

Jon Husted sworn in as U.S. senator for Ohio, replacing Vice President JD Vance

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Lt. Gov. Jon Husted was sworn in as Ohio's newest U.S. senator Tuesday, just one day after his predecessor became vice president of the United States.

Vice President JD Vance administered the oath to Husted during a ceremony at the U.S. Capitol attended by Husted's family, Gov. Mike DeWine and Sen. Bernie Moreno.

DeWine selected Husted from a field of Republicans who began jockeying for the seat after Vance and President Donald Trump won the November election.

With Husted and Moreno in office, Ohio has two Republican senators for the first time since 2007.

"I will continue to be an America-first conservative who wants to get things done and one who knows that public service is a temporary gift, and you have to make the most of it on behalf of the people you represent," Husted said in a video posted on X last week.

Husted, the child of adopted parents, became lieutenant governor in 2019. He joined DeWine's 2018 ticket after a brief run against him, and the pair defeated Democrat Richard Cordray amid national losses for Republicans. Prior to that, Husted served as secretary of state, Ohio House speaker and state senator.

During his tenure, Husted championed economic development and helped persuade Intel to build a \$28 billion semiconductor plant in Licking County. He hopes to focus on technology and education workforce on Capitol Hill, issues that have been central to his work in the lieutenant governor's office.

Husted was long expected to run for governor in 2026, but his departure from the race won't make the GOP primary any less competitive. Former presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy, Attorney General Dave Yost and Treasurer Robert Sprague are among those clamoring to replace DeWine, who is term limited.

DeWine will now turn his attention to another appointment: Husted's replacement for lieutenant governor. The timeline for that decision remains unclear.