

This Week in Washington

Congressman Richard W. Pombo
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Pombo elected Resources Committee Chairman

The House Republican Steering Committee has selected Congressman Richard Pombo as the new Chairman of the House Resources Committee. Pombo is taking over from outgoing chairman James Hansen of Utah, who retired at the end of the 107th Congress.

Pombo stressed his expertise on resource issues, willingness to reach across party lines to find common-sense solutions and unparalleled record of visiting Congressional Districts throughout the country to learn more about local resource issues.

“As the incoming Chairman, I will work with all of my colleagues on the Resources Committee to enact legislation of which we can all be proud,” said Pombo. “There are too many areas of agreement for us to get bogged down in partisan battles.”

Pombo to step down from Western Caucus

Washington, D.C. - Western Caucus Chairman Richard W. Pombo January 9, 2003 released the following statement: “I plan to step down as chairman of Western Caucus in the coming days to fulfill my duties as the new chairman of the House Resources Committee.

“It has been a tremendous honor and opportunity to serve in this privileged capacity, and I thank many of my colleagues for their strong commitment to building upon the rich tradition of the Caucus.

“Western Caucus has a strong and impressive past, and I am certain our new chairman will ensure our interests continue to be properly represented in the Congress and across the nation.”

Reprinted from The Western Caucus

Statement by Secretary of Agriculture Ann M. Veneman Regarding the Election of Congressman Bob Goodlatte and Richard Pombo to House Committee Chairmanships

“I am very pleased with the election of Bob Goodlatte as the new Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Chairman Goodlatte is well respected by his colleagues and brings a great deal of leadership, knowledge and experience in agriculture, trade, nutrition and forestry to the Chairmanship position. He has an astute understanding of the opportunities and challenges America’s farm and food sectors face and I look forward to continuing working together in advancing these important issues on behalf of this nation’s farmers, ranchers and consumers.

“I am also delighted that Richard Pombo, a fellow Californian, was elected by his peers as Chairman of the House Resources Committee. Chairman Pombo has earned a great deal of respect throughout the years because of his vision and first-hand understanding of farming and ranching, as well as conservation and forestry issues. Together, we have worked on many issues and I look forward to building on that, particularly as it relates to the President’s Healthy Forests Initiative.

“Our nation’s farmers and ranchers are the most competitive and innovative in the world. President Bush has advanced a strong agenda to ensure a robust and vibrant food and agriculture economy while growing America’s rural sector for the future. Together, with the new Congress, we hope to continue making progress on sound farm, trade, conservation, forestry and consumer policies. During the past two years we have accomplished a great deal in this regard and we look forward to building on those achievements with the new Congress.”

Reprinted from the United States Department of Agriculture

Today in History

1861 - Florida seceded from the United States.

1870 - John D. Rockefeller incorporated Standard Oil.

1920 - The League of Nations held its first meeting in Geneva, ratified the Treaty of Versailles, officially ending World War I.

1943 - U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt sailed from Miami, FL, to Trinidad becoming the first American President to visit a foreign country during wartime.

1956 - Elvis Presley recorded his first songs as an RCA Victor artist in Nashville. Elvis recorded "Heartbreak Hotel" among others.

1969 - The final issue of "The Saturday Evening Post" appeared after 147 years of publication.

1985 - Ted Nugent appeared on TV's "Miami Vice."

2000 - It was announced that America On-line (AOL) agreed to buy Time-Warner, the largest-ever corporate merger priced at \$162 billion.

From www.on-this-day.com

Wordsmith

Chair-man

Pronunciation: -m&n

1 a : the presiding officer of a meeting or an organization or committee **b :** the administrative officer of a department of instruction (as in a college)

2 : a carrier of a sedan chair - **chair-man-ship** /-

"ship/ noun

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