Lawmaker With A Soul Purpose
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As Walter H. Capps sat through the orientation sessions for new lawmakers, listening to explanations of how to file a bill or manage an office, another thought kept nagging at him.

"The question I always wanted to ask is: Do we know why we're here? What are we doing here?" the former religious studies professor says as he sits in his small Capitol Hill office. "In the world I came from, the world of religion, people don't worry about procedure. They just give you the high ideals."

Most House freshmen hit Capitol Hill preoccupied with scoring juicy committee assignments, deciphering Byzantine rules of order and locating hearing rooms and restrooms. Capps, however, isn't like most House freshmen.

For 33 years, he taught and wrote at the University of California, Santa Barbara, contemplating the nourishment of spiritual lives? "It's a big experiment," says the religion professor. See CAPPS, C8, Col. 1
Outsider In the House

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