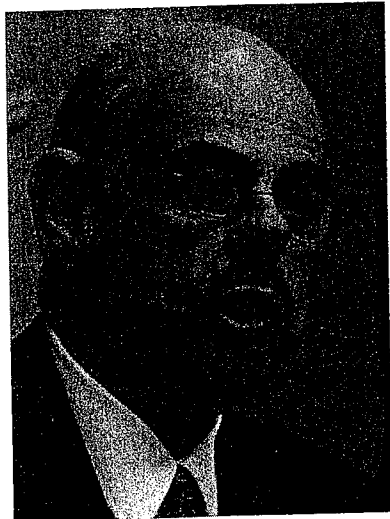


Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D)

Elected 1974; 15th term



CAPITOL OFFICE
225-3976
www.house.gov/waxman
2204 Rayburn 20515-0530; fax 225-4099

COMMITTEES
Energy & Commerce
Government Reform - ranking member

HOMETOWN
Los Angeles

BORN
Sept. 12, 1939, Los Angeles, Calif.

RELIGION
Jewish

FAMILY
Wife, Janet Waxman; two children

EDUCATION
U. of California, Los Angeles, B.A. 1961 (political science), J.D. 1964

CAREER
Lawyer

POLITICAL HIGHLIGHTS
Calif. Assembly, 1968-74

ELECTION RESULTS

2002 GENERAL		
Henry A. Waxman (D)	130,604	70.4%
Tony Goss (R)	54,989	29.6%
2002 PRIMARY		
Henry A. Waxman (D)	52,785	89.6%
Kevin Feldman (D)	6,146	10.4%
2000 GENERAL		
Henry A. Waxman (D)	180,295	75.7%
Jim Scileppi (R)	45,784	19.2%
J. C. Anderson (LIBERT)	7,944	3.3%
Bruce Curriwan (NL)	4,178	1.8%

PREVIOUS WINNING PERCENTAGES
1998 (74%); 1996 (68%); 1994 (68%); 1992 (61%);
1990 (69%); 1988 (72%); 1986 (88%); 1984 (63%);
1982 (65%); 1980 (64%); 1978 (63%); 1976 (68%);
1974 (64%)

A persistent nature, paired with masteries of detail and process gained during almost three decades in the House, has enabled Waxman to enhance energy conservation, expand access to health care and bolster environmental protection — even when his party controls neither the White House nor Congress.

Waxman is among the House's most adroit political practitioners. While he brings his extensive knowledge on a broad policy portfolio into behind-the-scenes negotiations, he can be a forceful partisan combatant in front of the television cameras. He is patient and willing to cut deals with Republicans when necessary. Compromise, Waxman says, "can further your ideas and even help you improve your ideas."

As his party's senior member of the Government Reform Committee, Waxman has emerged as a Democratic ethics watchdog who has focused public attention on the Bush administration's ties to business lobbyists.

As the second-ranking Democrat on the Energy and Commerce Committee, he employs techniques similar to those of John D. Dingell of Michigan, the panel's most-senior Democrat. Both are precise questioners during oversight hearings and force agencies to provide extensive information. Waxman is aggressive but employs humor and is usually controlled, a style that can bedevil his adversaries.

During the 107th Congress, Waxman accused the Bush administration of favoritism toward energy companies and suggested that the stock holdings of Karl Rove, the president's political adviser, posed potential conflicts of interest. It was this crusade that led Waxman to unwittingly place in some jeopardy the ability of Congress to oversee the workings of the executive branch. Knowing they could not get requisite Republican backing for subpoenas, Waxman and Dingell asked the General Accounting Office in 2001 to probe the involvement of energy companies in the formulation of administration energy policy. The GAO ended up filing an unprecedented lawsuit in 2002 seeking to compel Vice President Dick Cheney to release records of his energy task force. In early 2003, the GAO decided not to appeal a federal judge's ruling that the congressional agency lacked the legal standing to bring such a suit — which Waxman called "a tremendous setback for open government."

Waxman's aggressive approach to the White House may be a response to the Government Reform probe of Democratic fundraising before the 1996 election. Waxman has labeled that inquiry as "the most partisan, unfair and abusive investigation since the McCarthy hearings in the 1950s."

Waxman has criticized some of the broad powers detailed to the new Department of Homeland Security. He said the department was assigned too many duties, would treat its employees as "second-class citizens" and had "no effective mechanism" to coordinate with the FBI and CIA.

Waxman's main base of operations has been Energy and Commerce, where he chaired the Health and the Environment Subcommittee for the 16 years before the GOP became the majority in 1995. He has won many of his victories by maneuvering persistently to secure one small objective at a time, rather than making a broad frontal assault.

On occasion, Waxman has looked to cut deals with Energy and Commerce Republicans. In 2002, he supported a compromise with Chairman Billy Tauzin of Louisiana to increase funding for the Food and Drug Administration, accelerate medical device approvals and allow private parties to

inspect factories. But Waxman opposed Tauzin on other issues in the 107th, including an energy overhaul that he called a "lost opportunity" to conserve energy.

One of Waxman's most significant accomplishments was the 1990 Clean Air Act. For nearly a decade, he fought with Dingell and the Reagan administration to secure tougher measures to control acid rain and smog. As chairman, Dingell stoutly defended the auto industry and the interests of Midwestern states that rely on coal-burning power plants. But Waxman skillfully built coalitions on motor vehicle pollution controls against Dingell's will. The measure ultimately enacted was more stringent than the GOP administration had proposed.

A one-time smoker, Waxman now is the leading congressional crusader against the tobacco industry. He convened the 1994 hearing during which the chief executives of the nation's seven largest tobacco companies testified under oath that they did not believe nicotine was addictive. And Waxman's tough views on tobacco were part of a platform that helped him, after only his second term, defeat Richardson Preyer of North Carolina for a subcommittee gavel in 1978.

Waxman grew up in an apartment above the Los Angeles grocery store run by his father, who was the son of Russian immigrants and who instilled in his son an appreciation of the New Deal ideals. Waxman's political career began at UCLA in the 1960s, when he and fellow student Howard L. Berman became active in California's Federation of Young Democrats. In 1968, after a term as chairman of the state federation, Waxman, with Berman's support, challenged Democratic state Assemblyman Lester McMillan in a primary. McMillan had been in office 26 years and was nearing retirement. Waxman beat him with 64 percent of the vote.

It was the beginning of the so-called Waxman-Berman machine, an informal network of like-minded politicians who pooled their resources to back candidates with money, organization and political savvy. The "machine" was functioning so smoothly in 1974 that Waxman had little trouble winning a new House seat created with him in mind. Berman waltzed into his own House seat eight years later.

Waxman's constituents in Beverly Hills and part of Hollywood are not only politically involved, but many are also wealthy. They have been generous with their donations to Waxman's political action committee, and in turn its contributions to other House members have broadened Waxman's influence among his colleagues. His own campaigns are formalities; he has never won re-election with less than 61 percent of the vote.

KEY VOTES

2002

- Yes Overhaul campaign finance law; ban "soft money" and restrict advocacy advertising
- ? Back Bush's defense budget increase
- No Extend 1996 welfare law
- No Adopt Bush's discretionary spending limit
- No Pass GOP Medicare prescription drug plan
- Yes Create independent Sept. 11 commission
- Yes Extend union protections to Homeland Security Department employees
- No Revive fast-track procedures for trade agreements
- Yes Authorize war against Iraq
- No Advance bankruptcy overhaul opposed by abortion opponents

2001

- No Nullify Clinton Labor Department ergonomics rule
- ? Cut taxes by \$1.35 trillion through fiscal 2011
- Yes Maintain ban on oil drilling in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
- No Approve Bush proposal to limit managed-care plan liability for coverage decisions
- Yes Divert money from crop subsidy payments to land conservation
- Yes Expand law enforcement power to investigate suspected terrorists

CQ VOTE STUDIES

	PARTY UNITY		PRESIDENTIAL SUPPORT	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
2002	98%	2%	25%	75%
2001	95%	5%	32%	68%
2000	98%	2%	87%	13%
1999	96%	4%	86%	14%
1998	97%	3%	85%	15%

INTEREST GROUPS

	AFL-CIO	ADA	CCUS	ACU
2002	100%	80%	33%	5%
2001	100%	90%	36%	0%
2000	89%	90%	45%	4%
1999	88%	95%	17%	0%
1998	100%	100%	18%	4%

CALIFORNIA 30

West Los Angeles County — Santa Monica, West Hollywood

Boasting such glamorous locales as Beverly Hills, Malibu, Bel Air and Pacific Palisades, there are few places in the 30th that have not been immortalized by a television show or movie. The district is home to a large Jewish population, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the activist gay community of West Hollywood.

Eclectic, wealthy and Democratic describe many of the district's residents. Members of England's royal family have stayed at the Regent Beverly Wilshire hotel at the southern end of the exclusive Rodeo Drive shopping strip, and thousands annually crowd the streets of West Hollywood to witness the gay and lesbian pride parade. The district votes overwhelmingly Democratic in elections at all levels.

The district stretches north from the Santa Monica and Malibu beaches across the Santa Monica Mountains to Calabasas and Hidden Hills on the north side of the range.

The 30th is about three-fourths white and the economy is overwhelmingly white-collar. Entertainment executives lunch with financial advisers and real estate developers, and tourism brings in large amounts of money. Thousands flock annually to the legendary Grauman's Chinese Theater, where they can compare their handprints and footprints to those of the stars, or see Whoopi Goldberg's braids, preserved in cement. The area's seven medical centers make health care an important economic engine.

MAJOR INDUSTRY
Entertainment, higher education, health care

CITIES
Los Angeles (pt.), 399,622; Santa Monica, 84,084; West Hollywood, 35,716

NOTABLE
Hugh Hefner's Playboy Mansion is where prominent Democrats, including presidential candidates Gary Hart, Jerry Brown and Jesse Jackson, have held fundraisers; Santa Monica Pier, an amusement park that stretches out into the ocean, was built in 1909 and features an antique carousel.