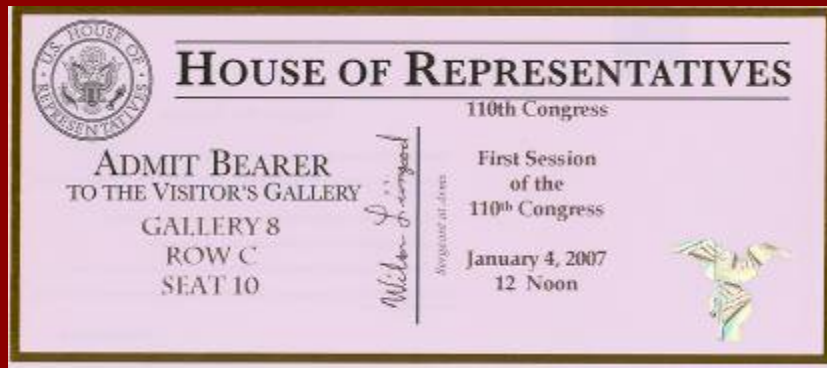


# Office of History and Preservation Office of the Clerk U.S. House of Representatives



Erin Hromada  
Publications Specialist  
Office of the Clerk  
U.S. House of Representatives

Visitor's Gallery Pass for the opening day of  
the 110th Congress, 2007

Collection of U.S. House of Representatives

# Who is OHP? How can they help you?

- Office of History and Preservation and the Office of the Clerk
- Publication Department
- Archive Department
- House Curator



"The Carr of History", Marble, Carlo Franzoni, 1819, courtesy of Architect of the Capitol

# Our Products:


- Art and History section of the Clerk's Web site
- Historical Highlights Section
- Tables and Charts
- Major Publications

ART & HISTORY


Weekly Historical Highlights (June 8 through 14)

« First Week « Previous Week —


**JUNE 11, 1880**



**JUNE 11, 1929**



**JUNE 12, 1978**



Jeannette Rankin, the first woman to serve in the U.S. Congress, was born on this date near Missoula, Montana. Rankin helped secure the vote for Montana women in 1914 and served as a prominent suffrage lobbyist. In 1916, running as a Republican candidate, she won an At-Large U.S. House seat in Montana, and was sworn into office at the opening of the 65th Congress (1917–1919) in April 1917. Several days into her term, Congresswoman Rankin, an avowed pacifist, voted against U.S. intervention in World War I. As a House Member she waged a front-lines fight for woman's suffrage; the House passed an initial voting rights amendment during her tenure and the 19th Amendment was eventually ratified in 1920. In the 1918

On this date, the House passed the Permanent Apportionment Act of 1929, fixing the number of Representatives at 435. The U.S. Constitution stipulated each state would have at least one Representative and that no congressional district could have more than 30,000 residents. Thus, the size of a state's House delegation depended on its population. But the founders were vague as to how large future Congresses should be and what method to use to reapportion the House after each federal census. These questions vexed Congress for much of its history as U.S. territory expanded and the population grew. Usually, the House reapportioned itself in a manner that expanded, or at least preserved, the representation of most

On this date, the first live radio broadcast of the proceedings on the House Floor transpired. "This is an historic occasion," Albert Gore, Jr., of Tennessee remarked. "We are giving the American people a chance to hear exactly what is said in this chamber." Due to a change in House rules that paved the way for radio and television coverage in the chamber, the public had the ability to hear a live, five-minute radio broadcast of the floor proceedings. Only Associated Press Radio opted to use the House-controlled feed for a live broadcast—other media outlets aired taped segments of the historic event. Sixteen Members were present for the opening gavel of the afternoon session; presided over by then Majority Leader Jim Wright of Texas

[http://clerk.house.gov/art\\_history](http://clerk.house.gov/art_history)

# *The Biographical Directory of the United States Congress*



Biographical Directory  
of the  
United States Congress  
1774 - Present

*Enter desired criteria and click Search*

Last Name:	<input type="text"/>
First Name:	<input type="text"/>
Position:	<input type="text"/>
State:	<input type="text"/>
Party:	<input type="text"/>
Year OR Congress:	<input type="text"/>

BIOGRAPHICAL DIRECTORY  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES CONGRESS  
1774-2005



DICTIONARY  
OF  
THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

COMPILED AS  
ANNUAL OF REFERENCE  
FOR THE  
LEGISLATOR AND STATESMAN.

BY  
CHARLES LANMAN,  
LIBRARIAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.  
1864.

<http://bioguide.congress.gov>

# Women in Congress 1917-2006

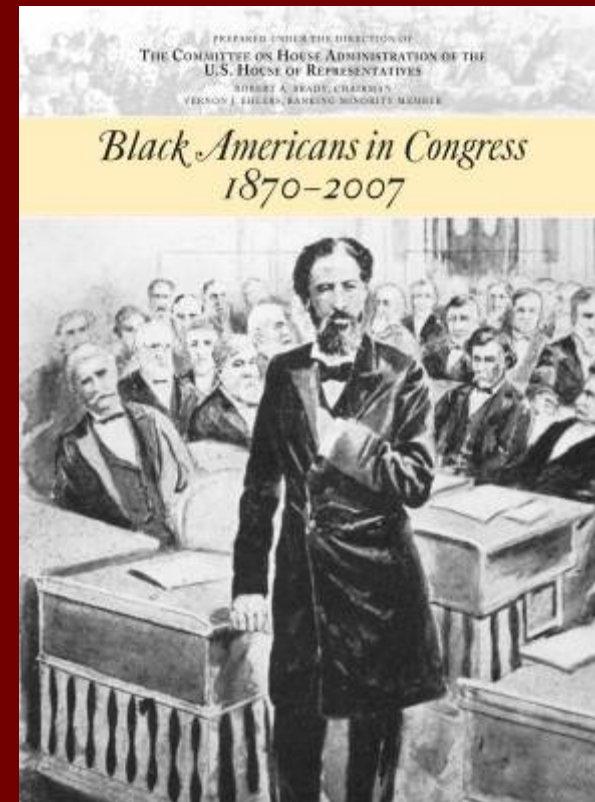


The image is a screenshot of the "Women in Congress" website. The header includes the title "Women in Congress" and a navigation menu with links for "Home", "Historical Essays", "Member Profiles", "Artifacts", and "Historical Data". The main content area is titled "An Introduction" and contains text about the history of women in Congress, starting with Jeannette Rankin in 1917. Below the text is a photograph of Nancy Pelosi speaking at a podium. To the right of the photo is a caption: "Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of Massachusetts provides over the House Chamber in this image from 2006. Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives." Below the introduction are three columns of links: "Madam Speaker" (with a small photo of Nancy Pelosi), "Historical Essays" (with a small photo of a book cover), and "Member Profiles" (with a small silhouette icon).

<http://womenincongress.house.gov>

# *Black Americans in Congress 1870-2007*

Due out in  
September 2008  
<http://baic.house.gov>



# Profiles

FORMER MEMBERS ★ 1870–1887

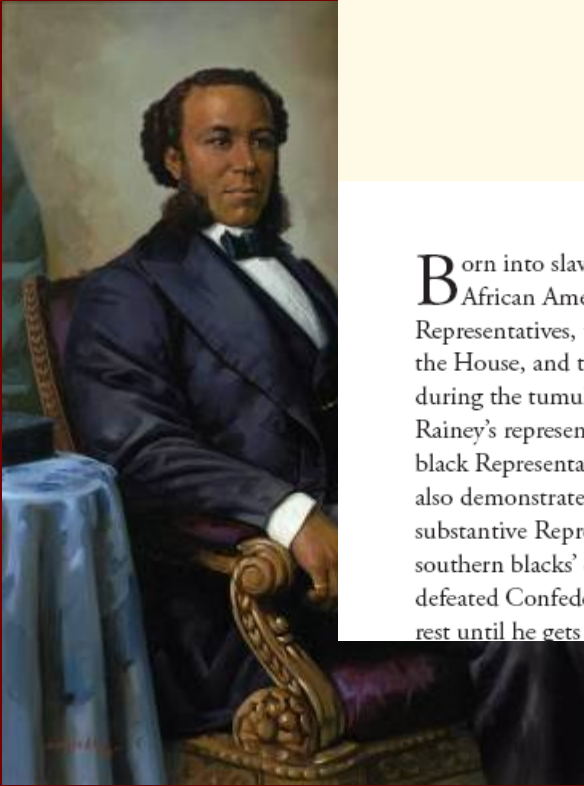
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*Joseph Hayne Rainey*  
1832–1887

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE ★ 1870–1879  
REPUBLICAN FROM SOUTH CAROLINA

**B**orn into slavery, Joseph Rainey was the first African American to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives, the first African American to preside over the House, and the longest-serving African American during the tumultuous Reconstruction period. While Rainey's representation—like that of the other 21 black Representatives of the era—was symbolic, he also demonstrated the political nuance of a seasoned, substantive Representative, balancing his defense of southern blacks' civil rights by extending amnesty to the defeated Confederates. "I tell you that the Negro will never rest until he gets his rights," he said on the House Floor.

The Confederate Army called Rainey to service when the Civil War broke out in 1861. At first, he dug trenches to fortify the outskirts of Charleston. He later worked as a cook and a steward aboard a blockade runner, a Confederate ship charged with carrying tradable goods through the Union Navy's blockade of the South. In 1862, he and his wife escaped to Bermuda. The self-governed British colony had abolished slavery in 1834, and proved a hospitable home for the Raineys, who took advantage of the thriving economy and growing population that resulted from the lucrative blockade-running business.<sup>3</sup> The Raineys lived in St. George and Hamilton, Bermuda, where Joseph



Oil on canvas, Simmie Knox, 2004,  
Collection of U.S. House of Representatives

# Appendices

## *Constitutional Amendments and Major Civil Rights Acts of Congress Referenced in the Text*

AMENDMENT/ACT	PUBLIC LAW/ U.S. CODE	MAIN PROVISIONS
THIRTEENTH AMENDMENT	13 Stat. 567; 13 Stat. 774–775	Abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime. Approved by the 38th Congress (1863–1865) as S.J. Res. 16; ratified by the states on December 6, 1865.
CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1866	14 Stat. 27–30	Guaranteed the rights of all citizens to make and enforce contracts and to purchase, sell, or lease property. Passed by the 39th Congress (1865–1867) as S.R. 61.
FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT	14 Stat. 358–359	Declared that all persons born or naturalized in the U.S. were citizens and that any state that denied or abridged the voting rights of males over the age of 21 would be subject to proportional reductions in its representation in the U.S. House of Representatives. Approved by the 39th Congress (1865–1867) as H.J. Res. 127; ratified by the states on July 9, 1868.
FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT	16 Stat. 346; 16 Stat. 40–41	Forbade any state to deprive a citizen of his vote because of race, color, or previous condition of servitude. Approved by the 40th Congress (1867–1869) as S.J. Res. 8; ratified by the states on February 3, 1870.
FIRST KU KLUX KLAN ACT	16 Stat. 140–146	Prohibited discrimination in voter registration on the basis of race, color, or



# Future Publications

- *Hispanic Americans in Congress*
- *Asian Pacific Islander Americans in Congress*
- Oral History Website



# Frequently Asked Questions

- Information on a former Member
- Assistance obtaining a piece of legislation
- When was the last time . . .



# Projects

- How to Research
  - Legislation
  - Members of Congress
  - Images
- Standard Sources
  - House and Senate Journal
  - Congressional Record
  - Research Collections

# Resources

- Office of History and Preservation

B-53 Cannon House Office Bldg

Washington, DC 20515

(202) 226-1300, [info.clerkweb@mail.house.gov](mailto:info.clerkweb@mail.house.gov)

- *Biographical Directory of the U.S. Congress*, (online)

<http://bioguide.congress.gov>

- ***Biographical Directory of the U.S. Congress (2005 print edition)***

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/serialset/cdocuments/hd108-222/index.html>

- Clerk of the House Web site, art and history, <http://clerk.house.gov>

- Congressional minority series, *Women in Congress*, Government Printing Office, 1917-2006, GPO, 2007; *Black Americans in Congress*, 1870-2007, GPO, 2008; Future works *Hispanic Americans in Congress*, *Asian Pacific Islanders in Congress*