

An act for the relief of Joseph B. Wood, of Columbia county;
 An act to make Senean Brown, wife of Henry Brown, a free deal-
 es;
 Resolution for the relief of B. Frisby and M. J. Murphy;
 Resolution relative to the erection of a monument to Captain John
 Parkhill, in the Capital square; and
 An act placing certain minor children under the guardianship and
 jurisdiction of the Probate Court.

Very respectfully,

M. S. PERRY,

Which was read.

On motion, the Senate adjourned until half-past ten o'clock to-
 morrow morning.

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WEDNESDAY, January 30th, 1861.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

A quorum present.

The Rev. Dr. DuBose officiated as Chaplain.

On motion the reading of yesterday's journal was dispensed with,
 amended and adopted.

Mr. Rogers moved to reconsider the vote taken on Monday, on the
 bill to be entitled an act providing for a stay of executions;

Which was adopted, and the bill ordered to be placed on its se-
 cond reading, and referred to committee on Judiciary.

Mr. Bowers moved that the bill for the relief of Walton county
 in regard to the school fund, be taken up and placed first among the
 orders of the day;

Which was adopted.

Mr. Bowers moved that the bill entitled an act to allow James
 Addison to construct a dam across the Ocklockonee River, be recon-
 sidered;

Which was adopted.

Mr. Davidson offered the following resolution:

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
 State of Florida in General Assembly convened, That after Friday,
 the first day of February next, no bill of a private or local nature,
 shall be introduced into either House of this General Assembly;*
 Which was placed among the orders of the day.

Mr. Davidson moved that a committee of three be appointed to
 wait upon the House and ask the return of a bill to be entitled an
 act to allow James Addison to construct a dam across the Ocklocko-
 nee River;

Which was adopted, and Messrs. Davidson, Jones, and Bowers
 were appointed said committee. The committee retired and after a
 short absence returned and reported that they had performed that
 duty, and were discharged.

Mr. McQueen from the committee on Engrossed bills made the fol-
 lowing report:

The committee on Engrossed bills beg leave to report the follow-
 ing bills as correctly engrossed:

A bill to be entitled an act for the relief of Ellis W. Hawkins, of
 Santa Rosa county;

A bill to be entitled an act to improve the navigation of Wee-
 river Creek and Clay Spring River, and reclaim the swamp and
 overflowed lands on said streams;

A bill to be entitled an act to incorporate the Hydrant Water
 Company of Pensacola;

A bill to be entitled an act concerning pilotage for the port of
 Cedar Keys;

A bill to be entitled an act to alter and change the time of hold-
 ing the several terms of the Supreme Court; and

A bill to be entitled an act to establish the fees of Notaries Pub-
 lic in certain cases.

Respectfully submitted,

JAS. W. McQUEEN,

Of the Committee.

Which report was received and read and bills placed among the
 orders of the day.

Mr. Call from the joint Select committee made the following report;

The joint Select committee who were appointed on yesterday to
 confer with the Governor and report whether the public interests
 would require the General Assembly to remain in session longer
 than Monday 4th February,

REPORT

That the Southern Convention meets at Montgomery on Febru-
 ary 4th, for the purpose of adopting a plan both for a provisional
 and permanent government, that the latter it will probably require
 them some time to mature, and when matured and adopted by the
 Southern Convention, must be submitted to our own State Con-
 vention for ratification. But a plan for a Provisional Government, there
 is every reason to believe will be agreed upon on the first or second

day after the meeting of the Southern Convention, which will be substantially the Constitution of the late United States, and will not require to be ratified by any other body before it will go into operation. Should this be the case the General Assembly of Florida will be immediately called upon to provide for the election of President and Vice President, and members of Congress, and perhaps perform other duties which cannot now be known until after the action of said Southern Convention. Inasmuch as the preservation of our domestic peace and the hope of avoiding a war between the two sections, is dependant upon the speedy organization of such a Government for the seceding States, it is evident that the duties thus devolved upon the General Assembly are so absolutely important that unless it is in session at the time, the Governor would be compelled to call that body together again immediately.

In view of these facts the committee are of the opinion that unless the General Assembly can anticipate with reasonable certainty the action of said Southern Convention, and provide in advance for the election of those Federal officers and the performance of these duties which it may become necessary for Florida to elect or perform, the public interest will absolutely prohibit their adjournment, inasmuch as the mileage of members alone, which would be incurred by an extra session rendered necessary by said adjournment would be equal to the expenses of several weeks of actual session.

The committee have further to report that there seems to be a large amount of legislation devolved upon them by the ordinances of the late Convention, and it would seem to be premature even to discuss the question of an adjournment, when as yet not a solitary bill has been introduced into either House in pursuance of those ordinances.

GEO. CALL,
Chairman Senate Com.
G. W. MEANS,
Chairman House Com.

Which was recived and read.

Mr. McCall from the select committee made the following report ;

The select committee to whom was refered a bill to be entitled an act to establish the Commercial Bank of Lake City, have had the same under consideration and recommend its passage.

W. W. McCALL,
Chairman.

Which report was received and read, and bill placed among the orders of the day.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Mr. Call moved the Senate take a recess until half-past three o'clock this evening ;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and McQueen ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Brokaw, Call, Chain, Finlayson, Jones, Magbee, McQueen, Simkins and Watlington—11.

Nays—Messrs. Bowers, Dawkins, Davidson, McCall and Walker—5.

So said motion was adopted, and the Senate took a recess until half-past three o'clock.

HALF-PAST THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Senate resumed its session.

A quorum present.

The orders of the day were resumed.

The rules were waived and the committee on engrossed bills made the following report :

The Committee on engrossed bills beg leave to report the following bill as correctly engrossed :

A bill to be entitled an act combining the offices of Sheriff and Tax Assessor of Jefferson county.

Respectiully submitted,

JAS. W. McQUEEN,
Of the Committee.

Which report was received and read, and bill placed among the orders of the day.

The rules were waived and the committee on Judiciary made the following report :

The Joint Judiciary committee to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an act to extend the jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace, and for other purposes, have had the same under consideation, and instructed me to

REPORT

The bill back to the Senate without amendment or recommendation in any way.

GEO. W. CALL,
Chairman Senate Com.

Which report was received and read and bill placed among the orders of the day.

Also the following:

The Joint Judiciary committee to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an act to define and punish slander, have had the same under consideration, and instructed me to

REPORT:

That the accompanying bill is offered as a substitute for the original bill, but a majority are opposed to any legislation on the subject.

GEO. W. CALL,
Chairman Senate Comm.

Which report was received and read, and bill placed among the orders of the day.

Also the following:

The Judiciary committee to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an act to punish breaches of trust by telegraphic operators, have had the same under consideration, and instructed me to

REPORT

That by adding thereto the following, to-wit:

SEC. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That if any person or persons shall sustain damages by any officer, clerk, agent or employer aforesaid, by a violation of this act, the owner or owners of said telegraph office or telegraph line, shall be responsible to the person or persons sustaining such damages, to be sued for and recovered in any court in this State having competent jurisdiction thereof."

And with the adoption of this amendment, recommend the passage of the bill.

GEO. W. CALL,
Chairman Sen. Com.

Which report was received, and bill placed among the orders of the day.

Also the following:

The Judiciary committee to whom was referred the bills entitled: an act regulating the order in which cases shall be tried in the Circuit Courts; an act defining who shall be competent witnesses and for other purposes; an act to allow sheriffs costs for advertising their sales in the public gazettes of the State, report that they are unable to agree upon said bills and report them back without recommendation.

GEO. W. CALL,
Chairman.

A majority of the same committee recommend that an act for the protection of heirs, minors and wards against injustice in this State do not pass.

G. W. CALL,
Chairman.

Which report was received and read, and the bills placed among the orders of the day.

House bill entitled an act for the relief of Walton county relative to the school fund;

Was read a third time and put upon its passage;

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, McQueen, Simkins, Walker and Watlington—12.

Nays—none.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

A bill to be entitled an act to establish the Commercial Bank of Lake City;

Was read a second time, report of committee adopted, and on motion the printed bill was adopted in lieu of the original. The rules were then waived, and bill read a third time by its title and put upon its passage;

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, McQueen, Rogers, Simkins, Walker and Watlington—12.

Nay—Mr. President—1.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

Mr. Rogers moved that after Thursday next the Senator from the 7th District be excused from further attendance on the session;

Which was lost.

Mr. Davidson moved that the rules be waived to allow him to introduce the following bill, in accordance with previous notice:

A bill to be entitled an act to secure certain rights to married women;

Which was adopted, and bill placed among the orders of the day.

A bill to be entitled an act to establish the fees of Notaries Public in certain cases;

Was read a third time and put upon its passage;

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, Magbee, McCall, McQueen, Simkins, Walker and Watlington—14.

Nays—None.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

Engrossed bill entitled an act combining the offices of Sheriff and Tax Assessor of Jefferson county;

Was read a third time and put upon its passage;

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, McQueen, Rogers, Simkins, Walker and Watlington—15.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

A bill to be entitled an act to alter and change the time of holding the several terms of the Supreme Court;

Was read a third time.

Mr. Rogers moved to waive the rules that he might offer an amendment;

Which was adopted.

Mr. Rogers moved to amend by inserting at the beginning of the sixth line of the third section, the words "by consent of parties;"

Which was adopted.

Mr. McCall moved that Gainsville in the fifteenth line be stricken out and Lake City inserted;

Which was adopted.

The bill was then put upon its passage;

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, McQueen, Rogers, Simkins and Walker—13.

Nays—none.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

A bill to be entitled an act concerning pilotage for the port of Cedar Keys;

Was read a third time.

The rule being waived, Mr. Watlington moved as an amendment, that in the tenth line of section third, after the word "have" insert "one-half."

Which was lost.

Mr. Watlington moved that in the sixteenth line of same section, strike out all after the word "shall" and insert "not be compelled to pay pilotage."

Which was lost.

Mr. Watlington moved the following additional section:

Be it further enacted, That all vessels carrying the mails along the coast of Florida, propelled either by steam or sails, when compelled by law to carry a pilot, such mail vessel shall not be bound to take a pilot, nor pay the fees required by this act.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Magbee moved to reconsider the vote adopting the additional section.

Which motion was adopted.

Mr. Call moved as a substitute that no vessel carrying the mails along the coast of Florida, whether propelled by steam or sails, shall not be compelled to take a pilot or pay any pilot fees except in cases where service is actually performed at any port in this State, by this or any other act or regulation of commissioners of pilotage.

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. Magbee and McCall;

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Finlayson, Jones, Rogers, Simkins and Watlington—10.

Nays—Messrs. Magbee, McCall, McQueen and Walker—4.

So said amendment was adopted.

The bill was then put upon its passage;

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, Magbee, McCall, McQueen, Simkins, Walker and Watlington—14.

Nays—none.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

A bill to be entitled an act to improve the navigation of Weekiver Creek and Clay Spring Run and reclaim the swamp and overflowed lands on said streams;

Was read the third time and put upon its passage;

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, Magbee, McCall, McQueen, Rogers, Simkins, Walker and Watlington—14.

Nays—none.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

On motion, the rules were waived, and Mr. Baldwin moved to place among the orders of the day for to-morrow the following bills:

A bill to be entitled an act to amend the eighth section of the sixth article of the Constitution of the State of Florida ;

A bill to be entitled an act to amend the seventh section of the thirteenth article of the Constitution of this State ; and

A bill to be entitled act to amend on the amended Constitution of the State of Florida in relation to the sessions of the General Assembly.

Which was adopted.

A bill to be entitled an act for the benefit of Ellis W. Hawkins, of Santa Rosa county :

Was read the third time and put upon its passage ;

The vote was :

Yeas Messrs. Call, Chain, Dawkins, Jones, Magbee, Simkins and Watlington—7.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Davidson, Finlayson, McCall, McQueen, Rogers and Walker—8.

So said bill was lost.

Mr. McCall moved to reconsider the vote ;

Which was adopted.

The bill was then put upon its passage ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Call, Chain, Dawkins, Jones, Magbee, Simkins and Watlington—7.

Nays—Messrs. Baldwin, Davidson, McCall, McQueen, Rogers, and Walker—6.

So said bill passed—title as stated.

Ordered that the same be certified to the House of Representatives.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until half-past ten o'clock to-morrow morning ;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Walker ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Chain, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—5.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, Walker and Watlington—10.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until 25 minutes past 10 o'clock to-morrow morning ;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and Walker ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Chain, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—5.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, Walker and Watlington—10.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until twenty minutes past 10 o'clock to-morrow morning ;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Walker ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—6.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, Walker and Watlington—10.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until 15 minutes after 10 o'clock to-morrow morning ;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—6.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, Walker and Watlington—10.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Dawkins moved that the Senate take a recess until 7½ o'clock.

Mr. Rogers moved as a substitute to adjourn until 10 minutes after 10 o'clock to-morrow morning ;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—6.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall, Walker and Watlington—10.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved that the Senate adjourn until five minutes after 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Mr. Dawkins rose to a point of order, that the question recurred upon his motion to take a recess.

The Chair decided that Mr. Dawkins' motion to take a recess was out of order, and that the motion of Mr. Rogers was in order.

Mr. Dawkins appealed from the decision of the Chair.

The question was shall the decision of the Chair be sustained ;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins ;

The vote was :

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Davidson, Jones, Magbee, McCall, McQueen, Rogers, Simkins, Walker and Watlington—11.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call and Dawkins—4.

So the decision of the Chair was sustained.

The question then recurred upon the motion of Mr. Rogers to adjourn until five minutes after ten o'clock to-morrow morning;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins;

The vote was;

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Finlayson, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers, and Simkins—6.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Jones, McCall, Walker and Watlington—10.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until ten o'clock to-morrow morning;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins;

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Finlayson, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—7.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Jones and McCall—7.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until five minutes before ten o'clock to-morrow morning;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins;

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Finlayson, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—7.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Jones, McCall and Walker—8.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Call moved to adjourn until Saturday morning, ten o'clock;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called for by Messrs. McCall, and Dawkins;

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Call and Walker—2.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Brokaw, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, Magbee, McCall, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—13.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until six minutes before 10 o'clock to-morrow morning;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins;

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—6.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Jones, McCall and Walker—9.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Call moved that the rules be waived to allow him so make a motion;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. Magbee and McCall;

The vote was:

Yeas—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson and Walker—8.

Nays—Messrs. Brokaw, Magbee, McCall, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—6.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until 9½ o'clock to-morrow morning;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins;

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—6.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, McCall and Walker—8.

So said motion was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Mr. McCall moved as a substitute 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Mr. Call rose to a point of order that a motion to adjourn until 11 o'clock was not in order, a motion to adjourn for a less time having been lost.

The Chair decided the motion to adjourn until 11 o'clock was in order.

Mr. Call appealed from the decision of the Chair;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins;

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Finlayson, Magbee, McCall, McQueen, Rogers and Simkins—7.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson and Walker—7.

So the decision of the Chair was sustained.

The question then recurred upon the substitute;

Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins;

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. McCall, Rogers and Simkins—3.

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Brokaw, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Finlayson, Magbee, McQueen and Walker—11.

So said substitute was lost.

Mr. Rogers moved to adjourn until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning. Upon which the yeas and nays were called by Messrs. McCall and Dawkins.

The vote was:

Yeas—Messrs. Brokaw, Chain, Finlayson, Magbee, McQueen, Rogers, Simkins and Walker—8

Nays—Mr. President, Messrs. Baldwin, Call, Dawkins, Davidson and McCall—6

So said motion was adopted and the Senate adjourned until to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

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THURSDAY, January 31, 1861.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment.

The roll was called, and the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President, Messrs. Brokaw, Call, Chain, Jones and Watlington.

There not being a quorum present, the Sergeant-at-Arms was ordered to go after absent members.

At seven minutes past nine o'clock the roll was called, when the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President, Messrs. Brokaw, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Jones, Simkins, Walker and Watlington.

There was not a quorum.

At fifteen minutes past nine o'clock the roll was called, when the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President, Messrs. Brokaw, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Jones, McQueen, Rogers, Walker and Watlington.

There was not a quorum.

At twenty minutes after nine o'clock the roll was called, and the following Senators answered to their names:

Mr. President, Messrs. Brokaw, Call, Chain, Dawkins, Davidson, Jones, McQueen, Rogers, Walker and Watlington.

A quorum present.

On motion the reading of the minutes of yesterday's Journal were dispensed with.

Mr. Call gave notice that he would on some future day ask leave to introduce the following bill:

A bill to be entitled an act to repeal the 16th section of an act entitled an act to amend the militia and patrol laws of this State.

Mr. Rogers moved that Mr. Davidson be excused from further attendance during the session after Thursday of next week;

Which was adopted.

Pursuant to previous notice Mr. Jones introduced the following bill:

A bill to be entitled an act relative to the common school fund of Washington and Holmes counties.

Rule waived and bill read a first and second time by its title, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on to-morrow.

Mr. Call moved that the Secretary be authorized to employ an additional clerk to assist him with the journals, and also to assist in engrossing and enrolling, or other business of the clerk of the Senate, provided not more than \$3 00 per day shall be paid said clerk.

Which was adopted.

In pursuance to previous notice Mr. Call introduced the following bill:

A bill to be entitled an act to prevent citizens of those States which have passed bank suspension and stay laws from collecting debts in this State.

Which was placed among the orders of the day.

The following message was received from the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 29, 1861. }

HON. T. J. EPPES,

President of the Senate:

SIR: The House has passed the following bills, viz:

House bill to be entitled an act to amend the road laws of Nassau county;

House bill to be entitled an act to regulate the compensation of pilots at the port of St. Marks;

House bill to be entitled an act for the relief of William H. Tanner;

House bill to be entitled an act for the relief of George G. Holt, and Thaddeus Rees, of Wakulla county;

Senate bill to be entitled an act to change the time for holding the Circuit Courts for the Western Judicial Circuit; and

House resolution to provide for the appointment of Major-General in the army of Florida.

Respectfully,

A. J. PEELER,
Clerk House Rep.