

# John William McCormack: A Political Biography

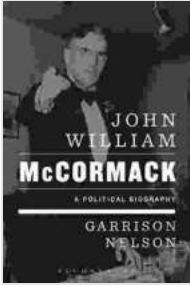


## John William McCormack: A Political Biography

by Garrison Nelson

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English



File size	: 94319 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 433 pages



## Early Life and Education

John William McCormack was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on December 21, 1891. He was the son of Irish immigrants Patrick and Mary McCormack. His father was a shoemaker and his mother was a homemaker. McCormack attended public schools in Boston and graduated from Boston College in 1913. He then attended Boston University School of Law, graduating in 1917.

## Early Political Career

McCormack began his political career in 1920, when he was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He served in the state legislature for six years, and in 1928 he was elected to the United States House of Representatives. McCormack represented Massachusetts' 12th congressional district for 43 years.

## Speaker of the House

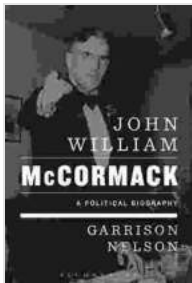
In 1962, McCormack was elected Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. He was the first Irish American to hold the position. McCormack was a close ally of President John F. Kennedy and President

Lyndon B. Johnson. He played a key role in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

As Speaker, McCormack also played a leading role in the impeachment of President Richard Nixon. In 1973, McCormack voted in favor of the first article of impeachment against Nixon, which charged Nixon with obstruction of justice. Nixon resigned from office before the second article of impeachment could be brought to a vote.

## Later Life and Legacy

McCormack retired from Congress in 1971. He died in Boston on November 22, 1980. McCormack is remembered as a skilled politician who played a key role in the passage of landmark legislation during the civil rights era.



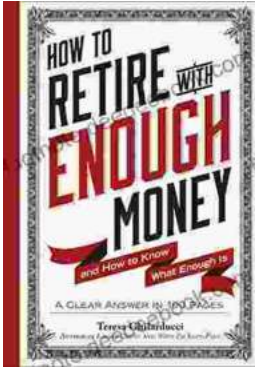
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