male staff members.



His primary focus in Congress, Reed says, is getting the national debt and federal spending under control. To do this, he supports a hard cap on nondefense discretionary appropriations to “force a national dialogue” on the deficit.

He also has vowed to fight to keep in place, for all income levels, the tax cuts enacted during the George W. Bush administration.

Reed says he would support an effort to repeal the Democratic health care overhaul legislation enacted in 2010, although he acknowledges that success in that endeavor is unlikely. What’s more important, he said, is to keep debate going on the issue. He backs “tort reform” and the better use of software to reduce medical insurance fraud.

Despite the polarized nature of Congress, Reed thinks that his proposals can attract some support from the other side of the aisle. He emphasizes that he is open to new ideas and will talk to anyone, although he notes that he would not compromise his principles.

He says he decided that the country was headed down the wrong path when he saw President Obama’s agenda, including the \$787 billion stimulus law.

“The moment rang in my head as ‘This is not sustainable,’” he says.

## NORTH CAROLINA (2)

**Renee Ellmers, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Bob Etheridge, D  
**Residence:** Dunn  
**Born:** February 9, 1964; Ironwood, Mich.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Husband, Brent Ellmers; one child  
**Education:** Oakland U., B.S. (nursing)  
**Career:** Hospital administrator; nurse  
**Political highlights:** Dunn Planning Board, 2006-present (chairwoman, 2008-10)

One of a number of health professionals joining the 112th Congress, Ellmers was elected after promising to undo much of the health care overhaul legislation enacted in the spring of 2010.



Touting herself as a “God-fearing” fiscal and social conservative, the 46-year-old registered nurse — her husband is a doctor — is opposed to government-mandated insurance coverage.

But, she says, “simply standing against Obamacare is not enough.” She would replace it with “free-market-based” changes aimed at increasing accessibility, lowering costs and improving technologies.

Ellmers says the key to creating jobs is removing the uncertainty facing small businesses when it comes to health care costs and taxes. She will vote to extend all of the Bush-era tax cuts.

She is against gay marriage, abortion and a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, and she is a strong advocate for gun owners’ rights.

To combat illegal immigration, Ellmers says she will push to implement harsher penalties for employers who hire illegal immigrants and to create a stronger employment verification system, expanding beyond the current E-Verify program that confirms the eligibility of individuals to work in the United States.

Ellmers is expected to seek a spot on the coveted Energy and Commerce Committee. She has said ramping up drilling in the waters off North Carolina would be a boon for the state’s economy.

## NORTH DAKOTA (AL)

**Rick Berg, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D  
**Residence:** Fargo  
**Born:** Aug. 16, 1959; Maddock, N.D.  
**Religion:** Lutheran  
**Family:** Wife, Tracy Berg; one child  
**Education:** North Dakota State School of Science, attended 1977-78; North Dakota State U., B.A. 1981 (agricultural economics & communications)  
**Career:** Property development company owner  
**Political highlights:** N.D. House, 1985-present (majority leader, 2003-09)

Berg ran as a political outsider, despite his role in North Dakota’s political establishment as a member of the state House for more than two decades, including stints as majority leader and Speaker.



After completing his education, he formed a commercial real estate company, now called Goldmark Schlossman, serving as managing broker for the company until 2006. His business background, combined with conservative positions on energy and government spending, made him a favorite of influential national Republicans to take the seat held by Democrat Earl Pomeroy since 1993.

Like other newly elected Republicans, he favors minimizing the tax and regulatory burden on businesses and permanently eliminating the federal estate tax.

Berg wants to help move the country away from dependence on foreign sources of energy by developing more domestic sources. He also says the government needs to streamline the approval process for building new nuclear power plants.

Berg has offered some ideas to extend the solvency of Social Security, such as allowing oil and gas drilling in national parks, including North Dakota’s Theodore Roosevelt National Park, to pay for the retirement security program. When Pomeroy assailed that idea, Berg said he wasn’t proposing any change in the law and mostly favored more leasing on other federal lands.

Berg is a social conservative, opposing gay marriage and abortion rights while supporting gun owners’ rights.

## OHIO (1)

**Steve Chabot, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Steve Driehaus, D**Residence:** Cincinnati**Born:** Jan. 22, 1953; Cincinnati, Ohio**Religion:** Roman Catholic**Family:** Wife, Donna Chabot; two children**Education:** College of William & Mary, A.B. 1975 (history); Northern Kentucky U., J.D. 1978**Career:** Lawyer; teacher**Political highlights:** Candidate for Cincinnati City Council, 1979, 1983; Cincinnati City Council, 1985-90; Republican nominee for U.S. House, 1988; Hamilton Co. Board of Commissioners, 1990-95; U.S. House, 1995-2009; defeated for re-election to U.S. House, 2008

A veteran from the Republican class of 1994, Chabot is on a mission to restore conservative principles to the seat he lost to Democrat Steve Driehaus in 2008 as a result of what he calls “the Obama tsunami.”



“I want to be part of the change from the change we saw,” he says.

Still a strong believer in the 1994 “Contract With America,” Chabot says his priorities are to “get control of the spending” and “restrain the growth of government.” He is a fierce critic of the 2009 economic stimulus package and the health care overhaul.

The principal House sponsor of a 2003 law outlawing the procedure known as “partial birth” abortion, Chabot plans to continue to promote anti-abortion policies upon his return to Congress. He also opposes gay marriage and supports Second Amendment rights, with a mixed record on privacy issues.

During his previous 14 years in the House, Chabot served on the Judiciary, Foreign Affairs and Small Business committees. Those stops included a stint as chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution from 2001 to 2006 and as Small Business’ ranking Republican in 2007 and 2008. He hopes to return to all three panels in the 112th Congress with his seniority intact.

“That will put me in a position to be able to immediately play a very active role in reversing the direction of this Congress from one of absolutely lack of restraint in spending to fiscal discipline and balanced budgets,” he says.

## OHIO (6)

**Bill Johnson, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Charlie Wilson, D**Residence:** Poland**Born:** Nov. 10, 1954; Roseboro, N.C.**Religion:** Protestant**Family:** Wife, LeeAnn Johnson; four children**Education:** Troy U., B.S. 1979 (computer science); Georgia Institute of Technology, M.S. 1984 (computer science)**Military:** Air Force 1973-78; Air Force 1979-99**Career:** Air Force officer; information technology executive**Political highlights:** No previous office

Johnson says the new Congress should make “fixing the economy and creating jobs” its top priority.

He backs extension of the Bush-era tax cuts for all income levels and says reducing federal spending is the best way to protect Social Security. He opposes raising the retirement age.

“We need to get the federal government off the back of businesses. We have to grow the private sector,” he told the Herald-Dispatch of Huntington, W.Va., just across the Ohio River from the 6th District, in September.

Johnson, who retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel, said fighting the war on terrorism “means treating our enemies as enemies — not as Americans with constitutional rights.”

And he opposes repeal of the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy barring gays and lesbians from serving openly in the armed forces. Johnson said the controversy is a result not of problems arising in the military over the policy but from agitation by “the radical homosexual lobby.”

He said he is interested in serving on the Armed Services, Intelligence and Veterans’ Affairs committees because of his military background; Science and Technology because of his work as a technology entrepreneur after leaving the military; and Energy and Commerce because energy issues are important to his district.

He backs repeal of the 2010 health care overhaul, citing his anti-abortion position as a reason for working to replace the law with what he calls “market- and values-based solutions.”



## OHIO (15)

**Steve Stivers, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Mary Jo Kilroy, D**Residence:** Columbus**Born:** March 24, 1965; Cincinnati, Ohio**Religion:** United Methodist**Family:** Wife, Karen Stivers; one child**Education:** Ohio State U., B.A. 1989 (international studies), M.B.A. 1996**Military:** Ohio Army National Guard, 1988-present**Career:** Lobbyist; securities company executive; county party official; campaign aide**Political highlights:** Ohio Senate, 2003-08; Republican nominee for U.S. House, 2008

Stivers, who promotes himself as a budget hawk, wants to cut discretionary spending and supports giving line-item veto authority to the president.



But even if it would save taxpayer dollars, don’t expect him to support legislation that would privatize Social Security or raise the program’s retirement age. “The promises made to our seniors must be promises kept,” he pledged during the campaign. Instead, he says he wants to reduce costs by promoting efficiency and eliminating waste and fraud.

Energy independence also is on Stivers’ list of congressional priorities. He supports green energy technology, nuclear power and clean coal. But he turned his back this year on the cap-and-trade approach to regulating greenhouse gas emissions, the Columbus Dispatch reported, even though he supported the policy two years ago.

The new health care law runs counter to Stivers’ spending philosophy, and he will look for ways to control costs and promote price transparency.

He also isn’t a fan of this year’s financial regulatory overhaul because it “spends too much money and it costs jobs,” he told the Dispatch.

But while he says he will try to “fix” those two laws, he will not work to repeal them.

Stivers also speaks in support of abortion rights, but he established an anti-abortion record as a state Senator and was named a “preferred” candidate by Ohio Right to Life.

OHIO (16)

**Jim Renacci, R**

**Pronounced:** reh-NAY-see  
**Election:** Defeated Rep. John Boccieri, D  
**Residence:** Wadsworth  
**Born:** Dec. 3, 1958; Monongahela, Pa.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Tina Renacci; three children  
**Education:** Indiana U. of Pennsylvania, B.S. 1980 (accounting)  
**Career:** Business management consultant; professional arena football team executive; nursing homes owner; accountant  
**Political highlights:** Wadsworth Board of Zoning Appeals, 1994-95; Wadsworth City Council president, 2000-2003; mayor of Wadsworth, 2004-07

Renacci is a bottom-line kind of guy, an accountant who got into politics because he thought public budgets could be better drafted and executed.



He touts his conservative social values — for example he opposes abortion and stem cell research — but his campaign manager says “the main impetus for his campaign is to restore fiscal responsibility. . . . He’s going to take a bottom-line, business-oriented approach to governing.”

A 1980 graduate of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Renacci got his start in business as an accountant for a large firm in Pittsburgh, where he kept the books for nursing home companies. He left for Ohio in 1984 and started his own nursing home, which grew into a small group of nursing facilities. Fifteen years later he sold the nursing homes after his election to city council in Wadsworth.

Renacci’s various business investments have included minor league professional sports teams. From 2003 to 2008 he was co-owner of the Columbus Destroyers, an Arena League football team. He is still a minority owner of a minor league baseball team in California called the Lancaster JetHawks.

In 2004 he was elected mayor of Wadsworth, and during his four years in office he claimed credit for balancing the city’s budget without a tax increase by making across-the-board spending cuts.

He also lured commercial development to the area, which increased the town’s revenue. He touts pro-growth, limited-spending, low-tax policies.

OHIO (18)

**Bob Gibbs, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Zack Space, D  
**Residence:** Lakeville  
**Born:** June 14, 1954; Peru, Ind.  
**Religion:** Methodist  
**Family:** Wife, Jody Gibbs; three children  
**Education:** Ohio State U., A.A.S. 1974 (animal husbandry)  
**Career:** Property management company owner; hog farmer  
**Political highlights:** Ohio House, 2003-09; Ohio Senate, 2009-present

A well-known state legislator, Gibbs reflects the fiscal and social conservatism of his rural district, which sweeps across eastern and southern Ohio and includes rugged parts of Appalachia.



Many of his constituents work in agriculture — mostly dairy and beef cattle production — or in the steel and coal industries. As in other blue-collar areas, unemployment in the district remains above the national average.

Gibbs’ top priority is cutting the federal deficit and lowering the national debt. He wants to see greater small-business tax breaks, which he says would create jobs and boost the economy.

He opposes any cap-and-trade legislation to address climate change, saying the effects on industry would threaten to put another 100,000 Ohioans out of work.

Like many of his fellow Republicans, Gibbs opposes the 2010 health care overhaul pushed by President Obama. “One of the first things I will do is repeal ‘Obamacare’ and, at the very least, make sure the bill is ‘de-funded,’” Gibbs says.

He hews strictly to the GOP line on immigration, opposing amnesty for illegal immigrants and calling on the Obama administration to strengthen security measures along the nation’s borders.

With his background as a farmer and small-business owner, Gibbs says he hopes to serve on the Agriculture and Energy and Commerce committees. Given his concerns about federal spending, he would also like to serve on the Appropriations Committee.

OKLAHOMA (5)

**James Lankford, R**

**Election:** Defeated Billy Coyle, D, to succeed Mary Fallin, R, who ran for governor  
**Residence:** Edmond  
**Born:** March 4, 1968; Dallas, Texas  
**Religion:** Baptist  
**Family:** Wife, Cindy Lankford; two children  
**Education:** U. of Texas, B.S.Ed. 1990 (secondary education-history); Southwestern Theological Baptist Seminary, M.Div. 1994 (biblical languages)  
**Career:** Religious youth camp director  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

Lankford brings an unusual background to Congress.



Instead of a law degree or a master’s in business administration, his advanced degree is a master’s of divinity focusing on biblical languages.

His 13 years as program director at Falls Creek, a huge Baptist youth camp south of Oklahoma City, helped him develop a network of Southern Baptists that proved invaluable to his grass-roots mobilization effort in the Republican primary and runoff.

He says the job also gave him leadership and business experience, as he applied the limited resources of a nonprofit corporation to the complexity of a large institution serving tens of thousands of people annually.

He decided to run for Congress, he says, because he believes the nation is “in great risk of losing our freedom to worship, live as traditional families, pass on a better life to our children, and speak out for the issues we hold dear. Our Constitution does not give us freedom; our Constitution recognizes the freedom given to us by God. Every generation must work to protect that freedom for the next generation.”

Lankford’s top priorities in the House are consistent with those of other freshman Republicans: stopping deficit spending, simplifying the tax code, defending states’ rights, increasing domestic oil and gas production, and securing the borders. He would like to win assignments to the Budget and Transportation and Infrastructure committees.



## PENNSYLVANIA (3)

**Mike Kelly, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Kathy Dahlkemper, D  
**Residence:** Butler  
**Born:** May 10, 1948; Pittsburgh, Pa.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Victoria Kelly; four children  
**Education:** U. of Notre Dame, B.A. 1970 (sociology)  
**Career:** Car dealership owner  
**Political highlights:** Butler Area School Board, 1992-96; Butler City Council, 2006-09

Kelly hopes to land a seat on the Budget Committee, where he would serve as a fiscal hawk.

"I think if there were more people in the legislature that had actually run a business, I think they'd have a better idea of what they're doing," the car dealership owner says.

Kelly supports a legislative "sunset clause" that would mandate the expiration of federally funded programs unless Congress acts to renew them.

He will vote to repeal the 2010 health care overhaul if given the opportunity, because it addresses government, not health care, according to his campaign website.

The Veterans' Affairs Committee interests Kelly. He is not a veteran, but he says he is inspired by his father's military service in World War II. "I'd like to somehow be able to work on something that gives back to [veterans] and everything they've done for us," Kelly says.

He notes that his district is home to two veterans' hospital facilities and that veterans "have to feel assured that they can go and get the kind of care that they're entitled to."

While Kelly attended numerous events for the tea party movement during his campaign, he says he has not decided whether to join the Tea Party Caucus formed by Republican Michele Bachmann of Minnesota this year. "I'm not really painting myself in a corner right now," he says. "I'm certainly open to anything that would help me serve better as a representative to the people in the 3rd District."



## PENNSYLVANIA (7)

**Pat Meehan, R**

**Election:** Defeated Bryan Lentz, D, to succeed Joe Sestak, D, who ran for Senate  
**Residence:** Drexel Hill  
**Born:** Oct. 20, 1955; Cheltenham, Pa.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Carolyn Meehan; three children  
**Education:** Bowdoin College, B.A. 1978 (classics & government); Temple U., J.D. 1986  
**Career:** Lawyer; congressional district and campaign aide; professional hockey referee  
**Political highlights:** Delaware County district attorney, 1996-2001; U.S. attorney, 2001-08

Meehan promises to focus on economic issues in Congress, telling Pennsylvania voters he will push for federal investments in the district while fighting against any tax increases on small businesses or individual taxpayers.

Repairing the economy "is going to take courageous decisions at a bipartisan level," Meehan said at an issues forum during the campaign. To help create jobs, he wants to allocate federal dollars to infrastructure projects for highways and mass transit.

The former U.S. attorney, who was sworn in six days after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, is likely to be a leader in Congress on terrorism and crime matters. He earned a reputation in that post for prosecuting Pennsylvania officials brought up on corruption charges.

He also focused on efforts against terrorism, identity theft and gang crime.

Meehan, who is mum about which committee assignments he is angling for, arrives in Congress after a highly competitive race. And it wasn't even the first race he entered during the 2010 cycle. He originally sought to run for Pennsylvania governor, but he pulled out early in the contest to run for the congressional seat being vacated by Democrat Joe Sestak, who ran for Senate.

The 7th District is a big pickup for Republicans, who counted on capturing the seat as part of their effort to win back the House of Representatives. The National Republican Congressional Committee identified Meehan as one of their first "Young Guns."



## PENNSYLVANIA (8)

**Michael G. Fitzpatrick, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Patrick J. Murphy, D  
**Residence:** Levittown  
**Born:** June 28, 1963; Philadelphia, Pa.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Kathy Fitzpatrick; six children  
**Education:** St. Thomas U. (Fla.), B.A. 1985 (political science); Dickinson School of Law, J.D. 1988  
**Career:** Lawyer  
**Political highlights:** Republican nominee for Pa. House, 1990, 1994; Bucks County Board of Commissioners, 1995-2005; U.S. House, 2005-07; defeated for re-election to U.S. House, 2006

Fitzpatrick proved during his previous, one-term stay in the House that he was a reliable conservative on both economic and social issues.

During his comeback campaign he stressed jobs and deficits, saying, "Federal spending is out of control."

On the tax side, Fitzpatrick backs extension of the 2001 and 2003 cuts for all income levels, arguing that letting tax rates go up now would discourage job creation.

A former Bucks County commissioner, the business-friendly Fitzpatrick served on the Small Business and Financial Services panels during the 109th Congress. And he espouses a familiar GOP refrain: "Government does not create jobs. Free enterprise, business, industry and entrepreneurs do."

On a range of issues, Fitzpatrick hews to the conservative line: He takes a tough stance on national security, backs stricter immigration enforcement, supports gun owners' rights and criticizes the Democrats' health care overhaul while promoting "free-market solutions" to boost insurance coverage.

Fitzpatrick says he supports a "balanced" energy policy that includes nuclear power, development of clean-coal technology and "responsible" offshore drilling. He would also be a champion for the development of natural gas from Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale, which he says would provide both an increased supply of domestic energy and jobs for the state.



## PENNSYLVANIA (10)

**Tom Marino, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Christopher Carney, D  
**Residence:** Lycoming Township  
**Born:** Aug. 13, 1952; Williamsport, Pa.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Edie Marino; two children  
**Education:** Williamsport Area Community College, A.A. 1983; Lycoming College, B.A. 1985 (political science & secondary education); Dickinson School of Law, J.D. 1988  
**Career:** Lawyer; bakery worker  
**Political highlights:** Lycoming County district attorney, 1992-2002; U.S. attorney, 2002-07

Judiciary would seem to be a natural committee assignment for Marino, who was the district attorney in his rural home county for a decade and then the Bush administration's top federal prosecutor in a mostly rural region that stretches from Harrisburg to Scranton.

No Pennsylvanian from either party is currently on the panel. GOP leaders generally pick reliable social conservatives for the committee, and Marino is unambiguous on many of the hot-button issues within its purview, starting with his opposition to abortion, gun control and creating a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants.

If Republicans push to reopen the debate on the health care system, Marino could use a Judiciary assignment to advance his (and his party's) longstanding goal of limiting medical-malpractice litigation.

Marino also has expressed interest in a few other committees: Veterans' Affairs, because the aging population he will represent includes a large number of veterans, and Agriculture, where he would work to protect the interests of the dairy farmers populating the state's northeast corner. Another parochial priority will be boosting efforts to extract natural gas from the Marcellus Shale geologic formation underneath central Pennsylvania.

Marino, who describes himself as supportive of but not part of the tea party movement, expects to be a reliable vote for the GOP on all major areas but one: While most Republicans describe themselves as free-traders, he has expressed opposition to several pending trade liberalization agreements.



## PENNSYLVANIA (11)

**Lou Barletta, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Paul E. Kanjorski, D  
**Residence:** Hazleton  
**Born:** Jan. 28, 1956; Hazleton, Pa.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, MaryGrace Barletta; four children  
**Education:** Bloomsburg State College, attended 1973-76; Luzerne County Community College, attended 1976-77  
**Career:** Pavement marking company owner  
**Political highlights:** Republican nominee for Hazleton City Council, 1996; Hazleton City Council, 1998-00; mayor of Hazleton, 2000-present; Republican nominee for U.S. House, 2002, 2008

Barletta made national news as mayor of Hazleton in 2006, when he vowed that his small city would be "the toughest place on illegal immigrants in America." The tough ordinance he pushed through the city council has been struck down in federal court, but illegal immigration remains a signature issue for him.

Although Barletta follows the conservative GOP line on most topics — he opposes abortion and favors strong gun rights — he says he wants to be an independent voice in Congress and find common-sense solutions whenever possible. "I hope to make a difference in Washington," he says.

On the economy, Barletta says there are "many things" that Congress can do to help create jobs while bringing "some sense" to federal tax laws. He also opposes the 2010 health care overhaul.

He would like to put his background in road construction to good use on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. His father owned a road construction company, and Barletta co-founded his own construction firm, Interstate Road Marking Corp., before becoming mayor.

Barletta is expected to continue to promote a project that will transform an abandoned coal-mining operation in Hazleton into a tourist destination with a 20,000-person amphitheater.

He would also like a seat on the Judiciary Committee, which handles the bulk of immigration legislation that moves through the House.



## RHODE ISLAND (1)

**David Cicilline, D**

**Pronounced:** sis-uh-LEE-nee  
**Election:** Defeated John Loughlin, R, to succeed Patrick J. Kennedy, D, who retired  
**Residence:** Providence  
**Born:** July 15, 1961; Providence, R.I.  
**Religion:** Jewish  
**Family:** Single  
**Education:** Brown U., B.A. 1983 (political science); Georgetown U., J.D. 1986  
**Career:** Lawyer; public defender  
**Political highlights:** Sought Democratic nomination for R.I. Senate, 1992; R.I. House, 1995-2003; mayor of Providence, 2003-present

After serving eight years as mayor of Providence, David Cicilline heads to the House with "a perspective and an understanding," he says, of the "urgency of what needs to be done" to get people back to work.

He would like to follow his predecessor, Democrat Patrick J. Kennedy, on to the Appropriations Committee, but Cicilline also has his sights on a more realistic goal: the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. A former public defender, he also is interested in the Judiciary panel.

Cicilline promises to push to bring troops home from Afghanistan as "expeditiously and responsibly as possible," saying, "we spent \$400 billion in Afghanistan, and we have bridges and water systems in our own country that need to be rebuilt."

Cicilline says his first priority is job creation. He has pushed for a Made in America Block Grant program to help manufacturers retrofit their businesses and retrain employees. He supports the creation of a National Infrastructure Bank to develop public-private partnerships for investment in infrastructure projects.

He refused to take campaign contributions from city employees as a mayoral and congressional candidate and supports public financing for elections.

Cicilline has vowed to work for full equality for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community. "As an openly gay man, I have a deep understanding of the importance of achieving equality for all citizens," he said on his campaign website.



## SOUTH CAROLINA (1)

**Tim Scott, R**

**Election:** Defeated Ben Frasier, D, to succeed Henry E. Brown Jr., R, who retired  
**Residence:** Charleston  
**Born:** Sept. 19, 1965; North Charleston, S.C.  
**Religion:** Christian  
**Family:** Single  
**Education:** Presbyterian College, attended 1983-84; Charleston Southern U., B.S. 1988  
**Career:** Insurance agency owner; financial adviser  
**Political highlights:** Charleston County Council, 1995-2008 (chairman, 2002-03, 2007-08); Republican nominee for S.C. Senate, 1996; S.C. House, 2009-present

Scott, the first African-American Republican elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives since Reconstruction, now expects to make his mark in Washington as a staunch fiscal conservative.



The small-business owner says he is especially committed to ending the practice of earmarking.

"This has to stop if we are ever going to get our fiscal house in order," Scott says.

Supported by prominent politicians on the right including Sarah Palin and Sen. Jim DeMint of South Carolina, Scott has enthusiastically embraced other conservative positions, including repealing the 2010 health care overhaul law and reducing federal spending and taxes.

He has made the economic development of his coastal district a priority, pledging to fight for highway and other public-works funding.

"I understand the importance of having the infrastructure to bring more industry, business, and jobs to our state," Scott says.

He has been critical of the administration's efforts to curb deepwater drilling in the wake of the BP oil spill, saying that domestic oil production must continue along with the pursuit of nuclear, solar, coal and other sources of energy.

Although he stresses economic issues, Scott is also a cultural conservative, opposing gun control, embryonic stem cell research and gay marriage. He favors a federal crackdown on illegal immigration and was endorsed by the founder of the Minutemen Project.

## SOUTH CAROLINA (3)

**Jeff Duncan, R**

**Election:** Defeated Jane Dyer, D, to succeed J. Gresham Barrett, R, who ran for governor  
**Residence:** Laurens  
**Born:** Jan. 7, 1966; Greenville, S.C.  
**Religion:** Baptist  
**Family:** Wife, Melody Duncan; three children  
**Education:** Clemson U., B.A. 1988 (political science)  
**Career:** Real estate auction company owner; real estate broker; banker  
**Political highlights:** S.C. House, 2003-present

Duncan plans to focus much of his attention on promoting nuclear energy, specifically at the federal government's Savannah River site, a portion of which falls within his district.



He says energy independence is vital to national security and the health of the economy. He views nuclear power — and the Savannah River site, which has reactors as well as a national laboratory — as a key ingredient in that equation.

Duncan, who developed solidly conservative credentials as a state legislator, is willing to work across the aisle on behalf of the facility. In particular, he wants to enlist the help of a fellow South Carolinian: James E. Clyburn, a member of the House Democratic leadership.

He also wants to work to expand other domestic energy sources — including offshore oil — and he eventually wants to win a seat on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

In the meantime, he is interested in two other committees: Financial Services, where he could use the skills he developed during his career in banking; and Agriculture, where his experience as chairman of the state House's agriculture panel would be useful. He also was chairman of a panel assigned to study South Carolina's education funding formulas.

Duncan is passionate about stronger oversight of federal agencies. In the state House, he created a subcommittee that focused exclusively on reviewing new regulations. In Washington, he says, he will continue to monitor the federal bureaucracy closely.

## SOUTH CAROLINA (4)

**Trey Gowdy, R**

**Election:** Defeated Paul Corden, D, after defeating Bob Inglis in the primary  
**Residence:** Spartanburg  
**Born:** Aug. 22, 1964; Greenville, S.C.  
**Religion:** Baptist  
**Family:** Wife, Terri Gowdy; two children  
**Education:** Baylor U., B.A. 1986 (history); U. of South Carolina, J.D. 1989  
**Career:** Lawyer  
**Political highlights:** Assistant U.S. attorney, 1994-2000; S.C. 7th Circuit solicitor, 2001-present

Gowdy has a clear litmus test for evaluating whether to support a legislative proposal: Can the bill's sponsor point to the portion of the Constitution that empowers Congress to legislate in that area?



"I have to have a paradigm that you can consistently apply," the former federal prosecutor says. "My legislative paradigm would start with whether or not something is constitutional."

Gowdy, who has served as circuit solicitor (district attorney) for the past decade, will be at home in a crop of conservative, change-minded Republican freshmen.

He views himself as an outsider, a role he played to the hilt in defeating six-term Rep. Bob Inglis in the GOP primary. He pledges that he will not be tempted by inside-the-Beltway trappings. Too many in Washington are preoccupied with getting re-elected, he says, and the tenor of debate has become overly vitriolic. That has eroded public trust in government, something he hopes to help change.

"You can fight hard but still fight fairly," says Gowdy, who as solicitor donated portions of his campaign war chest to keep members of his staff from having to take state-ordered furloughs.

Gowdy says he would be interested in serving on the Financial Services or Foreign Affairs committee. He could also be interested in a spot on the Judiciary Committee, which would allow him to draw on his extensive legal background as a prosecutor at both the state and federal levels, and as a lawyer in private practice early in his career.



SOUTH CAROLINA (5)

**Mick Mulvaney, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. John M. Spratt Jr., D  
**Residence:** Indian Land  
**Born:** July 21, 1967; Alexandria, Va.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Pam Mulvaney; three children  
**Education:** Georgetown U., B.S.F.S. 1989 (international economics); U. of North Carolina, J.D. 1992  
**Career:** Real estate developer; restaurateur; lawyer  
**Political highlights:** S.C. House, 2007-09; S.C. Senate, 2009-present

Mulvaney stands to be part of what he calls a new generation of young fiscal conservatives in Congress, aiming to curb what he sees as out-of-control government spending.



"I got into politics in 2006 as a reaction to the Republican spending in the middle part of that decade," he says. "I didn't like how my party was spending."

Favoring limited government, legislative transparency and term limits, Mulvaney has the support of both the tea party movement and the Republican establishment.

Though freshmen aren't generally invited to join the Budget Committee, Mulvaney hopes his defeat of the panel's chairman and the state's longest-serving congressman, 15-term Democrat John M. Spratt Jr., will give him a shot.

His background in business, economics, commerce, finance and law makes him an ideal candidate for that appointment, he says. A lawyer by training, Mulvaney has also worked in his family's homebuilding and real estate company.

He decided to run for Congress while watching Spratt get jeered at a November 2009 meeting on health care, and Mulvaney says he'll immediately seek a full repeal of President Obama's health care overhaul law.

Mulvaney hopes to follow that with "an alternative proposal that will bring some free-market reforms to health care," he says.

Mulvaney supports a moratorium on earmarks, at least until the budget is balanced, and he says he hopes to create jobs in his home state by cutting taxes.

SOUTH DAKOTA (AL)

**Kristi Noem, R**

**Pronounced:** NOHM  
**Election:** Defeated Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, D  
**Residence:** Castlewood  
**Born:** Nov. 30, 1971; Watertown, S.D.  
**Religion:** Evangelical Christian  
**Family:** Husband, Bryon Noem; three children  
**Education:** Northern State U., attended 1990-92; South Dakota State U., attending (political science)  
**Career:** Farmer; rancher; hunting lodge owner; restaurant manager  
**Political highlights:** S.D. House, 2007-present (assistant majority leader, 2009-present)

Noem hopes to be a voice of fiscal restraint and limited government while also advocating conservative social values.



She supports repealing the Democrats' health care overhaul as well as extending a moratorium on earmarks and reducing taxes.

"We need to get our economy back on track and get the excessive spending and government growth under control," she says.

While she has avoided being labeled a tea party candidate, Noem shares the movement's prototypical affinity for small government, free markets, transparency and "constitutional conservatism" — stances that have gained her comparison to home-state GOP Sen. John Thune and former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin.

Noem also trends right on social issues, opposing gay marriage, abortion and regulation of firearms.

"In the state legislature, I sponsored key legislation to protect our Second Amendment rights," she says. "I plan on doing the same thing in the House of Representatives."

A lifelong rancher, Noem says she would be interested in pursuing seats on the Energy and Commerce and Agriculture committees.

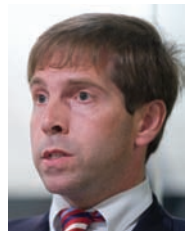
She says changes need to be made to federal crop subsidies, an issue of major importance in her state. While she is not opposed to continuing direct payments, Noem said more emphasis needs to be placed on crop insurance and risk management.

TENNESSEE (3)

**Chuck Fleischmann, R**

**Election:** Defeated John Wolfe, D, to succeed Zach Wamp, R, who ran for governor  
**Residence:** Ooltewah  
**Born:** Oct. 11, 1962; Manhattan, N.Y.  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Brenda Fleischmann; three children  
**Education:** U. of Illinois, B.A.L.A.S. 1983 (political science); U. of Tennessee, J.D. 1986  
**Career:** Lawyer  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

A longtime lawyer and occasional radio talk show host, Fleischmann is expected to be a party-line Republican in Congress. He told a Tennessee social club before the election that his first line of business would be to "say goodbye to [House Speaker] Nancy Pelosi."



He has promised to support a repeal of the health care overhaul law enacted in 2010, and he says that he will work to reduce the deficit, promote gun rights, and fight against abortion rights and gay marriage. He also supports oil exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve, increasing nuclear power capabilities and clean-coal energy.

When he arrives in Washington, Fleischmann will be hoping for a seat on the Appropriations Committee, where eight-term Republican Zach Wamp, his predecessor, served.

Fleischmann has no prior service in public office. He founded a law firm with his wife almost immediately after graduating from law school in 1986. Although a political novice, Fleischmann's victory over Democrat John Wolfe came as no surprise. His first-place finish in a contentious and crowded August primary basically ensured that he would go on to represent the majority-Republican district.

Fleischmann's primary win was largely credited to his deep campaign coffers, including \$700,000 of his own money, which helped him defeat former state party chairwoman Robin Smith. An endorsement by former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee also helped Fleischmann nab the primary victory.

## TENNESSEE (4)

**Scott DesJarlais, R**

**Pronounced:** DAY-zhur-lay  
**Election:** Defeated Rep. Lincoln Davis, D  
**Residence:** South Pittsburg  
**Born:** Feb. 21, 1964; Des Moines, Iowa  
**Religion:** Episcopalian  
**Family:** Wife, Amy DesJarlais; four children  
**Education:** U. of South Dakota, B.S. 1987 (chemistry & psychology), M.D. 1991  
**Career:** Physician  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

**D**esJarlais, a physician, says he was inspired to run by what patients were saying at his Jasper practice. People were talking less about hunting and fishing, he says, and more about their anger at the Obama administration.



He promises that he will be an “equal opportunity cutter” in Congress: “Every program in the government right now has waste and abuse in it,” he says. “The Internal Revenue Service is a great example of a place to start, but there’s so many departments that need to be pared down and cleaned up.”

Bureaucracy limits all levels of the private sector, DesJarlais says. “Small businesses and corporations are being smothered by regulations that are keeping us from being competitive with foreign countries,” he argues.

He promises to do “anything that reduces the size and scope of government and reduces taxes” and says seats on the Budget or Small Business panels would help him pursue those goals.

He identifies with the 1994 House GOP class and wants to revive one of its signature issues: term limits. They would help restore accountability and leadership in Congress, he says, moving it to an environment where a lawmaker can “say what you mean and mean what you say.”

The 2010 health care law also is a target. “I think that I can lend a lot of expertise as a physician and would be a strong supporter of repeal,” says DesJarlais, who works in the family practice at a community hospital.

## TENNESSEE (6)

**Diane Black, R**

**Election:** Defeated Brett Carter, D, to succeed Bart Gordon, D, who retired  
**Residence:** Gallatin  
**Born:** Jan. 16, 1951; Baltimore, Md.  
**Religion:** Lutheran  
**Family:** Husband, David Black; three children  
**Education:** Anne Arundel Community College, A.S.N. 1971; Belmont U., B.S.N. 1992  
**Career:** Nonprofit community organization fundraiser; nurse  
**Political highlights:** Tenn. House, 1999-2005; Tenn. Senate, 2005-present

**B**lack, who will occupy a seat that was long in the Democratic column, wants to apply her conservative ideas to areas such as health care, the federal budget and immigration.

With a background as an emergency room nurse, she has made her top priority repealing the 2010 health care overhaul.

“As a registered nurse, I believe patients, doctors, and health care providers should be making health care decisions — not bureaucrats in Washington,” Black says.

Black, who was a leader in the state Senate’s GOP caucus, is proposing an overhaul of Capitol Hill’s budgeting process, advocating that lawmakers’ paychecks be withheld for every day that Congress fails to meet its annual budget deadline. She also wants to end congressional pensions and adopt a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget.

Black is conservative on social issues, opposing gun control efforts and supporting policies that limit abortion. She also wants to crack down further on illegal immigration; she was endorsed by Jim Gilchrist, founder of the Minuteman Project, a vigilante group that patrols the U.S.-Mexico border.

Black was thrust into the national spotlight when an aide sent out from a state computer a racist e-mail about President Obama. After an outcry from state Democratic leaders, Black reprimanded the aide, saying the communication “does not reflect my opinions or my beliefs.”

Black has an interest in defense issues and says that she would welcome a seat on the Armed Services Committee.



## TENNESSEE (8)

**Stephen Fincher, R**

**Election:** Defeated Roy Herron, D, to succeed John Tanner, D, who retired  
**Residence:** Frog Jump  
**Born:** Feb. 7, 1973; Memphis, Tenn.  
**Religion:** United Methodist  
**Family:** Wife, Lynn Fincher; three children  
**Education:** Crockett County H.S., graduated 1990  
**Career:** Farmer  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

**F**incher says the federal government has become too powerful, and he wants to restore money and power to state governments.

“We need to return to the ways of Ronald Reagan and less regulation,” says Fincher, who considers himself socially and fiscally conservative.

Fincher would vote to renew the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts for all income levels. He says extending the tax cuts would be more effective than another stimulus spending package at creating jobs in the private sector and helping the nation recover from the recession. Another stimulus would just add to the government spending that should be cut, he says.

He is proud that Tennessee has no income tax and has a right-to-work law, which allows most employees to decide whether to join or support a union. He wants to become a “salesman” for his district by supporting projects and bills that would benefit it.

He would vote to repeal the health care bill because health care and medical decisions should be made by patients and doctors, not government officials, he says.

Fincher favors anti-abortion policies; comprehensive energy policy that offers more domestic drilling, including in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; cracking down on illegal immigration and improving border security; and making military and veteran support a top budget priority, according to his campaign website.

Fincher is interested in seats on the Small Business, Armed Services and Agriculture committees.



## TEXAS (17)

**Bill Flores, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Chet Edwards, D  
**Residence:** Bryan  
**Born:** Feb. 25, 1954; Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.  
**Religion:** Baptist  
**Family:** Wife, Gina Flores; two children  
**Education:** Texas A&M U., B.B.A. 1976 (accounting); Houston Baptist U., M.B.A. 1985  
**Career:** Energy company executive; oil drilling company financial manager; accountant  
**Political highlights:** No previous office

Although Flores does not have any political experience, he says his business success has prepared him for service in Congress. He worked his way up from modest means to become chief executive of Phoenix Exploration, an energy company.



"I know what it means to sign a paycheck, make a payroll, balance a budget, repay debt, acquire health care coverage," he says. "That's what sets me apart."

Flores says he believes in limited government, and he wants to work on improving the economy, creating jobs and reducing the federal deficit by controlling spending. "I want to focus on the things that nothing is being done about," he said.

Flores supports permanently extending the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts, freezing any unspent funds from the economic stimulus, creating a federal payroll-tax holiday, repealing the 2010 health care overhaul and blocking legislation to create a cap-and-trade system for greenhouse gas emissions.

Flores says he also is interested in border security and homeland security in general. On social issues, he said he will consistently support traditional marriage and anti-abortion legislation, though he does not plan on introducing any such bills himself. And he is an advocate of congressional term limits.

Flores says his energy experience would make him a good fit for the Energy and Commerce Committee, and he eventually would like a seat on the Ways and Means panel.

## TEXAS (23)

**Francisco "Quico" Canseco, R**

**Pronounced:** KEY-koh  
**Election:** Defeated Rep. Ciro D. Rodriguez, D  
**Residence:** San Antonio  
**Born:** July 30, 1949; Laredo, Texas  
**Religion:** Roman Catholic  
**Family:** Wife, Gloria Canseco; three children  
**Education:** Saint Louis U., B.A. 1972 (history), J.D. 1975  
**Career:** Lawyer; banker; real estate developer  
**Political highlights:** Sought Republican nomination for U.S. House, 2004, 2008

Canseco won the only 2010 congressional race that featured Hispanic nominees from both major parties. He says his priorities will be to reduce taxes for small businesses as a way to create jobs and to replace the 2010 health care overhaul.



He points to his experience developing shopping centers and investing in a community bank as evidence that he can be a strong advocate for small businesses. In particular, he says, businesses should be allowed to expand their tax exemptions for net operating losses as a way to "weather the tough economic times, make needed purchases and prevent further layoffs."

He also says Congress should cut taxes for people who are currently in the 10 percent and 15 percent income-tax brackets and prevent unemployment benefits from being taxed, because it "only adds insult to injury."

Despite the fact that the district is 65 percent Hispanic and shares a long border with Mexico, immigration policy was not a prominent issue during the campaign. Both candidates, however, did call for improved border security.

Canseco's stance on immigration generally follows the GOP line: He opposes amnesty for illegal immigrants already in the United States and supports deporting those who commit crimes. In June he told the San Antonio Express-News that he backs Arizona's controversial immigration law, saying it "parallels the federal government and in many ways is more benign."

Canseco's campaign would not say what his committee preferences are.

## VIRGINIA (2)

**Scott Rigell, R**

**Pronounced:** RIDGE-uhl  
**Election:** Defeated Rep. Glenn Nye, D  
**Residence:** Virginia Beach  
**Born:** May 28, 1960; Titusville, Fla.  
**Religion:** Protestant  
**Family:** Wife, Teri Rigell; four children  
**Education:** Brevard Community College, A.A. 1981; Mercer U., B.B.A. 1983 (management); Regent U., M.B.A. 1990  
**Military:** Marine Corps Reserve 1978-84  
**Career:** Car dealership owner  
**Political highlights:** Va. Motor Vehicle Dealer Board, 1995-99

Rigell will represent one of the nation's most dense populations of current or former service members, and he vows to improve the quality of life for military personnel and veterans.



He hopes to serve on the Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel and will work to expand military health and child care benefits. And he will argue for increased military spending if necessary to ensure that troops have the best equipment available.

"If we're going to put them in harm's way, we owe them the very best — that would mean focusing in on the benefits awarded [to personnel], the quality of the training and accessibility of health care," says Rigell, a second-generation Marine.

His coastal district includes Naval Station Norfolk and Langley Air Force Base.

Rigell, who founded an automotive company in 1991, also hopes to serve on the Financial Services Committee, especially its Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit to "get our banks lending again in a responsible way."

"I've been creating jobs for 20-plus years," he says. "I've borrowed money; I've paid it back. I have firsthand knowledge of the kind of lending environment we need for business to grow."

Rigell has vowed to attack the deficit by rooting out "terrible inefficiencies" in government.

He says he is "proudly pro-life," supports "traditional marriage" and strongly supports the rights of gun owners.



## VIRGINIA (5)

**Robert Hurt, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Tom Perriello, D**Residence:** Chatham**Born:** June 16, 1969; Manhattan, N.Y.**Religion:** Presbyterian**Family:** Wife, Kathy Hurt; three children**Education:** Hampden-Sydney College, B.A. 1991 (English); Mississippi College, J.D. 1995**Career:** Lawyer; county prosecutor**Political highlights:** Chatham Town Council, 2000-2001; Va. House, 2002-08; Va. Senate, 2008-present

When he arrives on Capitol Hill, Hurt says, he will work to reduce the size of government. He also pledges to make protecting private property laws and national security a top priority.



Hurt says he will support anti-abortion legislation in Congress. He also promises to oppose bills that would allow embryonic stem-cell research or that would permit gay marriage.

Though a newcomer to Congress, Hurt has extensive experience in Virginia politics. As a delegate to the state legislature, he focused on funding for K-12 education and safety for students in the state.

He has voted two dozen times to support bills in the General Assembly that cut taxes on cigarettes, gas and food. However, in 2004, he supported a \$1.6 million tax increase backed by Gov. Mark Warner, now one of the state's Democratic senators.

But he says his support of that tax increase should not give his new GOP colleagues a cause for concern. Hurt, one of the National Republican Congressional Committee's "Young Guns," maintained throughout his race that he plans to fight tax increases and that he will work to create jobs.

Although he was originally not received well by the tea party, several supporters of that movement have since gotten behind Hurt and say they agree with his priorities on Capitol Hill.

Hurt declined to name which committees he would like to join when the 112th Congress convenes.

## VIRGINIA (9)

**Morgan Griffith, R****Election:** Defeated Rep. Rick Boucher, D**Residence:** Salem**Born:** March 15, 1958; Philadelphia, Pa.**Religion:** Protestant**Family:** Wife, Hilary Griffith; three children**Education:** Emory & Henry College, B.A. 1980 (history); Washington and Lee U., J.D. 1983**Career:** Lawyer**Political highlights:** Salem Republican Committee chairman, 1986-88, 1991-94; Va. House, 1994-present (majority leader, 2000-present)

Griffith brings a long record of legal and state government experience to Congress, where he plans to focus on taxes and gun rights.



After earning a law degree, Griffith worked as a private attorney in the Roanoke area, where he focused on traffic violations and DUIs.

In 2008, he became partner at Virginia-based Albo and Oblon, run by fellow Republican Delegate Dave Albo. Griffith, who served as chairman of the Salem Republican Party, also served as director of Salem Bank and Trust.

The Philadelphia native compiled a markedly conservative voting record during his 16 years of service as a member of the House of Delegates. In 2000, he was elected the chamber's majority leader, becoming the first Republican to hold that title.

Griffith has written and passed legislation to reduce taxes, establish Virginia cable television competition laws, crack down on sex offenders and protect gun rights.

His voting record led to a strong endorsement from the National Rifle Association, which gave him an "A" rating every term he was in office. He also received endorsements from a slew of delegates and senators.

As a member of Congress, Griffith plans to continue the conservative path he blazed in Richmond. He will support legislation to curb abortion, protect Second Amendment rights to own firearms and define marriage as between a man and a woman. He also intends to oppose tax increases.

## WASHINGTON (3)

**Jaime Herrera, R****Pronounced:** JAY-me**Election:** Defeated Denny Heck, D, to succeed Brian Baird, D, who retired**Residence:** Camas**Born:** Nov. 3, 1978; Glendale, Calif.**Religion:** Christian**Family:** Husband, Daniel Beutler**Education:** Seattle Pacific U., attended 1996-98; Bellevue Community College, A.A. 2003; U. of Washington, B.A. 2004 (communications)**Career:** Congressional aide**Political highlights:** Wash. House, 2007-present

Herrera is no stranger to Capitol Hill: As a former aide to fellow Washington Republican Cathy McMorris Rodgers and an intern in the George W. Bush White House, she is familiar with the machinations of the nation's capital.



At 32, she will be one of the youngest members of Congress and the youngest woman in the chamber. The National Republican Congressional Committee named her to the top tier of its "Young Guns" program, a distinction it credited to her fundraising efforts.

Although Herrera is seen as an "establishment" Republican (she bested two more conservative candidates in the primary, including one backed by the tea party movement) she has positioned herself as an independent thinker, a good fit given her district's swing status. She has criticized Republicans for not reining in deficit spending or passing their own health care legislation while in the majority.

Her record in the state legislature indicates that she does not always toe the party line — for example, she voted to allow unionization of child care workers, a position that put her at odds with other Republicans in the state House.

Her agenda in Congress is expected to focus on job creation, a direction dictated by her district's economic woes. The 3rd District's unemployment rate is higher than the national average and its counties' rates are among the highest in the state.

In addition, Herrera has pledged to oppose all tax increases, and she backs a balanced-budget amendment.

## WEST VIRGINIA (1)

**David McKinley, R**

**Election:** Defeated Mike Oliverio, D, to succeed Alan B. Mollohan, D, who lost the primary

**Residence:** Wheeling

**Born:** March 28, 1947; Wheeling, WVa.

**Religion:** Episcopalian

**Family:** Wife, Mary McKinley; four children

**Education:** Purdue U., B.S.C.E. 1969

**Career:** Civil engineer; architectural engineering company owner

**Political highlights:** WVa. House, 1980-95; WVa. Republican Party chairman, 1990-94; sought Republican nomination for governor, 1996

After a 15-year hiatus from public office, McKinley returns as a pro-business, pro-coal conservative who ran a campaign that was as much about his experience as a small-business owner as it was about his seven terms in the state legislature.



McKinley views himself as a loyal conservative but not part of the extreme right wing of his party. He has disagreed with national GOP leaders on trade policy (he believes West Virginia needs a more level playing field to be competitive) and opposes raising the Social Security retirement age. His architectural and engineering firm, McKinley and Associates, has a comfortable relationship with union workers. In a legislature that was dominated by Democrats, he often worked across the aisle.

In many ways McKinley is an engineer first and a politician second. He opposed a bill to increase the weight limit of trucks on state highways, which had been backed by the coal industry. Although McKinley considered himself a friend of coal, the civil engineer in him was certain that raising the weight limit would simply be too destructive to West Virginia's roadways.

McKinley has said the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee is a natural fit for his background, and his state's coal interests make the Energy and Commerce Committee an attractive post.

The state recently lost powerful appropriators in both chambers, and McKinley certainly wouldn't mind a spot on the plum House Appropriations Committee as well.

## WISCONSIN (7)

**Sean P. Duffy, R**

**Election:** Defeated Julie Lassa, D, to succeed David R. Obey, D, who retired

**Residence:** Ashland

**Born:** Oct. 3, 1971; Hayward, Wis.

**Religion:** Roman Catholic

**Family:** Wife, Rachel Campos-Duffy; six children

**Education:** St. Mary's College (Minn.), B.A. 1994 (marketing); William Mitchell College of Law, J.D. 1999

**Career:** County prosecutor; lawyer; bus driver; professional timber sports competitor; reality show personality

**Political highlights:** Ashland County district attorney, 2002-10

Duffy has come a long way from his days on the 1997 reality show "The Real World: Boston." But when he joins the cast of Congress, Duffy can employ some of the media savvy he picked up while doing the MTV series to draw attention to his signature causes.



One of his top priorities on Capitol Hill will be to return government spending to 2008 levels. He pledges to end government bailouts and to cancel any unspent economic stimulus funds.

He will also work against the cap-and-trade climate bill.

Replacing Democrat David R. Obey, chairman of the Appropriations Committee, will not be an easy job. In a Web video announcing his candidacy, Duffy said he decided to run because he was frustrated about fiscal irresponsibility on Capitol Hill.

"I believe that small business is the way we're going to get out of this financial crisis," he said. "I'm going to support small business, and I'm going to support the workers of the 7th District."

Duffy personifies a dichotomy in the House. Born in 1971, the new congressman will be one of the youngest members, but he'll represent an aging district whose constituents made Social Security a campaign issue. Democrats accused Duffy of threatening to privatize the retirement accounts, but Duffy insists he will protect the government program.

Since "The Real World," he married Rachel Campos, whom he met on another reality show, "Road Rules: All Stars." They have six children.

## WISCONSIN (8)

**Reid Ribble, R**

**Election:** Defeated Rep. Steve Kagen, D

**Residence:** De Pere

**Born:** April 5, 1956; Neenah, Wis.

**Religion:** Baptist

**Family:** Wife, DeaNa Ribble; two children

**Education:** Appleton East H.S., graduated 1974

**Career:** Roofing construction company president

**Political highlights:** No previous office

Ribble says he will be a cautious lawmaker wary of federal actions that stifle job growth.



During three decades running a roofing company, he says, he learned valuable skills that can be repurposed for legislative work — such as knowing how to balance a budget and complete projects on time and in order.

The federal government needs to give businesses a breather after all the uncertainty stemming from legislation such as the 2010 health care overhaul, he says.

"The business community has no idea what the impact will be," he says about the law. "The regulations haven't been spelled out. . . . Government does one thing, and then there's 15 unintended consequences."

During his campaign, he talked to business owners who said that in the current environment, they would rather pay more overtime than hire more workers.

"There's a cumulative effect of every piece of legislation that American businesses have to respond to," he says. "That's really strangling job creation right now."

Ribble believes Congress must make a legitimate effort to balance the budget. "Every single American understands that there's waste in government right now," he says, and government officials "talk about it, but they still do it."

Ribble, an avid motorcyclist, says the committees that interest him most in terms of his district's needs are Agriculture and Transportation and Infrastructure; he also sees the benefits of serving on Budget and Financial Services based on his background.