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## Biography Louise M. Slaughter

Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter is one of the most powerful and unique figures in the House of Representatives. The only microbiologist in Congress, Rep. Slaughter was first elected in 1986 and is now serving her 14th term in Congress.

Representing the 25th Congressional District of New York State, she works tirelessly on behalf of the district and her constituents know her as a fighter for increased economic development across Western New York.

Over the years, Rep. Slaughter has earned a reputation for her dedication to constituent service while simultaneously being a strong progressive voice on a host of national issues, from the war in Afghanistan and global trade to government reform and genetics.

Congresswoman Slaughter is a member of the House Democratic Leadership. In 2007, she became the first woman to serve as Chairwoman of the influential House Committee on Rules, a position that allowed her to influence nearly every single piece of legislation that comes to the House floor for a vote. She held that position from 2007 until 2011. She is currently Ranking Member of the House Committee on Rules.

Congresswoman Slaughter also serves on the prestigious Democratic Steering & Policy Committee, and is Chair of two congressional caucuses: the Congressional Arts Caucus and the Bipartisan Congressional Pro-Choice Caucus, of which she was a founding member.

As the only microbiologist in Congress - with a master's degree in public health - Rep. Slaughter has long played a role in the major health and science issues of our time.

Rep. Slaughter, who was first elected to Congress in 1986, holds a Bachelor of Science degree (1951) in Microbiology and a Master of Science degree (1953) in Public Health from the University of Kentucky. Prior to entering Congress, she served in the New York State Assembly (1982-86) and the Monroe County (N.Y.) Legislature (1976-79); and as regional coordinator to then-Secretary of State Mario Cuomo (1976-78) and to then-Lt. Gov. Mario Cuomo (1979-82).

After graduate school, she and her husband, Bob Slaughter, moved to the village of Fairport, where Louise still calls home. She and Bob were married for 57 years. Together the couple had three daughters and seven grandchildren.