

Washington, D.C. – Today, U.S. Representative Michael Arcuri (D-Utica) was officially sworn in as a member of 110th Congress. Arcuri, elected to represent New York’s 24th Congressional District, was accompanied by over 100 family members and friends who traveled from Upstate New York for the ceremonies.

“I am elated with the opportunity to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives,” Arcuri said. “This was a historic day for our country and I was proud to spend it with my family and friends who came down for the ceremonies.

“As someone of Italian-American heritage, the ability to vote for the first Italian-American Speaker of the House, as well as the first woman, was a truly monumental experience.

“Now is the time to harness the momentum we all felt on the floor today and get down to business. I’m excited to roll up my sleeves and start doing the business I was elected to do.”

Following the swearing in, the House immediately commenced legislative business with the adoption of an extensive ethics package that bans gifts from lobbyists; bans lobbyist travel for Members of Congress or their staff, along with a host of other ethical rules intended to restore the public’s trust in Congress.

Next week the House will continue with the “100 Hours” agenda that will address the 9/11 commission recommendations, raising the minimum wage, stem cell research, student loans and prescription drugs for seniors.

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