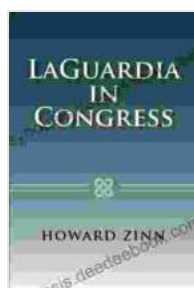


George Will on LaGuardia in Congress: A Critical Assessment of His Service

Fiorello H. LaGuardia, the legendary former mayor of New York City, served three terms in the United States House of Representatives from 1917 to 1921 and 1923 to 1933. During his time in Congress, LaGuardia was a vocal advocate for progressive causes and a tireless fighter for the rights of the poor and working class. His service in the House was marked by both significant achievements and occasional setbacks, but he left a lasting legacy as a principled and effective legislator.

Early Life and Political Career

Fiorello LaGuardia was born in New York City in 1882 to Italian immigrant parents. He grew up in poverty and dropped out of school at the age of 16 to work in a factory. In 1906, LaGuardia joined the Socialist Party and began his political career as a precinct captain. He was elected to the New York State Assembly in 1915 and served one term before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1917.



LaGuardia in Congress by George F. Will

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
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Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 302 pages
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Service in the House of Representatives

LaGuardia's time in Congress coincided with a period of great social and economic change in the United States. The country was reeling from the effects of World War I and the ensuing economic depression. LaGuardia was a strong advocate for government intervention to help the poor and working class. He supported legislation to provide low-cost housing, unemployment insurance, and healthcare. He was also a vocal opponent of war and imperialism.

LaGuardia's most significant achievement in Congress was the passage of the LaGuardia-Wagner Act in 1937. This legislation created the United States Housing Authority, which provided loans and subsidies for the construction of low-cost housing projects. The LaGuardia-Wagner Act had a major impact on the development of public housing in the United States.

LaGuardia was also a strong advocate for civil rights. He supported anti-lynching legislation and fought against the Ku Klux Klan. He was one of the few members of Congress who voted against the Immigration Act of 1924, which imposed quotas on immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe.

Political Philosophy

LaGuardia was a lifelong progressive who believed in the power of government to improve the lives of its citizens. He was a strong supporter of unions and labor rights. He believed that the government had a responsibility to provide basic services such as education, healthcare, and housing to all Americans.

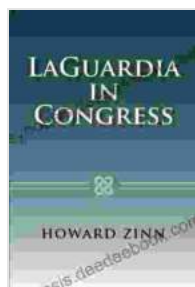
LaGuardia was also a strong believer in the importance of personal liberty. He opposed censorship and government intrusion into private lives. He was a staunch defender of the First Amendment and the right to free speech.

Legacy

Fiorello LaGuardia left a lasting legacy as a principled and effective legislator. He was a tireless advocate for the poor and working class, and he played a major role in the development of social welfare programs in the United States. His service in Congress was marked by both significant achievements and occasional setbacks, but he never wavered in his commitment to his beliefs.

LaGuardia's legacy is still relevant today. His work to address poverty, inequality, and social injustice is a reminder that government can be a force for good in the lives of its citizens. His commitment to personal liberty and free speech is a reminder that vigilance is necessary to protect our most cherished rights.

Fiorello H. LaGuardia was a complex and fascinating figure who left an enduring mark on American politics. His service in Congress was a testament to his commitment to progressive ideals and his belief in the power of government to improve the lives of its citizens.



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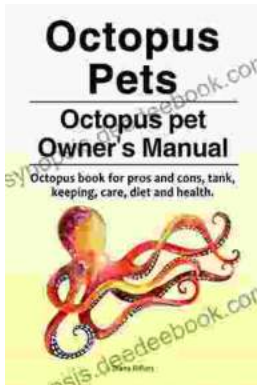
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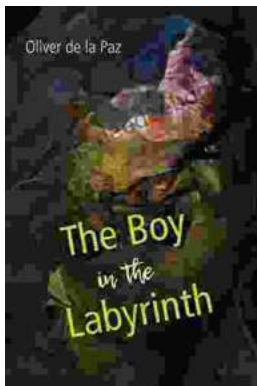
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