

**NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS  
REP. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON (R-CA),  
SENIOR REPUBLICAN MEMBER  
EDUCATION AND LABOR COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 24, 2007**

Mr. Chairman, I'm pleased to take a few moments to introduce the new Republican Members of our Committee.

First, I'd like to welcome back the gentleman from Michigan, Representative Pete Hoekstra, who is ending a leave of absence from the Committee – a time during which he served as Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee. Congressman Hoekstra is in the same congressional class as me – first elected in 1993 – and represents Michigan's Second District. He formerly served as chairman of this panel's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, on which he oversaw investigations of the Department of Education, the corrupted 1996 Teamsters election, the National Endowment for the Arts, and AmeriCorps.

Next is Representative Rob Bishop. First elected in 2003, Congressman Bishop represents Utah's First Congressional District. Before serving here in Congress, he was a public school teacher. Though not on our Committee for the past two terms, Congressman Bishop has been very involved in education issues – in particular, closely tracking the Department of Education to ensure they maintain a suitable separation from states and local schools on curriculum issues.

Congressman Bishop is a graduate of the University of Utah – arch-rival of my alma mater, Brigham Young University. In spite of this, I welcome him as well.

Representative David Davis represents East Tennessee's First Congressional District, and this is his initial term on both our Committee and in the House. Prior to his arrival here in Washington, he served in the Tennessee State Legislature for eight years. He also has a deep understanding of issues important to small businesses and their workers, as he is the founder of two small businesses back at home in Tennessee. These are issues Committee Republicans take very seriously as well, and we look forward to working with him on them.

And finally, I'm pleased to welcome Congressman Timothy Walberg, serving his first term from Michigan's Seventh District. Representative Walberg defeated an incumbent in last year's Republican primary – a rare feat for sure. However, public service is not new to him: he already has served in elected office for 16 years – from 1983 through 1999 in the Michigan state legislature. A former pastor for nearly a decade, Congressman Walberg is known as a strong proponent of expanded parental options in education, making him an ideal Member of this Committee as we begin the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind.

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