



Written by [Michael Tennant](#) on November 19, 2025

House, With Few Democrats' Support, Condemns Democratic Congressman's Choosing His Successor

Only 23 members of the party that prattles endlessly about “democracy” could bring themselves to vote Tuesday for a symbolic House resolution chastising a fellow Democrat for retiring in such a way as to handpick his successor.

The House voted 236-183 to pass a [resolution](#) sponsored by Representative [Marie Gluesenkamp Perez](#) (D-Wash.) expressing disapproval of Representative Jesus “Chuy” Garcia’s (D-Ill.) apparent election shenanigans. All Republicans — except Representative Warren Davidson (Ohio), who, along with three Democrats, voted “present” — voted for the measure.



AP Images
Jesus "Chuy" Garcia

Coronation Feat

Since 2019, the 69-year-old Garcia has represented a [ridiculously gerrymandered district](#) that includes portions of Chicago and Cook County.

On October 27, he [filed to run](#) for reelection. On November 4, however, he reversed course and [announced his retirement](#).

According to the [Chicago Sun-Times](#):

Garcia said his doctor advised him not to run again because of his heart condition, as did his spouse, who has multiple sclerosis that didn’t respond to her most recent treatment. And he and his wife had just adopted a grandchild after the death of his daughter.

Garcia’s decision to retire, therefore, seems eminently reasonable. It’s the timing of it that’s suspect. The filing deadline was 5 p.m. on November 3, the day *before* Garcia declared he would not run for reelection after all.

Conveniently, Garcia’s chief of staff had filed her election paperwork hours before the deadline, at a time when she, but no one outside Garcia’s inner circle, knew of his decision. What’s more, Garcia’s organization helped collect signatures on her petitions, and the congressman went on to endorse her, saying she “knows the issues, knows the players in Washington, and has the talent and heart to deliver real results for working families.”

Meanwhile, others who might have run for Garcia’s seat had they not expected to face him in the Democratic primary had zero opportunity to do so after he announced his retirement.



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Spirited Debate

During debate on the resolution Monday night, Garcia [contended](#) that he had “followed the rules of Illinois and its election law.” But critics argue that, while he did adhere to the letter of the law, he clearly violated its spirit.

Perez’s resolution accused Garcia of “undermining the process of a free and fair election.”

“Representative Garcia’s actions,” it declared, “are beneath the dignity of his office and incompatible with the spirit of the Constitution.”

Perez forced a speedy floor vote on her resolution by introducing it last Wednesday as a privileged resolution “right before lawmakers began debate on the measure that would ultimately reopen the government,” reported [Roll Call](#).

The paper explained:

House rules allow certain resolutions, such as censures, reprimands and expulsions, to be considered privileged. When a member raises a question of privilege on the floor, leaders must schedule action on it within two legislative days.

Unlike most censures, the disapproval resolution does not require the targeted lawmaker to present themselves in the well of the House chamber for a public shaming. Instead, it simply takes note of the House’s disapproval of the conduct.

Democrats Against Democracy

Even such a mild, toothless reprimand over election chicanery was too much for the party of “democracy” to stomach.

“I do not support this so-called resolution of disapproval. And I strongly support Congressman Chuy García,” House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.) [told](#) reporters Monday. “He’s been a progressive champion in disenfranchised communities for decades — including during his time in Congress — and he’s made life better for the American people.”

Other Democrats “engaged in personal attacks against [Perez] and jeered as she spoke” on the House floor Monday, reported the [Daily Caller](#).

Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-Calif.) told the congresswoman to “worry about [her] own district.”

“Nothing more than a cheap political stunt” is how Representative Delia Ramirez (D-Ill.) described the resolution.

“Chuy Garcia has stood his ground in moments when others have not, including the sponsor of this resolution of disapproval, who has opened the doors to authoritarianism by the way she votes,” Ramirez said, referring to Perez’s occasional support for Republican-sponsored measures.

Addressing Perez, Representative Becca Balint (D-Vt.) said, “I want you to think about the totality of this man’s life. What he’s done in service. This is not a game. It’s a man’s life.”

“This is certainly not a game,” replied Perez. “Nothing validates the choice to subvert an election: not the trespasses of an administration, not the long and noble work of a public servant, not the valid and



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unknowable bitterness of a family's suffering, not fidelity to identity politics."

"The question is: do you have the right to choose your successor?"

She also argued: "It's easy to get caught up in the culture of D.C. ... believing your opponents are so broken that the ends justify the means, but you cannot win the right to represent people through subversion."

Subversion Conversion?

In the end, Perez succeeded in making her point, while Garcia will still be able to collect his generous congressional pension.

Don't be fooled by Perez's seeming concern over political coronations, though. As the Congressional Leadership Fund, a GOP super PAC, observed in a [statement](#) to the Daily Caller:

Marie Gluesenkamp Perez was complicit in the anointing of Kamala Harris and disenfranchisement of millions of Washington State voters. Why does she suddenly care that Illinois voters are being disenfranchised but didn't care when it was happening in her home state and the entire country?



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