

**OFFICIAL JOURNAL**  
**OF THE**  
**HOUSE OF**  
**REPRESENTATIVES**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS**

**Organizational Session of the 69th Legislature  
Since Admission to Statehood**

**Seventh Organizational Session Since  
Adoption of the Constitution of 1974**

House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Monday, January 14, 2008

The House of Representatives was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by the Honorable Wayne Waddell, Acting Speaker of the House of Representatives.

**Morning Hour**

**ROLL CALL**

The roll being called, the following members-elect answered to their names:

PRESENT

Abramson	Gisclair	Monica
Anders	Greene	Montoucet
Armes	Guillory, E.	Morrell
Arnold	Guillory, M.	Morris
Aubert	Guinn	Norton
Badon, A.	Hardy	Nowlin
Badon, B.	Harrison	Pearson
Baldone	Hazel	Perry
Barras	Henderson	Peterson
Barrow	Henry	Ponti
Billiot	Hill	Pope
Burford	Hines	Pugh
Burns, H.	Hoffmann	Richard
Burns, T.	Honey	Richardson
Burrell	Howard	Richmond
Carter	Hutter	Ritchie
Cazayoux	Jackson M.	Robideaux
Champagne	Jackson G.	Roy
Chandler	Johnson	Schroder
Chaney	Jones, R.	Simon
Connick	Jones, S.	Smiley
Cortez	Katz	Smith, G.
Cromer	Kleckley	Smith, J.
Danahay	LaBruzzo	Smith, P.
Dixon	LaFonta	St. Germain
Doerge	Lambert	Talbot
Dove	LeBas	Templet

Downs	Leger	Trahan
Edwards	Ligi	Tucker
Ellington	Little	Waddell
Fannin	Lopinto	White
Foil	Lorusso	Williams
Franklin	Marchand	Willmott
Gallot	McVea	Wooton
Geymann	Mills	
Total - 104		

ABSENT

Total - 0

The Acting Speaker announced that there were 104 members-elect present.

**Prayer**

Prayer was offered by Dr. Ken Ward.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Representative-elect Lorusso led the House in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Mr. Thomas Tah Hyde sang *The Star Spangled Banner*.

**Petitions, Memorials and  
Communications**

The following petitions, memorials, and communications were received and read:

**SECRETARY OF STATE  
State of Louisiana**

January 7, 2008

To the Clerk of the House of Representatives  
State of Louisiana

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith, in compliance with R.S. 18:573, the name of the persons who have received the greatest number of votes cast for State Representative in the Legislature of Louisiana from their respective Representative Districts, and who have been duly proclaimed elected.

Sincerely,

Jay Dardenne  
Secretary of State

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
State of Louisiana**

**Jay Dardenne  
Secretary of State**

*As Secretary of State, of the State of Louisiana, I do hereby Certify that the following candidates are declared elected by the people to the office set above their names.*

1st Representative District	James H. "Jim" Morris
2nd Representative District	Roy A. Burrell
3rd Representative District	Barbara Norton
4th Representative District	Patrick C. Williams
5th Representative District	Wayne Waddell
6th Representative District	"Mike" Powell
7th Representative District	Richard "Richie" Burford
8th Representative District	Jane H. Smith
9th Representative District	Henry Burns
10th Representative District	Jean Doerge
11th Representative District	"Rick" Gallot
12th Representative District	Hollis Downs

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13th Representative District James R. "Jim" Fannin  
14th Representative District "Sam" Little  
15th Representative District Frank Hoffmann  
16th Representative District Kay Kellogg Katz  
17th Representative District Rosalind D. Jones  
18th Representative District Donald "Don" Cazayoux, Jr.  
19th Representative District Charles R. "Bubba" Chaney  
20th Representative District Noble Ellington  
21st Representative District "Andy" Anders  
22nd Representative District Billy Chandler  
23rd Representative District "Rick" Nowlin  
24th Representative District "Frankie" Howard  
25th Representative District "Chris" Roy, Jr.  
26th Representative District Herbert B. Dixon  
27th Representative District "Chris" Hazel  
28th Representative District Robert Johnson  
29th Representative District Regina Ashford Barrow  
30th Representative District James Armes  
31st Representative District Donald M. "Don" Trahan  
32nd Representative District Dorothy Sue Hill  
33rd Representative District "Mike" Danahay  
34th Representative District "A. B." Franklin  
35th Representative District Brett Geymann  
36th Representative District "Chuck" Kleckley  
37th Representative District John E. "Johnny" Guinn  
38th Representative District H. Bernard LeBas  
39th Representative District Bobby G. Badon  
40th Representative District Elbert Lee Guillory  
41st Representative District Mickey J. Guillory  
42nd Representative District Jack Montoucet  
43rd Representative District "Page" Cortez  
44th Representative District Rickey Hardy  
45th Representative District Joel C. Robideaux  
46th Representative District Fred H. Mills, Jr.  
47th Representative District Jonathan Perry  
48th Representative District Taylor F. Barras  
49th Representative District Simone Champagne  
50th Representative District Sam Jones  
51st Representative District "Joe" Harrison  
52nd Representative District Gordon Dove  
53rd Representative District Damon J. Baldone  
54th Representative District Jerry "Truck" Gisclair  
55th Representative District Jerome "Dee" Richard  
56th Representative District Gary L. Smith, Jr.  
57th Representative District Nickie Monica  
58th Representative District Elton M. Aubert  
59th Representative District Eddie J. Lambert  
60th Representative District Karen St. Germain  
61st Representative District Michael Jackson  
62nd Representative District Thomas H. "Tom" McVea  
63rd Representative District Avon Honey  
64th Representative District Mack "Bodi" White, Jr.  
65th Representative District "Clif" Richardson  
66th Representative District Hunter Greene  
67th Representative District Patricia Smith  
68th Representative District "Steve" Carter  
69th Representative District Erich Ponti  
70th Representative District Franklin J. Foil  
71st Representative District J. Rogers Pope  
72nd Representative District John Bel Edwards  
73rd Representative District "Steve" Pugh  
74th Representative District Scott Simon  
75th Representative District Harold L. Ritchie  
76th Representative District Kevin Pearson  
77th Representative District John M. Schroder  
78th Representative District Kirk Talbot  
79th Representative District "Tony" Ligi  
80th Representative District Joseph Lopinto  
81st Representative District John F. LaBruzzo, Jr.

82nd Representative District Cameron Henry  
83rd Representative District Robert E. Billiot  
84th Representative District Patrick Connick  
85th Representative District Ricky J. Templett  
86th Representative District "Jim" Tucker  
87th Representative District Girod Jackson, III  
88th Representative District M. J. "Mert" Smiley, Jr.  
89th Representative District "Tim" Burns  
90th Representative District "Greg" Cromer  
91st Representative District "Walt" Leger, III  
92nd Representative District "Tom" Willmott  
93rd Representative District Karen Carter  
94th Representative District Nicholas J. "Nick" Lorusso  
95th Representative District Walker Hines  
96th Representative District Juan Lafonta  
97th Representative District J. P. Morrell  
98th Representative District Neil Abramson  
99th Representative District Charmaine L. Marchand  
100th Representative District Austin Badon  
101st Representative District Cedric L. Richmond  
102nd Representative District Jeffery "Jeff" Arnold  
103rd Representative District Reed S. Henderson  
104th Representative District "Nita" Hutter  
105th Representative District Ernest Durham Wooton

*In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of my Office to be affixed at the City of Baton Rouge on January 7, 2008.*

Jay Dardenne  
Secretary of State

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES State of Louisiana

December 27, 2007

Honorable Jay Dardenne  
c/o Ms. Nancy Underwood  
8549 United Plaza Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Re: Refusal to accept the office of House District 6

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Following nine years of service on the Caddo Parish School Board and four years of service in the Louisiana House of Representatives, I am today officially notifying you of my intention to not accept the office of member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, District 6 for the term of office beginning on January 14, 2008.

I hereby express my irrevocable intention to refuse to take the oath of office and to not accept the office of member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, District 6 for the term of office beginning on January 14, 2008. This irrevocable declaration will create a prospective vacancy for the House District 6 seat in the Louisiana House of Representatives. It is my intention that my refusal to accept the office of member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, District 6 will allow the Speaker of the House, Joe R. Salter, to call a special election to fill the prospective vacancy in this office at the earliest possible date, thereby insuring my successor is able to begin service in the House of Representatives prior to the 2008 regular session.

Sincerely yours,

Mike Powell

**Secretary of State  
State of Louisiana**

December 28, 2007

Honorable Joe Salter  
Speaker  
Louisiana House of Representatives  
P. O. Box 94062  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9062

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have received notice from Representative Mike Powell that he does not intend to take his elected office on January 14, 2008. Accordingly, a special election will be necessary.

After consulting with my staff, I would respectfully request that you schedule the election for February 9, 2008 with the runoff, if necessary, to be held on March 8, 2008. The qualifying dates should be January 7 through January 9, 2008.

If you have any questions or would like to speak to me about this matter, please feel free to call me at 922-2880.

With best regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Jay Dardenne  
Secretary of State

The Chair called for the voicing of objections to the qualifications or elections of the members-elect.

Hearing no objections, the Chair declared each member-elect duly qualified and elected.

**Oath of Office**

The membership-elect presented themselves before the bar of the House and took the following oath of office administered by Mr. Alfred W. Speer, Clerk of the House of Representatives:

"I, ..., do solemnly swear that I will support the constitution and laws of the United States and the constitution and laws of this state and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent upon me as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, according to the best of my ability and understanding, so help me God."

**Personal Privilege**

Rep. St. Germain led the House in the bestowing of the 2008 Member Identification Lapel Pins.

**Election of the Clerk of the House**

Rep. Michael Jackson placed in nomination the name of Mr. Alfred W. Speer for Clerk of the House.

Rep. Katz seconded the nomination of Mr. Speer.

Rep. Doerge moved that the nominations be closed.

There being but one nominee, Mr. Alfred W. Speer was duly elected Clerk of the House of Representatives.

**Oath of Office**

The oath of office was administered to Mr. Alfred W. Speer by the Honorable Major General Hunt Downer, Assistant Adjutant General, Louisiana National Guard.

**Election of the Speaker of the House**

Rep. Jane Smith placed in nomination the name of Rep. Jim Tucker for Speaker of the House.

Rep. Richmond seconded the nomination of Rep. Tucker.

Rep. Arnold seconded the nomination of Rep. Tucker.

Rep. Doerge moved that the nominations be closed.

There being but one nominee, Rep. Tucker was duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

**Oath of Office**

The oath of office was administered to Rep. Jim Tucker by the Honorable Stephen Windhorst, District Judge, 24th Judicial District Court.

**Speaker Tucker in the Chair**

**Election of the Speaker Pro Tempore  
of the House**

Rep. Morrell placed in nomination the name of Rep. Karen Carter Peterson for Speaker Pro Tempore of the House.

Rep. Trahan seconded the nomination of Rep. Peterson.

Rep. Honey seconded the nomination of Rep. Peterson.

Rep. Doerge moved that the nominations be closed.

There being but one nominee, Rep. Karen Carter Peterson was duly elected Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives.

**Oath of Office**

The oath of office was administered to Rep. Karen Carter Peterson by Mr. Kenneth M. Carter.

**Appointment of the Sergeant at Arms  
of the House**

Pursuant to House Rule 2.11, the Speaker appointed Mr. Clarence R. Russ Sergeant at Arms of the House.

**Oath of Office**

The oath of office was administered to Mr. Clarence R. Russ by the Honorable Alfred W. Speer, Clerk of the House of Representatives.

**Petitions, Memorials and  
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## State of Louisiana

January 14, 2008

The Honorable Jim Tucker  
Speaker of the House  
State Capitol  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Mr. Speaker:

In 2007 I was reelected to represent District No. 93 in the Louisiana House of Representatives using my legal name at the time, Karen Carter. Since that time, I have changed my surname to that of my husband. Accordingly, I request that from this date forward, please have all records of the House of Representatives reflect my legal name of Karen Carter Peterson.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Karen Carter Peterson  
State Representative, District 93

### LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Office of the Clerk

January 2, 2008

To: All Members of the House of Representatives

From: Alfred W. Speer

Re: Appropriations Committee Election

The following members were elected to the Appropriations Committee in accordance with House Rule 6.4:

Congressional District 1 - Representative-Elect Anthony V. Ligi - Elected. Election results: Anthony V. Ligi - 16 votes; John Schroder - 0 votes.

Congressional District 2 - Representative J. P. Morrell - Elected without opposition.

Congressional District 3 - Representative-Elect Simone Champagne - Elected. Election results: Damon Baldone - 0 votes; Taylor Barras - 0 votes; Simone Champagne - 8 votes; Jerry Gisclair - 0 votes; Joseph A. Harrison - 1 vote; Sam Jones - 6 votes; Jerome "Dee" Richard - 0 votes; Gary L. Smith, Jr. - 0 votes.

Congressional District 4 - Representative Jim Morris - Elected without opposition.

Congressional District 5 - Representative James R. Fannin - Elected. Election results: James R. Fannin - 10 votes; Lowell C. Hazel - 2 votes; Robert Johnson - 2 votes.

Congressional District 6 - Representative Thomas H. McVea - Elected. Election results: Regina Ashford Barrow - 4 votes; Avon R. Honey - 0 votes; Thomas H. McVea - 10 votes.

Congressional District 7 - Representative Brett F. Geymann - Elected. Election results: Bobby Badon - 0 votes; Page Cortez - 0 votes; Albert B. "A B" Franklin - 0 votes; Brett F. Geymann - 9 votes; Mickey J. Guillory - 0 votes; John E. Guinn - 0 votes; Charles E. "Chuck" Kleckley - 0 votes; H. Bernard LeBas - 1 vote; Jack Montoucet - 5 votes.

## Adjournment

On motion of Rep. Trahan, at 11:27 A.M., the House agreed to adjourn until 2:00 P.M. on Tuesday, January 15, 2008.

The Speaker of the House declared the House adjourned until January 15, 2008, at 2:00 P.M.

ALFRED W. SPEER  
Clerk of the House