



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0523

June 27, 2017

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
H-204, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Gomez
Representative-Elect
California State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, California 94249-0051

The Honorable Alex Padilla
California Secretary of State
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Leader Pelosi, Secretary Padilla, and Representative-Elect Jimmy Gomez,

I write to request information regarding the elongated vacancy of California's 34th congressional district in the United States House of Representatives.

As you know, Xavier Becerra accepted Governor Brown's offer to serve as California's Attorney General on December 1, 2016. On January 23, 2017, the California legislature confirmed Becerra as Attorney General and the next day, January 24, he resigned from Congress.

The special election to succeed Becerra was held on April 4, 2017 and since no candidate received the requisite majority of the vote, a special runoff election was held.

That election occurred 21 days ago on June 6, 2017.

However, Congressman-elect Jimmy Gomez has not been sworn in yet. Democrat leaders in Washington and Sacramento have also failed to encourage Mr. Gomez to report to Washington expeditiously. As a result, constituents of the 34th congressional district have not had a representative in Congress for 154 days.

Conversely, the House of Representatives last night swore in two new members, Congresswoman Karen Handel and Congressman Ralph Norman. Their swearing-in occurred less than a week after their elections on June 20, 2017.

Mr. Gomez's absence means his constituents have no representative to help resolve veterans claims and/or appeals with the Department of Veterans Affairs. They have no representative to

secure lost or misappropriated social security or Medicare checks. And they have no representative to debate and vote in the People's House on the critical issues facing our country.

Sadly, the reasoning for this delay was made crystal clear by Congressman-elect Gomez himself. Mr. Gomez has admitted the reason for this delay was so he could remain available to vote in the California legislature to expand the Democrats' cap and trade program.

This unabashed play to politics is an abdication to participate in representative democracy. The Democrat agenda in Sacramento must be made on its merits – not political deal making that leaves over 700,000 of our fellow Californians without a representative to their federal government.

I respectfully request Mr. Gomez to report to the United States Congress immediately. If this delay persists due to his prioritization of state legislative matters, Congressman-elect Gomez should be honest with the constituents of California's 34th congressional district who he was elected to serve and resign from his newly-elected seat so they can elect someone ready to serve on Day One.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin McCarthy". The signature is stylized, with the first name "Kevin" written in a cursive script and the last name "McCarthy" written in a more formal, slightly cursive script.

KEVIN McCARTHY
House Majority Leader