

Cubin just doesn't bother to show up

Other House members who don't vote are dead, very ill or want to be President

Is it lacking compassion to criticize a legislator who misses four in ten votes because of a spouse who is ill or in the hospital?

Is it reasonable to expect that incumbents who are terminally ill themselves or have a spouse who is very ill won't seek reelection? Shouldn't they leave office to care for themselves or their spouse?

The Table at the right indicates which House members have missed the greatest number of votes so far this Session. At the top of the pictures, it is shown what the missed vote percentage is by Party and for all members.

Of the Non-Magnificent Seven shown, Wyoming's very own Barbara Cubin stands out. Not because of her diligence to duty but because of her failure to represent Wyoming residents. For without Cubin in attendance, Wyoming has no one in the U.S. House to represent its interests. There are but seven states with a single Representative - Wyoming being among them. Also, Alaska, Delaware, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota and Vermont.

Mrs. Cubin misses four in ten votes on the House floor - next worst of the seven single Representative states is Don Young of Alaska - he missed about one of six votes. Even those members missing a lot of votes because of their run for the

presidency have many colleagues to cover their absences. Duncan Hunter of California has 52 other members from California to represent and protect the interests of California residents. Tom Tancredo has six others.

Why would a person seek a seat when it's the only one for the state - like Barbara Cubin - if they are not certain they can attend, debate and vote on issues of importance to their constituents?

Well, the pay is good - \$165,200 for those who never achieve leadership roles and more for those who do - and climbing.

And the pension ain't bad.

Members of Congress are not eligible for a pension until they reach the age of 50, but only if they've completed 20 years of service. Members are eligible at any age after completing 25 years of service or after they reach the age of 62. Please also note that Members of Congress have to serve at least 5 years to even receive a pension.

The amount of a Congressperson's pension depends on the years of service and the average of the highest 3 years of his or her salary. By law, the starting amount of a Member's retirement annuity may not exceed 80% of his or her final salary.

Barbara Cubin was born November 30, 1946. She will be 62 before the end of her term. She can come home and enjoy a nice pension. Compliments of you.

110th Congress / House / Members who missed votes		
MISSED VOTES BY PARTY		
3.1% Democratic (233 members)	4.3% Republican (203 members)	3.7% All Members (436 members)
MISSED VOTES BY MEMBER		
90.8%		Rep. Charles Norwood (R-GA) Representing: Georgia, District 10 Votes: 89 votes missed (90.8 percent of 98 total votes) Note: Norwood was diagnosed with non-small cell lung cancer and died on Feb. 13, 2007.
84.2%		Rep. Jo Ann Davis (R-VA) Representing: Virginia, District 1 Votes: 712 votes missed (84.2 percent of 846 total votes) Note: Underwent urinary tract surgery in early February and has suffered a recurrence of breast cancer.
39.7%		Rep. Barbara Cubin (R-WY) Representing: Wyoming, At Large Votes: 336 votes missed (39.7 percent of 846 total votes)
30.7%		Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA) Representing: California, District 37 Votes: 75 votes missed (30.7 percent of 244 total votes) Note: Millender-McDonald died of cancer on April 22, 2007.
28.8%		Rep. Duncan Hunter (R-CA) Representing: California, District 52 Votes: 244 votes missed (28.8 percent of 846 total votes) Running for President
26.6%		Rep. Tom Tancredo (R-CO) Representing: Colorado, District 6 Votes: 225 votes missed (26.6 percent of 846 total votes) Running for President
22.3%		Rep. J. Dennis Hastert (R-IL) Representing: Illinois, District 14 Votes: 189 votes missed (22.3 percent of 846 total votes) Note: Hastert had gall bladder surgery in early 2007.

Source: WashingtonPost.com

Mrs. Cubin's earmarks

Despite the president of her own party asking Congress to half the number and amount of earmarks to the latest budget, Barbara Cubin (R-WY) proudly submitted an extensive list of "pork" projects that added up to \$127.2 million. Yet, despite her six terms in the U.S. House, most of those requests were rejected.

On her website, she vainly boasts of the \$3.3 million approved of her earmarks. Not that her constituents had a right to expect better, but \$3.3 million of \$127.2 million requested works out to a 2.5% success rate. Each "pork" recipient will gratefully accept the largesse - while criticizing other federal wasteful spending.

2007 Schedule - Cheyenne Herald

Now on Thursdays!!

Thursday, September 27

Thursday, October 18

Thursday, November 1

Thursday, November 15

Thursday, November 29

Thursday, December 13

Thursday, December 27

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