



Rep. Dave Loebsack (IA-02)

Congressman Dave Loebsack was elected to represent Iowa's 2nd Congressional district in November 2006. Congressman Loebsack defeated 30 year representative Jim Leach, winning 51% of the vote to Leach's 49%. Dave Loebsack now serves on the House Education and Labor Committee as well as the House Armed Services Committee. Prior to being elected to the United States House of Representatives, Congressman Loebsack taught political science at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, Iowa since 1982. He is also a member of the American Federation of Teachers.

Rep. Loebsack graduated from East High School in 1970 and attended Iowa State University where he earned a Bachelor's degree in 1974 and a Master's degree in 1976. He then attended the University of California, Davis where he earned a Ph.D. in political science.

Outside of the classroom, Congressman Loebsack continues to be a leader in his community as a grassroots activist. He has run campaigns, and has been a community leader in education, social justice, human rights, civil rights and civil liberties. His dedication to the community first inspired him to run for Congress.

"I believe that government can be a positive force in our lives. I am living proof of how community can make a difference. I ran for Congress in the first place because of the values and progressive policies of the Democratic Party that gave me an opportunity to pull myself up and succeed. Programs like the Social Security Survivor benefits I received when my father died. It is the Democratic Party values of opportunity, equality, fairness, and responsibility that shaped my life, inspired me to educate young adults, get involved in politics, and run for Congress."

Congressman Loebsack is married to Teresa Loebsack. Terry has taught second grade in Mt. Vernon for the past 28 years and is a member of the Iowa State Education Association. They are the proud parents of four grown children. Jennifer is a graduate of Beloit College and is now a project assistant at an architectural firm in Madison, Wisconsin. Sarah is a graduate of Kirkwood College and is now a RN at Mercy Hospital in Cedar Rapids. His stepson, Marcos Melendez III and his wife Michelle are both Naval Academy graduates (class of 2000) and are captains in the United States Marine Corps. Marcos has already served seven months in Ramadi, Iraq and Michelle was recently deployed to Iraq as well. Madeleine Melendez, Terry's daughter, attended Ellsworth Community College in Iowa Falls and now resides in Ames, Iowa.