Rep. Caffery Is Chosen For French Exchange Plan

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Patrick T. Caffery, D-La., has been selected to represent the United States in a program of exchange meetings between members of Congress and the French parliament. Beginning Oct. 2, the South Louisiana Congressman and 12 other House members will host for 10 days — both in Washington and in their home districts — 13 men who represent a wide range of constituencies in the French Chamber of Deputies.

Special Meaning

Rep. Thomas S. Foley, D-Wash., coordinator of the visit, said the French heritage of South Louisiana would lend special meaning to Caffery’s participation in the exchange. The program includes several functions to be attended jointly by all participants from the two nations. Most of the time, however, Caffery will be paired by only the single French lawmaker with whom he will be seated shortly before the visit commences.

‘Excellent Climate’

“I am pleased to have been chosen,” Caffery said, “particularly because of the strong French heritage in South Louisiana. It will provide an excellent climate in which to learn more about the country with which we in Acadians have so many cultural ties. And I look forward with pride to showing my guests some of the efforts that are underway in South Louisiana to preserve that heritage.”

For the expected six-day Washington segment of the visit, Caffery said, he has scheduled a wide variety of activities including briefings by Under Secretary of State Z. Alexis Johnson and Dr. Henry Kissinger, national security adviser to President Nixon.

For the final four days, the French delegate will accompany Caffery on a South Louisiana tour that is expected to include meetings with Louisiana officials, including leaders of the Council for Development of French in Louisiana (CODOFIL), and conferences with representatives of the French government stationed in New Orleans and Lafayette.

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