



SPEAKER BIOS



The Honorable Colin Allred (TX-32)

Born and raised in North Dallas by a single mom who was a Dallas public school teacher, Congressman Colin Allred was student body president at Hillcrest High School and earned a full-ride football scholarship to Baylor University.

Diploma in hand and prepared to attend law school, Colin deferred his acceptance to play in the NFL. He was a linebacker for five seasons before sustaining a career-ending injury that opened the door for him to fulfill his other dream — becoming a civil rights attorney.

Colin served in the General Counsel's office at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Colin later returned home to Dallas and decided to run for office to represent the district he grew up in.

As a Representative, Colin is dedicated to helping North Texas families gain the same opportunities he had to fulfill his dreams. Colin's top priorities in Congress are working to lower health care costs, protecting Medicare and Social Security, and creating an economy that works for everyone. Colin is passionate about expanding access to vocational and trade schools and lowering the cost of college so all North Texans have the shot at a middle-class job. He believes Congress must find common ground to rebuild our aging roads and bridges, pass comprehensive immigration reform and take care of our veterans.



J.D. Grom, Senior Adviser to the Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce

J.D. Grom has committed his professional career to public service. Since October 2021, J.D. has served as a senior adviser to Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo. In that role, he is the Secretary's principal adviser on legislative and intergovernmental affairs and is currently performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary for Legislative & Intergovernmental Affairs.

J.D. began his career working for his hometown representative, Congresswoman Melissa Bean (IL-08), from January 2005 to January 2011. From March 2011 to September 2013, J.D. served at the U.S. Department of the Treasury where he helped coordinate the Department's work on the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) primarily as a senior adviser to Assistant Secretary Timothy Massad.

From September 2013 to October 2021, he served as the Executive Director of the New Democrat Coalition, a group of forward-thinking House Democrats who organize around economic, innovation,



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and good government policies.

J.D. holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he double majored in Political Science and Economics. Originally from the northwest suburbs of Chicago, J.D. and his wife (Stacy) reside in the Petworth neighborhood of Washington, D.C., with their two children (Jack and Emma) and dog (Monster).



Coalter Baker, Deputy Director, Texas Office of State-Federal Relations

John "Coalter" Baker Jr. currently serves as Deputy Director of the Texas Office of State-Federal Relations (OSFR) at the Office of the Texas Governor, Greg Abbott. His duties include managing interactions with the Texas Congressional Delegation, keeping tabs on Federal Agency work and its impact on the state as well as other duties as assigned. Prior to working for the State of Texas, Coalter served as Deputy Chief of Staff to Secretary Ben Carson at the Department of Housing

and Urban Development (HUD) where he oversaw communications and budget as well as advised on disaster recovery programs for the agency.

Before his time at HUD, he served Mick Mulvaney as Press Secretary at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Prior to his work with OMB, Coalter served in various leadership positions on a number of campaigns during the 2015-2016 cycle, including Communications Director for the battleground state of Arizona on the Trump Campaign. Prior to being a campaign operative, Coalter spent five years working as a policy aide to former Texas Senator, Kay Bailey Hutchison in the U.S. Senate, and an additional two years working as an analyst on East Africa issues at the International Republican Institute.

Coalter is a sixth-generation Texan hailing from Houston, Texas, and is a graduate of Texas Tech University. He and his wife, Brittany, reside with their goldendoodle, Austin, in Washington, DC.

The Honorable John Cornyn

In 2020, Texans overwhelmingly re-elected Senator John Cornyn to represent them for a fourth term in the U.S. Senate.



Since he was first elected in 2002, Sen. Cornyn has earned a national reputation as an articulate and powerful voice for Texas and conservative values in Washington. Sen. Cornyn, a San Antonio native, strongly believes that we need

more Texas solutions in Washington, which is why he consistently fights to bring the Lone Star State's



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commonsense solutions to the federal level.

He has committed himself to strengthening our national defense, securing our borders, repairing our broken immigration system, and strengthening the economy by keeping taxes low, reducing federal spending, and fighting job-killing regulations from Washington bureaucrats. Sen. Cornyn has also been a tireless advocate for Texas military personnel, veterans, and their families, and he has fought to provide these brave Americans with the best possible support, care, and benefits.

Sen. Cornyn serves on the Senate Finance, Intelligence, and Judiciary Committees, where he helps craft legislation on behalf of 29 million Texans. From 2013 until 2018 Sen. Cornyn was chosen by his colleagues to serve as the Whip, the second-highest ranking position in the Senate Republican Conference.

Sen. Cornyn has served the people of Texas for the nearly four decades, first as a district judge and later as a member of the Texas Supreme Court and Texas Attorney General. He received his undergraduate degree from Trinity University, his law degree from St. Mary's School of Law, and his LLM from the University of Virginia Law School.

Sen. Cornyn married his wife Sandy in 1979, and they have two grown daughters.



The Honorable Roman Popadiuk, First U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

Roman Popadiuk, the former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, is a principal in Bingham Consulting. A retired member of the career Senior Foreign Service, Roman brings more than 30 years of experience in the areas of national security, political risk analysis, communications strategy, and energy policy, including serving on the National Security Councils of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush. With his vast experience and contacts that span the globe, Roman brings a unique insight into international political and business matters.

Prior to joining the firm, he served for 13 years as the executive director of the George Bush Presidential Library Foundation at Texas A&M University. At Texas A&M, Roman also served as chairman of the Executive Committee of the China-U.S. Relations Conference, a biennial conference that examined the mutual relationship between the two countries.

He served as International Affairs adviser and senior civilian on the staff of the Commandant of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at Fort McNair from 1995 to 1998. Prior to serving in that



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capacity, Roman spent two years as a member of the faculty of the School of Area Studies at the State Department's Foreign Service Institute.

From 1989 to 1992, Roman served as deputy assistant to the President and deputy secretary for Foreign Affairs under President George H. W. Bush, a position he also held toward the end of President Ronald Reagan's administration.

Roman began his career in the Foreign Service in 1981. He served in Mexico City from 1982 to 1984, where he did consular and political work and was special assistant to the ambassador. He then served a two-year tour with the Department of State and the National Security Council.

Roman has written about and is frequently interviewed on issues relating to U.S.-Ukraine relations, the situation in Ukraine, and other national security and global relations issues. He co-authored *Privileged and Confidential: The Secret History of the President's Intelligence Advisory Board*. His writings have been published in *The Ukrainian Quarterly*, *The Foreign Service Journal*, *Mediterranean Quarterly*, and *Presidential Studies Quarterly*.

Roman is a member of the U.S.-Ukraine Energy Task Force of the Ukraine 2020 Policy Dialogue, a forum co-sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine aimed at strengthening U.S.-Ukraine relations and Ukraine's integration into Europe. In 2006, he served as an observer of the parliamentary election in Ukraine. He is a senior advisor to the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.



Chris Roberti, Senior Vice President for Cyber, Intelligence, & Supply Chain Security Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Christopher D. Roberti is senior vice president at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and is responsible for cybersecurity policy, supply chain security policy, space policy, defense procurement policy, and public-private sector operational cyber collaboration and intelligence sharing. In this role he leads the Chamber's national security advocacy on high-profile policy issues, influencing legislation and regulation at federal, state, and local levels.

In addition, Roberti is responsible for managing the Chamber's relationships with key U.S. Government interlocutors across the national security, intelligence community, and law enforcement sectors. He also served as chief of staff for former Chamber CEO Thomas J. Donohue from 2013-2021, where he advised Donohue on a range of domestic and international issues, program



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integration, and strategy. Roberti works closely with other members of the Chamber's executive leadership team and board of directors to coordinate policy initiatives and programs on issues of key importance to the American business community.

Before joining the Chamber, Roberti served for nearly a decade in the federal government in the national security arena, with much of his work overseas. He began his career as a corporate attorney at a global law firm, where his practice focused on international private equity, mergers & acquisitions, and securities transactions.

Roberti also serves on the board of directors of the National Cryptologic Foundation, where he chairs the nominating and governance committee.

Roberti earned a J.D. degree from the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law and received B.A. degrees from the University of Illinois in political science and German. He speaks several foreign languages and has extensive experience living and working overseas in a range of environments.



Ashlee Rich Stephenson, Senior Political Strategist, Political Affairs and Issue Advocacy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Ashlee Rich Stephenson, senior political strategist at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, is head of the Political Affairs and Issue Advocacy division. Stephenson leads the Chamber's political programming, which includes voter education and advocacy, candidate endorsements, and the U.S. Chamber PAC.

She also develops and executes external issue advocacy campaigns to support the Chamber's policy and legislative priorities.

Stephenson is a nationally respected and highly experienced political strategist and pollster, with over 15 years of experience working on high-level candidate campaigns, independent expenditures, and on behalf of public affairs and corporate interests across the United States.

She has worked on several U.S. presidential campaigns, including serving as the polling director for then-Mayor Rudy Giuliani's 2008 campaign and as an adviser for then-Gov. Scott Walker's 2016 effort.

Stephenson was president of Just Win Strategies, a national political strategy firm, and principal and chief strategy officer at the polling and analytics company WPA Intelligence. She started her career in the Strategy Department at the Republican National Committee.



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Named a Rising Star in 2014 by Campaigns & Elections magazine and inducted into the inaugural American Association of Political Consultants 40 under 40 class of 2015, Stephenson is a regularly requested panelist and commentator at political industry events to discuss evolving trends in the political tactics of public opinion research, data, digital, message development, and marketing. She serves on the boards for Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions and The George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management.

A graduate of Allegheny College and native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Stephenson resides in Alexandria, Virginia, with her husband and their two children.



Cheryl A. Oldham, Vice President of Education Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Cheryl A. Oldham is vice president of education policy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and is also senior vice president of the education and workforce program of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Through events, publications, and policy initiatives—and drawing upon the Chamber’s extensive network of members—the education and workforce program connects the best minds in

American business with the most innovative thinkers in education and training, helping them work together to preserve the strength of America’s greatest economic resource, its workforce.

Oldham has 20 years of experience in public policy development and implementation as well as in project management and government relations. Her previous experience includes serving for 8 years in President George W. Bush’s administration. In July 2008, the president designated Oldham as acting assistant secretary for postsecondary education while also serving as chief of staff to the under secretary of education. As chief of staff, Oldham was the senior adviser on policy and strategy and oversaw the coordination of the programs and policies for which the office was responsible. These included vocational and adult education, postsecondary education, and federal student aid.

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Scott Corley, Partner and Co-Founder, Corley Pipes

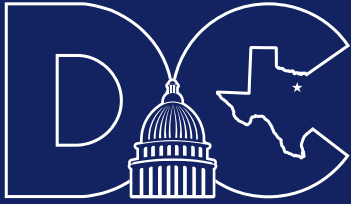
Scott Corley offers clients a unique comprehensive understanding of policy and political decision-making, having worked in the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate, at a top trade association, and for a fortune 50 corporation. A recognized and respected government affairs professional, his work includes a wide range of policy issues including telecommunications, competition, workforce, tax, health information technology,

and trade policy.

Prior to co-founding Corley Consulting, Scott served for five years as Director of Government Affairs for Microsoft Corporation, Inc. In this capacity, Scott focused the majority of his efforts on outreach in the United States Senate, covering broad policy topics including, privacy, cloud computing, health information technology, wireless and wire line Internet regulation, mergers and acquisitions, tax, trade, and more. As such, Scott's work touched all aspects of the Senate, including the Senate Leadership as well as the Finance, Judiciary, Commerce, HELP, Budget and Appropriations Committees. An advocate for highly skilled workforce development, Scott also served as the lead lobbyist for Microsoft's top legislative priority, highly skilled immigration reform, playing a lead role within the technology industry in the development and negotiation of reform provisions in targeted efforts in both the House and Senate as well as both the 2006 and 2007 immigration reform debates.

From 2003 until 2005, Scott was Director of Government Relations for the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), serving as the lead for the Commerce, Workforce, and Health Information Technology Committees. At ITI, Scott was actively engaged in promoting a pro-technology, pro-growth agenda representing the diverse views of the world's largest technology companies. In his capacity as Commerce lead, Scott was instrumental in modifying pro-regulatory Internet bills and provisions, helping advance the trust and integrity of the online environment among lawmakers while preserving the freedom and flexibility of the Internet as a platform for social, commercial, and medical interaction. In his Workforce role, Scott helped develop a coordinated industry response to growing concerns within Congress over globalization and US jobs.

Scott also has served as a senior staffer in both the United States Senate and House of Representatives. Before joining ITI, Scott worked for Senator George Allen (R-VA), then Chairman of both the Science, Tech, and Space Subcommittee within the Commerce Committee as well as the Senate Republican High Tech Task Force. Scott served as Allen's Senior Technology Advisor in both capacities as well as the Senator's health policy advisor. While in the Senate, Scott was instrumental in passing the first extension of the Internet Tax Freedom Act. Before crossing over to the Senate,



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Scott was Representative Jim Rogan's (R-CA) Legislative Director and Energy & Commerce Committee staffer, covering all domestic issues for the Rogan office, including telecom, healthcare, social security, the environment, education, and energy.

A native of Fort Worth, Texas, Scott received his B.A. in Political Science at Baylor University and his Masters in Economics from Johns Hopkins University. While working in Congress and in his role at ITI and Microsoft, Scott was a featured speaker on topics ranging from Internet tax to collective bargaining for doctors to federal education funding at national and local events such as the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas and the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

Scott and was born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas. His father, Dr. Bruce Corley, is President of BH Carroll Theological Institute in Arlington, TX. His mother, Linda, is a retired school teacher.



Stewart Barber Young, Senior Vice President, Corley Pipes

Stewart Barber Young most recently served as Special Assistant to the President and Director of International Initiatives and Outreach for the Office of Economic Initiatives and Entrepreneurship (OEI) at the White House.

During her time at the White House, Stewart led the development and implementation of the Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Initiative, the first-ever whole of government approach to economically empowering 50 million women globally by 2025. In the first two years, W-GDP reached over 24 million women, secured the allocation of \$500 million for an innovative new W-GDP Fund at USAID, and secured the introduction of bicameral and bipartisan authorizing legislation. Furthermore, she had the unique opportunity to work drive a wide range of priority policy issues for OEI including digital inclusivity, trade, women's economic empowerment, financial services, technology and innovation, anti-trafficking efforts, and small business.

She previously served in the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) as Deputy Assistant USTR for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement. Stewart's deep bipartisan relationships and understanding of coalition building helped spearhead USTR's stakeholder and intergovernmental engagement efforts surrounding high profile trade initiatives such as the successful negotiation of the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement (USMCA) and USTR's foundational engagement leading to the historic Phase One Trade Agreement with China.

Prior to coming to USTR, Stewart spent four years with Corley Consulting, where she rose to Vice President of the firm and served as the Executive Director of a broad industry stakeholder coalition



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group. With Corley Consulting she advised clients on strategic engagement with Capitol Hill and the Executive Branch on issues as diverse as health care, technology, immigration, transportation, defense, water and appropriations.

Stewart began her career in public policy in the office of former Georgia Senator Saxby Chambliss where she gained experience in policy and legislative strategy on an array of issues including transportation, judiciary, budget, tax and health care. Stewart has appeared numerous times as a speaker and panelist to discuss the ever-changing landscape in Washington and to share her insights regarding successful navigation of Capitol Hill politics.

Originally from Atlanta, Stewart attended Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina graduating with Bachelor of Arts degrees in English and Government.



The Honorable Roger Williams (TX-25)

Roger Williams represents the 25th congressional district of Texas which stretches from Tarrant County in the north to Hays County in the south and includes much of the Texas Hill Country and Austin.

Roger attended Texas Christian University where he was an All-Southwest Conference baseball player and named to TCU's All-Decade Team for the 1960s.

Upon graduating, Roger was drafted by the Atlanta Braves and played in their farm system for many years before deciding to begin a new career as a small business owner and the head baseball coach at TCU.

Roger was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to serve as Texas Secretary of State where he helped usher in unprecedented economic growth to the state. He also served as the state's Chief Liaison for the Texas Border and Mexican Affairs.

In 2012, Roger was elected to Congress. Honored to represent Fort Hood, he was appointed to the National Defense Authorization Conference Committee for Fiscal Year 2018, which ultimately led to the largest pay raise for our troops in eight years. It also paved the way for increased funding for improvements to critical infrastructure at Fort Hood.

In Congress, Roger has been the voice of small business owners across America, and his real world business experience has made him an effective leader and legislator. Last Congress, he authored a



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tax reform package called Jumpstart America, which served as a framework for the historic Tax Reform package that modernized America's outdated tax code from a true business perspective.

In the 117th Congress, Roger serves on both the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions and the Subcommittee on National Security, International Development and Monetary Policy within the Financial Services Committee, and brings his extensive knowledge of Main Street America to the Small Business Committee.

His love of sports has followed Congressman Williams to the Capitol where he is the chair of the bipartisan Congressional Baseball Caucus and the College Football Caucus. He is also the coach and manager of the Republican Congressional Baseball Team.



Noah Brown, Senior Adviser, U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

An experienced association executive specializing in public policy, legislative advocacy, and strategic planning on behalf of community college boards, Brown is a nationally recognized authority on community college policy, contributor to national publications, and speaker before a broad range of audiences.

Currently serving as Vice President for Public Policy & Strategic Planning with the Association of Community College Trustees, Washington, D.C, Brown leads the public policy and federal relations team and is responsible for directing advocacy efforts on behalf of the more than 6,500 elected and appointed officials who govern the nation's community, junior, and technical colleges. In addition to representing community college boards on Capitol Hill and before federal agencies and The White House, Brown works to strengthen the strategic connections between community college boards and the array of national and state organizations important to enhancing and bolstering the mission of community colleges. He has worked in Washington for more than 23 years in governmental and public affairs positions in higher education and public telecommunications.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Maryland at College Park. Brown is married and the father of two school-age daughters.



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Emily Lamont, Special Assistant, U.S. Department of Education Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

Emily Huntress Lamont has over a decade of experience in political, domestic policy and innovative nonprofit and for-profit operations. Most recently, she worked on the Biden for President campaign as policy associate for Arizona. She also served as a program manager at 4-CT, a statewide COVID-19 relief fund. At 4-CT, Emily designed, developed and operated a direct financial assistance program for Connecticut's most vulnerable immigrant residents.

Previously, she served as COO/CFO for the successful 2018 campaign for the governor of Connecticut. In addition, Emily was on the founding team of a successful venture studio and venture fund, and she spent years in healthcare policy consulting. She began her career in Beirut, Lebanon working on a USAID education project.

She holds a master's degree in public policy from Harvard Kennedy School of Government, a Master of Business Administration from Stanford Graduate School of Business, and a bachelor's degree from Harvard University.



Lynda Tran, Senior Adviser to the Secretary and Director of Public Engagement, U.S. Department of Transportation

Lynda Tran serves as Director of Public Engagement and Senior Adviser to the Secretary. A longtime organizer and communicator with over two decades experience in policy, advocacy, and campaigns, Lynda returns to DOT after co-founding 270 Strategies, where she developed public engagement strategies for clients across the globe – including the Environmental Defense Fund, Oxfam America, United Way Worldwide, FAMM, the Black Economic Alliance, and the Economic Security Project.

Recently, she was a senior strategist for Bill Gates' Breakthrough Energy and served on the Board of Advisers for Higher Ground Labs and Battleground Texas. A CBS News Political Contributor through the 2020 cycle, she previously led teams for Organizing for America, then-Governor Tim Kaine, and SEIU.



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The Honorable Colin Allred (TX-32)

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Diploma in hand and prepared to attend law school, Colin deferred his acceptance to play in the NFL. He was a linebacker for five seasons before sustaining a career-ending injury that opened the door for him to fulfill his other dream -- becoming a civil rights attorney.

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As a Representative, Colin is dedicated to helping North Texas families gain the same opportunities he had to fulfill his dreams. Colin's top priorities in Congress are working to lower health care costs, protecting Medicare and Social Security, and creating an economy that works for everyone. Colin is passionate about expanding access to vocational and trade schools and lowering the cost of college so all North Texans have the shot at a middle-class job. He believes Congress must find common ground to rebuild our aging roads and bridges, pass comprehensive immigration reform and take care of our veterans.



The Honorable Beth Van Duyne (TX-24)

Congresswoman Beth Van Duyne proudly represents the 24th Congressional District of Texas in the U.S. House of Representatives, which includes portions of Tarrant, Denton, and Dallas counties. Prior to being elected to Congress, Beth served as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Mayor of Irving, Irving City Council Member, and a businesswoman.

In 2017, Beth was appointed to serve as the Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Southwest Region. Working under Secretary Ben Carson, Beth was tasked with overseeing HUD programs and operations in the Region's five states of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas, where she worked on many of the Trump Administration's proudest economic successes, such as opportunity zones, and led HUD's disaster recovery efforts at the southwest border in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.



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Before being named Administrator, Beth was the first woman elected to serve as the Mayor of Irving from 2011 to 2017 after beginning her career in public service as an Irving City Council Representative from 2004 to 2010. Under her leadership, the City of Irving witnessed unprecedented economic growth and development with an added 40,000 jobs and an estimated \$3 billion in growth and new developments while also being named the fifth safest city in America.

During her tenure as Mayor, Beth represented the city on a number of boards, including the U.S. Conference of Mayors, National League of Cities and Texas Municipal League. Beth also served as Texas Chair of Community Leaders of America. As a Board Member for the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) International Airport, Beth oversaw operations at the busiest airport in the United States, ensuring safe and efficient travel for millions of Americans flying through DFW each year.

Throughout Beth's career, she has worked with small startup companies, mid-size private companies and Fortune 500 corporations alike. Beth also ran a consulting business where she helped executives develop strategic business plans as well as negotiation strategies, grassroots coalition building and federal and state legislative policy strategies.

After graduating magna cum laude from Cornell University, Beth moved to Irving, Texas, which has been her home for over 30 years. Single mother to Katie and Pearce, Beth was only the second Republican woman from Texas to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.



The Honorable Jake Ellzey (TX-6)

Congressman Jake Ellzey proudly represents Texas' 6th congressional district which spans from the Rangers Ballpark in Tarrant County to the booming suburbs of Ellis and Navarro Counties. Ellzey, a native Texan, lives with his wife Shelby and their two children on a ten-acre ranch in Ellis County, where they have spent the last decade.

At the age of seven, Jake decided he wanted to become a fighter pilot. Fifteen years later, he was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science. Since his graduation, Ellzey has served our country and Texas for over 33 years. Throughout his 20-year Naval career, Ellzey flew H-60 helicopters, F-14 Tomcats, F/A-18 Hornets, and Super Hornets in defense of our nation. He has logged 830 carrier landings, and he served a tour as a Joint Terminal Attack Controller on the ground embedded with Navy SEALs. He was deployed nine times during his military career with five combat tours over Afghanistan and two in Iraq. Following his tour as



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Commanding Officer of Strike Fighter Squadron, he served as the Air Boss on the USS Ronald Reagan.

After his Navy career, he served Texas as a Commissioner of the Texas Veterans Commission, State Representative of the 10th District of Texas, ran a small business, and worked as an airline pilot. Congressman Ellzey is committed to protecting private property rights, stopping high-speed rail, serving our veterans, lowering taxes, defending the 2nd amendment, protecting the sanctity of life, and working to ensure election integrity.



The Honorable Michael Burgess (TX-26)

After spending nearly three decades practicing medicine in North Texas, Congressman Burgess served the constituents of the 26th District since 2003 in the United States House of Representatives.

He currently serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, House Rules Committee, and House Budget Committee.

As of the 115th Congress, congressman Burgess is the most senior medical doctor, on both sides of the aisle, serving in the House of Representatives. Because of his medical background, he has been a strong advocate for health care legislation aimed at reducing health care costs, improving choices, reforming liability laws to put the needs of patients first, and ensuring there are enough doctors in the public and private sector to care for America's patients and veterans. He voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act over 50 times and has played an important role in bipartisan efforts to reform the Food and Drug Administration.

Ever since he came to Congress, he has made repealing Medicare's Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula a top priority. At the beginning of the 114th Congress, over ninety percent of both chambers of Congress supported the formula's repeal and it was signed into law. As one of the largest entitlement reforms in the past few decades, this landmark policy will ensure greater access and quality for seniors, more stable reimbursements for providers, and a more fiscally solvent Medicare system as a whole.

As a member of Congress representing one of the fastest-growing areas of the country, transportation is also a top priority. In 2005, Congressman Burgess successfully amended the Highway Bill to include development credits, design-build, and environmental streamlining. During his time on Capitol Hill, he has worked to build, maintain, and improve the safety of our roads, bridges, air service, and transit in the North Texas region.



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As a fiscal conservative, he believes Americans deserve a federal government that is more efficient, more effective, less costly, and always transparent. He is a proponent of a flat tax and have introduced a flat tax bill every term he has served in Congress. He follows a strict adherence to the Constitution and opposes unnecessary expansion of the federal government's control over the personal freedoms of Americans. Instead, he believes in giving people more control over their lives and their money. He is committed to reducing illegal immigration into our country and has taken action to ensure our borders are secure and our immigration laws are enforced. He strongly opposes any proposal to grant amnesty to illegal immigrants.

During his time on Capitol Hill, he has earned a reputation as a problem-solver who seeks sensible solutions to the challenges Americans face and have received several awards including the Guardian of Small Business award by the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB); the Spirit of Enterprise award by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; and the Taxpayer Hero award from the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste; among others. In 2013, he was named to Modern Healthcare's 50 Most Influential Physician Executives and Leaders.

Today, Congressman Burgess represents the majority of Denton County and parts of Tarrant County. He was raised in Denton, and attended The Selwyn School, graduating in 1968 as valedictorian. In addition, he graduated with both an undergraduate and a master's degree from North Texas State University, now the University of North Texas.

He received his M.D. from the University of Texas Medical School in Houston and completed my residency programs at Parkland Hospital in Dallas. He also received a master's degree in Medical Management from the University of Texas at Dallas, and in May 2009 was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Public Service from the University of North Texas Health Sciences Center. He has been married to his wife, Laura, for more than 40 years, and they have three children and two grandsons.



Jonathan Martin, National Political Correspondent, The New York Times

Jonathan Martin is a national political correspondent for The New York Times. Before joining The Times, he had served as senior political writer for Politico since its inception in 2007. He began covering politics for National Journal's political publication, The Hotline, and then reported on party politics and the aftermath of the 2006 midterm elections for National Review magazine. Mr. Martin is a co-author of the New York Times best seller "The End of the Line: Romney vs.

Obama: The 34 Days That Decided the Election" (December 2012), the fourth and final e-book in

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Politico's 2012 series on the race for the presidency. His work has been published in The New Republic, National Journal, The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal. He has appeared frequently on television and radio as a political analyst and commentator, including on CNN, ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS, MSNBC and NPR.

Originally from Arlington, Va., Mr. Martin graduated from Hampden-Sydney College.