



KENTUCKY KEYNOTE 2026

BROADCASTING

Instructions:

Record your entire process, prep time and performance, in one continuous take.

This is a Round 3 – style prompt.

Take 3 minutes to prepare and practice on camera to deliver the news story on the next page. Add an intro and outro to the news story with your station identification and any lead-in or lead-out statements you wish to make to set up the story and/or transition to the next one. Your performance will not be timed. Record the whole thing (including prep time) in one take – no starts and stops or editing allowed. You may time yourself during the preparation time or have someone give you time signals. Make clear to the judge when you are starting the evaluated performance; you may practice as you like during your 3 minutes of prep.

MAY THE WORDS

BE WITH YOU!

Congressman Doug LaMalfa, a Republican who represented a vast swath of rural Northern California in the U.S. House of Representatives, died while undergoing emergency surgery Monday evening, authorities said. He was 65.

A fourth-generation rice farmer from Richvale, a town of about 300 people west of Oroville, LaMalfa held his seat for 13 years. He easily won reelection year after year — in 2024, he beat his Democratic opponent by 30 percentage points — but his was one of several Republican-held seats imperiled this fall when voters passed Proposition 50, which redraws the state's congressional districts.

Emergency personnel responded to a 911 call from LaMalfa's residence at 6:50 p.m. Monday, according to the Butte County Sheriff's Office. The congressman was taken to the Enloe Medical Center in Chico, where he died while undergoing emergency surgery, authorities said.

LaMalfa's death puts the Republican majority in Congress in further jeopardy, with a margin of just two votes to secure passage of any bill along party lines after the resignation of Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene on Monday evening.

Adding to the GOP's troubles, Rep. James Baird, a Republican from Indiana, was hospitalized on Tuesday for a car crash described by the White House as serious.

While Baird is said to be stable, House Speaker Mike Johnson, a Republican from Louisiana, will not be able to rely on his attendance. And he has one additional caucus member, Thomas Massie of Kentucky, who has made a habit of voting against the president, bringing their margin for error effectively down to zero.