

FOR THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

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Washington, Tuesday, November 18, 2014

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

NEW GERMAN-AMERICAN CAUCUS LEADERSHIP

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania;

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the efforts and hard work of the German-American Caucus over the past several years and the great leadership of caucus Co-Chairman Jim Gerlach.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Gerlach since before I was elected to Congress, and I am honored to take his place as the next Co-Chairman of the German-American Caucus alongside Congressman Bill Keating.

Under Mr. Gerlach's leadership, the caucus has grown to nearly 100 members and helped foster a great appreciation for the many ties and connections shared between our two countries.

From meeting with very important government, business, and industry leaders to hosting networking events on the Hill, the German-American Caucus has served as an important medium for the exchange of information.

Pennsylvania is proud of its German heritage. The Commonwealth hosts one of the largest German populations in the country. Accordingly, I look forward to working with Ambassador Peter Wittig and Congressman Keating and the leaders of the German American Business Council as we move towards the 114th Congress.

I promise to do my best to live up to the leadership that has been provided by my good friend Congressman Jim Gerlach.