



# ARMENIAN ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

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## **ARMENIAN CAUCUS REPS. PELOSI & HOYER ELECTED TO DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP POSTS**

### *House Republicans Also Select Leaders*

Washington, DC – House Democrats and Republicans followed the Senate this week in selecting their leadership for the next Congress. Armenian Caucus Member Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) was unanimously selected as House Speaker while her Caucus colleague, Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD), was elected Majority Leader.

Pelosi and Hoyer, both cosponsors of pending legislation (H. Res. 316) to reaffirm the U.S. record on the Armenian Genocide, will be the first Caucus Members to serve in those positions when Congress convenes in January.

“We congratulate the new leadership team for the upcoming Congress,” said Assembly Board of Trustees Executive Committee Member Annie Totah, who has had a longstanding working relationship with Pelosi and Hoyer. “Representatives Pelosi and Hoyer have been steadfast in their support of Armenian issues, and the Assembly looks forward to working with them in their new leadership roles to advance issues of concern to the Armenian-American community.”

On the Republican side, Ohio Congressman John Boehner was elected Minority Leader, while Congressman Roy Blunt (R-MO) will keep his position as Whip. The lawmakers are not cosponsors of H. Res. 316 or H. R.3361, a bill that would bar assistance for a railroad bypass of Armenia. However, Armenian Caucus Member Rep. Thaddeus McCotter (R-MI), a cosponsor of the Genocide resolution and rail bill, was elected as the Republican Policy Committee Chairmanship, while fellow Caucus Member Eric Cantor (R-VA) was chosen as Chief Deputy Whip.

“The incoming leadership provides new opportunities on Armenian issues from affirmation of the Armenian Genocide to economic development,” said Assembly Executive Director Bryan Ardouny. “We look forward to working to ensure a secure, prosperous and democratic Armenia.”

The Armenian Assembly is the largest Washington-based nationwide organization promoting public understanding and awareness of Armenian issue. It is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt membership organization.

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**Photograph:**



**Caption:** Newly-elected House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) with Assembly Board of Trustees Executive Committee Member Annie Totah at the Assembly's National Conference and Banquet in March 2006.