

# Here's why these Democratic women are wearing black to the State of the Union



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

**House minority leader Nancy Pelosi (center) with other House members wearing black in support the #MeToo and “Times Up” movements ahead of tonight's State of the Union address.**

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Dozens of female Democratic lawmakers are following the lead of celebrities at this year's Golden Globe Awards by wearing black to the State of the Union.

On Tuesday afternoon, the female legislators gathered to take a photo of their black outfits adorned with pins to pay homage to the #MeToo and “Time's Up” movements.



Allegations of sexual harassment have had a big effect on Capitol Hill in recent months, forcing resignations and retirements on both sides of the political aisle as well as ongoing Ethics Committee investigations.

House minority leader Nancy Pelosi tweeted that the nation must “recognize and cherish the brave people who stand up to demand their stories be heard.”



**Nancy Pelosi**

@NancyPelosi

The importance of [#TimesUp](#) & [#MeToo](#) is about more than demanding decency & respect – though that is certainly a major part of it. We must recognize & cherish the brave ppl who stand

up to demand their stories be heard. I'm proud to know so many of my colleagues feel the same way.

2:38 PM - Jan 30, 2018

886 588 people are talking about this

Representative Katherine Clark of Massachusetts tweeted: “It’s time to address systemic inequality and injustices in the workplace that prevent women from reaching their full potential.”



**Katherine Clark**

@RepKClark

Look for Members of Congress at [#SOTU](#) tonight standing in solidarity with women who experience assault, harassment, and abuse at work. It's time to address systemic inequality and injustices in the workplace that prevent women from reaching their full potential. [#TimesUp](#)

1:30 PM - Jan 30, 2018

59 15 people are talking about this

Representative Niki Tsongas of Massachusetts said she stood in solidarity with those seeking a cultural shift.



**Niki Tsongas**

@nikiinthehouse

Joining my democratic colleagues in wearing black to tonight's [#SOTU](#) in solidarity with those seeking economic security & a cultural shift that enables men and women to work side by side in safety & dignity, free of sexual harassment & paid fairly for the value of their work.

5:00 PM - Jan 30, 2018

24 See Niki Tsongas's other Tweets

More photos:



JIM LO SCALZO/EPA/SHUTTERSTOCK

**Democratic members of the House raised their fists.**



ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

**Representatives Jan Schakowsky, Madeleine Bordallo, Susan Davis, and other House Democrats posed for photos.**



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**Representative Lisa Blunt Rochester adjusted her “RECY” button. The buttons are a tribute to Recy Taylor, a black Alabama woman who was raped by six white men in 1944.**