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**Name:** John J. Hall

**Years:** July 23, 1948 - Present

**Relevance:** Congressman of the 19th Congressional District in New York's Hudson Valley.

**Brief Biography:** Born in Baltimore Maryland, Hall attended Notre Dame then Loyola College studying physics before leaving in 1972 to pursue interests in music. By the age of twenty-one, he was an achieved singer and songwriter who wrote and directed musicals for Broadway productions. His musical career truly began with the band Orleans, which he is credited for co-founding. He left Orleans in 1977 but they have reunited several times since. He has released eighteen albums since as a solo artist and as a member of Orleans. His most recent album *Rock Me on the Water* released in 2005 was influenced by a sailing trip he took from Kingston to the Caribbean and then back to Maryland. In 2006, he was elected to be Congressman of the 19<sup>th</sup> district in New York, which includes Putnam and parts of Dutchess, Orange, Rockland, and Westchester counties.

**Major Achievements:** Member of Orleans, co-founding of Musicians United for Safe Energy, member of the John Hall Band, elected to New York's 19th Congressional District in 2006, and appeared on the Colbert Report on October 19, 2006 and November 8, 2008.

**References:** <http://johnhall.house.gov/Biography.asp>,

<http://www.johnhallforcongress.com/main.cfm?actionId=globalShowStaticContent&screenKey=>

<cmpAbout&s=hall>, <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=H001039>.