

Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)

In 1992, Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA) became the first Mexican-American woman elected to Congress. The congresswoman is the first Latina to serve on the Appropriations Committee in the House of Representatives as well as the first Latina to serve as one of the 12 “Cardinals,” or Chairs, of a House Appropriations Subcommittee. She is the first woman to chair the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the first woman to chair the California Democratic congressional delegation. She is a founding co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Maternity Care, founder of the Women’s Working Group on Immigration Reform and a co-founder of the Congressional Public Health Caucus.

Rep. Roybal-Allard serves in key positions including as a member of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, to which Speaker Pelosi appointed her in 2019; Vice chair of the House Democratic Caucus Task Force on Aging and Families; Co-Chair of the Congressional Nursing Caucus; and a member of the Democratic Caucus Steering and Policy Committee.

From her position on the House Appropriations Committee, the congresswoman has also spearheaded many federal projects that have created jobs and improved the lives of her constituents, including the new federal courthouse in Downtown Los Angeles, the Metro Gold Line Lightrail Eastside Extension, the deepening of the Port of Los Angeles, and the ongoing revitalization of the Los Angeles River. She has been equally successful in obtaining federal dollars for local education and labor projects, including job training and placement services, arts and vocational education, afterschool care, early education, magnet schools, and English literacy programs.

Rep. Roybal-Allard is the eldest daughter of the late Rep. Edward R. Roybal and Lucille Beserra Roybal. She is married to Edward T. Allard III. Together, she and her husband have four children and nine grandchildren. She received her bachelor’s degree from California State University, Los Angeles. She also holds an honorary doctor of humane letters degree from National Hispanic University.

Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI)

Rep. Fred Upton (R-MI) has been a part of the Michigan delegation since his election in 1987. Previously, he worked for President Ronald Reagan in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). While at OMB, he learned from President Reagan's example that it does not matter who gets the credit, as long as the job gets done. That has been Rep. Upton's approach since he was first elected to Congress and continues today.

From 2010 to 2016, Rep. Upton was selected by his House colleagues to serve as Chairman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. Under Rep. Upton's leadership, the Committee passed 354 legislative measures through the House and saw 202 of those signed into law by the president. Fred currently serves as the top Republican leader of the Subcommittee on Energy, which has jurisdiction over national energy policy.

Rep. Upton has long been an advocate for a greater emphasis on biomedical research to improve the public health. In 2014, along with U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette, D-Colorado, Fred launched the 21st Century Cures initiative. This bipartisan effort aims to bring researchers, industry, and patients together to speed up the discovery, development, and delivery of life-saving cures. The pursuit of these 21st century cures also supports Southwest Michigan employers and jobs by ensuring the United States remains the world leader in medical innovation. Marking the culmination of a three-year journey, President Obama signed the 21st Century Cures Act into law on December 13, 2016.

Rep. Upton has led the effort to ensure seniors keep access to their physicians and low-income children keep their insurance coverage. In 2015, the president signed into law H.R. 2, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act, which permanently fixes the broken Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate, strengthens Medicare in the long-term, extends federal funding for community health centers, and extends the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) that covers approximately 100,000 children in Michigan. More recently, Fred supported the efforts to reauthorize CHIP funding for six years – the longest and most generous reauthorization in the programs history. This legislation was signed into law in January of 2017.

Rep. Upton holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Michigan. He and his wife, Amey, have two adult children.